

County of Grande Prairie No.1 Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, July 8, 2026
10:00 AM

County of Grande Prairie No. 1 Administration Building and Microsoft Teams

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2. AGENDA APPROVAL	
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4. AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS	
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Rural Extension and Soil Conservation and Stewardship Programs	

Update

7.2.1 - April 7, 2026 - Rural Extension and Soil Conservation Stewardship Programs Update

7.2.2 - July 8, 2026 - Rural Extension and Soil Conservation Stewardship Programs Update

7.2.3 - Rural Extension Officer and Soil Conservation and Stewardship Coordinator Photos Appendix

7.3. **2026 Agricultural Service Board Audit - Lee Brachmann, General Manager, Community Services** 142 - 148

2026 Agricultural Service Board Audit

7.3.1 - County of Grande Prairie Field Visit letter

7.3.2 - Field Visit FAQ

7.3.3 - Draft Itinerary Field Visit

7.4. **Agricultural Services Department Policy Review Update - Lee Brachmann, General Manager, Community Services** 149 - 184

Agricultural Services Department Policy Review Update

7.4.1 - July 8, 2026: Agriculture Services Department Policy Review Update Presentation

7.4.2 - Agricultural Pests, Diseases and Nuisance species (draft policy)

7.4.3 - Agriculture Celebration and Community Enrichment Policy (draft policy)

7.4.4 - Agriculture Operating Assistance Grant Policy (draft policy)

7.4.5 - Animal Health Policy (draft policy)

7.4.6 - Regulated and Nuisance Weed Control (draft policy)

8. **DECISIONS ON DELEGATIONS**

9. **CLOSED SESSION**

10. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

10.1. **Information Items - Lee Brachmann, General Manager, Community Services** 185 - 283

Information Items

10.1.1 - January 01, 2026 - March 20, 2026 Information Items

10.1.2 - March 21, 2026 - June 22, 2026, Information Items

11. **ROUNDTABLE**

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

12.1. **Adjournment**

County of Grande Prairie No. 1

Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: County of Grande Prairie No. 1 Administration Building and Microsoft Teams

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Deputy Reeve Bob Chrenek, Chairperson
Member-at-Large Ashley Heft, Vice-Chairperson
Reeve Amanda McDonald
Councillor Brian Grant
Councillor Brian Lieverse
Councillor Brian Peterson
Councillor Karen Rosvold (virtual – left the meeting at 12:00 p.m.)
Councillor Kurt Balderston (left the meeting at 2:53 p.m.)
Councillor Marty Tissington
Councillor Terri Beaupre
Member-at-Large Graham Powell

BOARD MEMBERS

REGRET:

Member-at-Large Cori Blum

STAFF PRESENT:

Joulia Whittleton, County Manager
Lee Brachmann, General Manager, Community Services
Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services
Tracelle Hinze, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman
Jill Henry, Rural Extension Officer, Agricultural Services
Kate Winterford, Soil Conservation and Stewardship Coordinator, Agricultural Services
Elizabeth Naeth, Administrative Assistant, Agricultural Services

RECORDING SECRETARY: Mary Kukulski, Legislative Services Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM

Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services / Agricultural Fieldman assumed the position of Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and established quorum.

2. **AGENDA APPROVAL AND ELECTION OF AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

2.1. **Election of Agricultural Service Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services**

Resolution # ASB20260114.001

MOVED by Councillor Brian Lieverse

That the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are elected from within the Agricultural Service Board Members by secret ballot, followed by a resolution to confirm the vote.

CARRIED

First Call for nominations for the Agricultural Service Board Chairperson:

Councillor Kurt Balderston nominated Deputy Reeve Bob Chrenek.

Deputy Reeve Bob Chrenek accepted the nomination.

Second call:

None.

Third call:

None.

Resolution # ASB20260114.002

MOVED by Councillor Brian Peterson

That nominations for the position of Chairperson of the Agricultural Service Board be ceased.

CARRIED

Resolution # ASB20260114.003

MOVED by Councillor Kurt Balderston

That the Agricultural Service Board confirm the acclamation of Deputy Reeve Bob Chrenek as the Chairperson of the Agricultural Service Board for a term ending on the first Agricultural Service Board Meeting of 2027.

CARRIED

First Call for nominations for the Agricultural Service Board Vice-Chairperson:

Reeve Amanda McDonald nominated Member-at-Large Ashely Heft.

Ashely Heft accepted the nomination.

Second call:

None.

Third call:

None.

Resolution # ASB20260114.004

MOVED by Councillor Brian Lieverse

That nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Agricultural Service Board be ceased.

CARRIED

Resolution # ASB20260114.005

MOVED by Councillor Brian Peterson

That the Agricultural Service Board confirm the appointment of Member-at-large Ashely Heft as the Vice-Chairperson of the Agricultural Service Board for a term ending on the first Agricultural Service Board Meeting of 2027.

CARRIED

Andrew Goldberg, Agricultural Fieldman, turned over the Chair to Deputy Reeve Bob Chrenek.

2.2. Agenda Approval

Resolution # ASB20260114.006

MOVED by Councillor Kurt Balderston

That the agenda for the January 14, 2026 Agricultural Service Board Meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. MINUTES APPROVAL

3.1. Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes

Resolution # ASB20260114.007

MOVED by Councillor Marty Tissington

That the minutes of the September 30, 2025 Agricultural Service Board Meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no items under Awards or Presentations.

5. DELEGATIONS

5.1. 1:00 p.m. – 1:20 p.m. – Alberta Invasive Species Council Partnership Renewal – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Megan Evans, Executive Director with the Alberta Invasive Species Council was in attendance virtually and provided the Agricultural Service Board with an update and presented a partnership renewal request for 2026.

5.2. 1:20 p.m. – 1:40 p.m. – Kochia (Bassia Scoparia) Prevalence and Proposed Municipal Actions

Mona Calliou, Crop Inputs Manager with Foster's Seed and Feed Ltd. was in attendance in person and presented research on the increasing prevalence of Kochia (Bassia scoparia) in the Peace Region and the County of Grande Prairie and proposed measures for the Agricultural Service Board to consider in mitigating Kochia's impact.

Councillor Brain Lieverse left the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Councillor Terri Beaupre left the meeting at 1:27 p.m.

6. OLD BUSINESS

6.1. Vegetation Management Program – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Resolution # ASB20260114.008

MOVED by Reeve Amanda McDonald

That the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration to incorporate the proposed efficiencies and program changes along with the required resources in the amount of \$30,000 to be brought back to the 2026 Final Budget Meeting for Council's consideration.

CARRIED

Resolution # ASB20260114.009

MOVED by Councillor Brian Peterson

That the Agricultural Service Board recommend that Administration continue with the headlands as County managed, apply proposed program improvements and include these in the existing Agricultural Services business case (which will capture specific plans and goals) to be brought back to the 2026 Final Budget Meeting for Council's consideration.

CARRIED

Deputy Reeve Bob Chrenek, Chairperson declared a recess at 2:07 p.m.

Deputy Reeve Bob Chrenek, Chairperson called the meeting back to order at 2:16 p.m.

Councillor Terri Beaupre rejoined the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

6.2. Beautification Mowing Plan – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Resolution # ASB20260114.010

MOVED by Councillor Marty Tissington

That the Agricultural Service Board accept the proposed updates and changes to the Beautification Mowing Plan as presented.

CARRIED

Resolution # ASB20260114.011

MOVED by Councillor Kurt Balderston

That the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration to bring the costs of spraying around County playgrounds, once in the first year then onto a rotation for subsequent years to the 2026 Final Budget Meeting for Council's consideration.

CARRIED

Resolution # ASB20260114.012

MOVED by Councillor Brian Peterson

That the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration to bring the cost for a contractor to mow lands not previously mowed in hamlets as needed up to a maximum of five times including obtaining permissions from Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors to the 2026 Final Budget Meeting for Council's consideration.

DEFEATED

Resolution # ASB20260114.013

MOVED by Reeve Amanda McDonald

That the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration to continue with existing practices and take no action on mowing lands not previously mowed in hamlets.

CARRIED

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1. 2026 Agricultural Service Board Meeting Dates – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Resolution # ASB20260114.014

MOVED by Councillor Marty Tissington

That the Agricultural Service Board approve the 2026 Agricultural Service Board meeting dates as listed below:

- January 14, 2026 (10:00 a.m.)
- April 7, 2026 (10:00 a.m.)
- July 8, 2026 (virtual)
- November 17, 2026 (10:00 a.m.)

CARRIED

Resolution # ASB20260114.015

MOVED by Councillor Marty Tissington

That Resolution # ASB20260114.014 be hereby rescinded.

CARRIED

Resolution # ASB20260114.016

MOVED by Councillor Marty Tissington

That the Agricultural Service Board approve the 2026 Agricultural Service Board meeting dates, starting at 10:00 a.m. as listed below:

- January 14, 2026
- April 7, 2026
- July 8, 2026
- November 17, 2026

CARRIED

7.2. 2026 Provincial Resolutions – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Resolution # ASB20260114.017

MOVED by Councillor Kurt Balderston

That the Agriculture Service Board support the following resolutions to be presented at the 2026 Agricultural Service Board Provincial Conference:

- RESOLUTION 1-26 Emergency Registration of 2 Liquid Strychnine
- RESOLUTION 2-26 Environment and Climate Change Canada and Diesel Exhaust Fluid
- RESOLUTION 3-26 Marked Fuel Program Review
- RESOLUTION 4-26 Rural Water Distribution and Connectivity Funding
- RESOLUTION PC 1-25 Modernizing Alberta's Rat Control Program
- RESOLTUION PC 2-25 On-Farm Meat Processing
- RESOLUTION PC 3-25 Legal Entity Aligned with ASBs
- RESOLUTION PC 4-25 Urgent Reforms to CFIA and PMRA

CARRIED

7.3. 2028 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference Hosting Venue – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Resolution # ASB20260114.018

MOVED by Councillor Terri Beaupre

That the Agricultural Service Board support hosting the 2028 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference within the Peace Region.

CARRIED

7.4. 2025 Agriculture Services Program Report Update – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Administration provided the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) with an update on recent Agricultural Services department activities, including results from the 2025 field season.

Councillor Kurt Balderston left the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

Councillor Brian Lieverse rejoined the meeting at 3:23 p.m.

7.5. Rural Extension Officer and Soil Conservation and Stewardship Coordinator Program Update – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Administration provided the Agricultural Service Board with an update on Rural Extension and Soil Conservation and Stewardship programs.

8. DECISIONS ON DELEGATIONS

5.1. 1:00 p.m. – 1:20 p.m. – Alberta Invasive Species Council Partnership Renewal – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Resolution # ASB20260114.019

MOVED by Reeve Amanda McDonald

That the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration to distribute the funds within the Agricultural Services budget to Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) in the amount \$5,000 for the year 2026.

CARRIED

5.2. 1:20 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.– Kochia (Bassia Scoparia) Prevalence and Proposed Municipal Actions – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Resolution # ASB20260114.020

MOVED by Councillor Marty Tissington

That the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration to complete an inventory for the summer season of 2026 to inspect and plot Kochia throughout the County of Grande Prairie and bring the results to the November 17, 2026 Agricultural Service Board Meeting for discussion and further direction.

CARRIED

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

9.1. Information Items – Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Correspondence sent or received from Municipal, Provincial, and Federal levels of government, media coverage, and information are included on an Agricultural Service Board (ASB) agenda for information.

10. CLOSED SESSION

There were no items under Closed Session.

11. ROUNDTABLE

The Board and Administration thanked the Agricultural Services Team for their hard work and dedication.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Reeve Bob Chrenek, Chairperson, adjourned the meeting was at 4:17 p.m.

These minutes approved the _____ day of _____ 2026.

Reference # _____.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD CHAIR

AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN

Request for Decision

Report Submission Details

Item Number:	5.1
Report Title:	10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. – Smoky Applied Research and Demonstration Association (SARDA) Ag Research
Presenter:	Lee Brachmann, General Manager, Community Services
Supported By:	Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services
Meeting:	Agricultural Service Board Meeting
Meeting Date:	July 8, 2026
Agenda Category:	Delegations and Appointments

Recommended Action

Option 1:

That the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration to release the funds in the amount of \$_____ (to be determined by the Board) to the Smoky Applied Research and Demonstration Association (SARDA) Ag Research as allocated in the 2026 Agricultural Services budget.

Previous Council / Committee Action

The Agricultural Services Board (ASB) has supported SARDA with operational grant funding for several years.

Previous County Support towards SARDA Ag Research

- 2012 – 2016 - \$10,000
- 2016 – 2018 - \$30,000
- 2019 – 2025 - \$60,000

Background and Analysis

Vance Yarenko, Executive Director of SARDA Ag Research, will be in attendance in person to provide the Agricultural Service Board with an overview of SARDA Ag Research within the past year.

SARDA Ag Research is a non-profit organization directed by producers from municipal districts throughout the Peace Region, established in 1986 to address local agricultural issues.

SARDA Ag Research is committed to a long-term program with the following objectives:

-
- To achieve sustainable agriculture production and profit for producers
 - To stimulate and conduct applied research and demonstration to provide a basis for recommendations and a transfer of information and technology between research institutions, industry and local producers
 - To distribute information through publications of annual reports, newsletters, newspaper articles, Tradeshows, seminars, demonstrations and other available mediums
 - To be aware of the changing needs of producers in our community and to adjust our programs and mandate accordingly
 - To promote diversification into other agriculture sectors (livestock production, horticulture, and value added)
 - To provide an opportunity for other organizations to plan and conduct applied research, demonstrations and extension activities in the area.

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) is to consider SARDA's presentation and financial statement details and take into account the work they are completing and determine whether to award up to \$60,000 for 2026.

The County of Grande Prairie recognizes the crop research work SARDA conducts is unique to the Peace Region and benefits producers across the region. Given that funding was allocated in the 2026 budget for such research, Administration is recommending the release of funds to SARDA for 2026, in the amount agreed upon by the ASB. If concerns exist with the value of funding for producers specifically in the County of Grande Prairie, Administration recommends the ASB specify expectations to SARDA to ensure continued support for future years.

Organizational Capacity and Resourcing

Level of Service: Not applicable.

Additional resources required: Yes No

Not applicable.

Options Analysis and Financial Implications

Option 1:

That the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration to release the funds in the amount of \$_____ (to be determined by the Board) to the Smoky Applied Research and Demonstration Association (SARDA) Ag Research as allocated in the 2026 Agricultural Services budget.

Funding in the amount of \$60,000 is currently allocated for SARDA in the 2026 Agricultural Services budget.

Option 2:

That the Agricultural Service Board recommend to Council to review the funding allocation for the Smoky Applied Research and Demonstration Association (SARDA) Ag Research.

Strategic Plans Alignment: [Strategic and Business Plan | County of Grande Prairie](#)

Strategic Themes:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 1 Quality of Life | <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 4 Land Use and Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 2 Economy | <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 5 Governance and Organizational Excellence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 3 Transportation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable. |

Other Plans:

2024 – 2027 Agricultural Service Board Strategic Plan

Stakeholder Engagement

Not applicable.

Public Engagement and Communication

Not applicable.

Attachments

1. 2026 SARDA Presentation
2. 2025 SARDA Financial Statement
3. 2024 SARDA Financial Statement

Approved by General Manager

Approved by County Manager

SARDA Ag Research: Research Updates

Mission:

To facilitate the transfer of unbiased ideas and information between research institutions, industry and agricultural producers.



Vance Yaremko



Relevant, Unbiased Northern Crop and Forage Seed Research



Relevant, Highly Effective Knowledge Transfer



Thriving, Vibrant Organization with Engaged Staff & Board

Key Initiatives

- Drive agriscience variety research
 - Grass Seed Fertility Program
 - Herbicide Tolerance Trials
 - Plant Growth Regulator Trials
 - Grass & Clover Seed Variety Trials
 - Lupin Adaptability & Fertility Trials
 - Hemp Adaptability & Agronomy Trials
- Re-launch SARDA Regional Variety Trials
- ~~Execute Long Term Water Quality Testing~~
- Execute Living Labs
- Execute Relevant Industry partner trials
- Grow strategic research partnerships

- Host relevant, significant knowledge events
 - Tradeshow
 - Expanded Field Day Tour
 - Winter Agronomy Update
- Host crop, turfgrass & forage seed field days
- Expand Specialist program
- Engage the youth
- Grow strategic extension partnerships
- Improve SARDA's digital services & timely information delivery

- Update financial forecast and capital plan
- Share strategy with key funders & partners
- Implement annual staff performance plans and key staff succession plans
- Execute salary survey
- Develop HR Policy Guide
- Implement Board Orientation process
- Implement regular strategy progress reviews

Success Measures

- Producers meaningfully adopting research
- 80%+ portfolio addressing immediate or emergent local producer needs
- Sought-after research partner
- High quality controls, robust protocols, and clean research plots
- Increased annual research funding

- Relevant, sought after topics and speakers
- Increased producer engagement and impact
- Investment in youth education and/or social good programs
- Effective ongoing communication to diverse producer member base

- Financially sound, with a positive outlook
- Innovative, energized staff
- Innovative, energized Board
- Strong, enduring funder and partner relationships
- High producer satisfaction and longevity
- <10% administration; >90% impact

SARDA Staff and Directors



Staff

Vance Yaremko – Executive Director

Endale Tafesse, PhD – Science Director

Calvin Yoder, BSc – Forage Seed Specialist

Ramchandra Neupane, MSc –(June 2026) Research Scientist

Denys Solskyi, MSc (February 2026) – Research Scientist

Vic Gauthier – Field Technician

Amber Fennell-Drouin – Admin/Field Technician

Simon Garant – Field Technician

Trista Boissonneault – Field Technician

JP Pettyjohn, MSc – May 2025-June 2026) – Research Coordinator

Directors

Simon Lavoie (ASB Northern Sunrise) – Chair

Leonard Desharnais (Member At Large) – Vice Chair

Whitney Boisvert (Member At Large) – Secretary

Mathieu Bergeron (Member At Large)

Alain Anctil (Member At Large)

John Vinette (ASB MD of Greenview)

Kenny Stewart (ASB County of Big Lakes)

Gilles Roy (ASB MD of Smoky River)

Vacant (ASB County of Grande Prairie)

Alain Blanchette (Councilor MD of Smoky River)

Dave Berry (Councilor MD of Greenview)

Dale Nelson (Councilor County of Big Lakes)

Marty Tissington (Councilor County of Grande Prairie)

Jason Javos (Councilor Northern Sunrise County)

2026 Research Plots

- Core Sites in Smoky River and County of Big Lakes
- Forage Program Sites at multiple location in the Peace
- 8 Field Scale Trials in the 5 partnering municipalities
- Key projects
- Lupins
- Industrial Hemp
- Variety Trials
- Industry Trials
- Intercropping



2026 Trials in The County of Grande Prairie (Valhalla, Beaverlodge, Hythe)

Evaluating grassy weed herbicides on established smooth brome grass seed crop

Effects of plant growth regulators on smooth brome grass seed crop

Effects of broad leaved herbicides on smooth brome grass seed crop

Evaluating grassy weed herbicides on established meadow brome grass seed crop

Effects of plant growth regulators on meadow brome grass seed crop

Timing and rates of nitrogen fertilizer on meadow brome grass seed yields

Effects of grassy weed herbicides on established tall fescue seed crops

Evaluating herbicides for managing foxtail barley in tall fescue

2026 Extension

- 40th Anniversary Agriculture Showcase Aug 5 & 6 Includes a small tradeshow, outside displays, Farmers market, and field tour.
- Field Day in Big Lakes County – TBD
- Forage Field day – July 8 British Columbia
- Living Lab Events – TBD
- Top Crop – In GP SARDA is one of the presenters
- 2-3 newsletters
- Current Events Email Program
- 2 articles in the Northern Horizon
- 2027 Trade Show April 2027

Info Sessions

August 5th & 6th, 2026



Endale Tafesse

Lupin

Kristina Polziehn

Herbicide Injury

Kristina Polziehn

Wild Oat Management

Smoky Hemp Decortication

Facility Tour

Calvin Yoder

Forage

Keith Gabert

Canola

Belinda DeSmet

Kochia

Grants and Funding



Main Grants (Operating is Approx 1.4 Million)

- RDAR Core Grant \$330,000 (No Matching)
- RDAR Forage Seed Specialist \$150,000/yr (Jan 2028) (Matching 60/40)
- AgriScience \$291,000/yr (March 2028) (Matching 50/50, 70/30)
- Living Labs \$80,000/Yr (March 2027) (Matching 80/20)
- RBC \$75,000/Yr (May 2027) (Matching 75/25)
- Peace Region Forage Seed Association – \$60,000/yr

Projects and Industry

RDAR Industrial Hemp \$23,000/yr partners Farming Smarter, Alberta Innotech (March 2027)(Matching 80/20)

Various industry Projects (Koch, Commissions, BASF, etc) – \$176,000 for **2026**

Fundraising – Every 2 years

Tradeshow (2025) – \$50,000

Municipal Funding (\$280,000/Yr) (Leverage from Municipal Support is 5 to 1)

- Northern Sunrise County - \$70,000
- MD of Smoky River - \$60,000
- MD of Greenview – \$60,000
- County of Grande Prairie – \$60,000
- Big Lakes County – \$30,000

Grants and Funding



Capital Grants

- Gov of Alberta – Cold Storage \$344,000 (No Matching)
- Agriscience – Various Items \$172,000 (Matching 50/50, 70/30)



Supporters of SARDA Ag Research



**NORTHERN SUNRISE
COUNTY**
We've got it all!



PEACE REGION
LIVING LAB



*Peace Region Forage
Seed Association* 🍁



Canada 🍁



SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

InVision

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
Financial Statements
December 31, 2025

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of **SARDA Ag Research Association**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **SARDA Ag Research Association**, which comprise the statement of financial position as at **December 31, 2025**, and the statements of changes in net assets, operations and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at **December 31, 2025**, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with ASNPO.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with ASNPO, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organization's financial reporting process.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (Continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- ♦ Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- ♦ Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control.
- ♦ Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- ♦ Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- ♦ Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Peace River, Alberta
June 11, 2026


CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Current:		
Cash (Note 3)	1,678,138	909,920
Cash - RDAR unspent base funding (Note 3)	83,333	83,333
Accounts receivable (Note 4)	135,507	516,521
Prepaid expenses (Note 5)	18,351	33,108
	1,915,329	1,542,882
Patronage investments (Note 6)	16,855	14,725
Capital assets (Note 7)	2,620,565	2,372,672
	4,552,749	3,930,279
LIABILITIES		
Current:		
Accounts payable (Note 8)	63,380	150,930
Deferred contributions (Note 9)	216,146	291,942
	279,526	442,872
Unamortized capital contributions (Note 10)	1,122,166	800,200
	1,401,692	1,243,072
NET ASSETS		
Net assets	3,151,057	2,687,207
	4,552,749	3,930,279

Approved by the Board

Members 

Members 

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Statement of Changes in Net Assets For the year ended December 31, 2025

	2025				
	Total	Invested in capital assets	Unrestricted net assets	Capital reserve	Trade show reserve
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance, beginning of year	2,687,207	1,572,472	577,304	514,731	22,700
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	463,850	(110,851)	510,867	14,024	49,810
Investment in capital assets and debt repayment	-	36,779	-	(36,779)	-
Transfer to (from) operating surplus	-	-	(739,255)	797,526	(58,271)
Balance, end of year	3,151,057	1,498,400	348,916	1,289,502	14,239
					2024
	Total	Invested in capital assets	Unrestricted net assets	Capital reserve	Trade show reserve
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance, beginning of year	2,340,948	1,558,943	150,000	620,005	12,000
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	346,259	(91,745)	438,004	-	-
Investment in capital assets and debt repayment	-	105,274	-	(105,274)	-
Transfer to (from) operating surplus	-	-	(10,700)	-	10,700
Balance, end of year	2,687,207	1,572,472	577,304	514,731	22,700

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31, 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Revenues:		
Federal funding	24,454	14,061
Municipal funding (Schedule 1)	280,000	368,750
Other revenue	3,507	8,870
Project funding	852,780	686,080
Provincial funding	-	25,000
RDAR base funding (Schedule 2)	333,333	333,325
RDAR project funding (Schedule 3)	143,997	131,497
	1,638,071	1,567,583
 Expenditures:		
Advertising	4,771	8,240
Board honorarium and expenses	3,494	5,495
Communications	9,882	10,993
Contract service	174,831	185,697
Fuel and oil	21,229	21,979
Insurance	13,964	11,811
Licenses and dues	11,833	11,505
Office expense	12,370	8,097
Other interest expense	1,396	146
Pesticide and fertilizer	3,047	3,725
Professional fees	26,600	24,600
Property taxes	23,039	22,609
Publications	-	5,771
Rent	3,274	4,120
Repairs and maintenance	35,138	32,186
Soil and sample analysis	8,350	19,258
Supplies	21,419	21,655
Travel	11,379	7,912
Utilities	12,217	13,026
Wages and benefits	728,971	710,754
	1,127,204	1,129,579
 Excess of revenues over expenditures from operations	510,867	438,004
 Other expenses (income):		
Amortization	126,715	127,545
Amortization of capital contributions	(37,300)	(35,800)
Loss on disposal of capital assets	21,436	-
(Surplus) deficit - capital reserve	(14,024)	-
(Surplus) deficit - trade show (Schedule 4)	(49,810)	-
	47,017	91,745
 Excess of revenues over expenditures	463,850	346,259

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31, 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Operating activities:		
Excess of revenues over expenditures	463,850	346,259
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization	126,715	127,545
Loss on disposal of capital assets	21,436	-
Amortization on capital contributions	(37,300)	(35,800)
	574,701	438,004
Change in non-cash working capital items:		
Accounts receivable	381,014	(201,070)
Prepaid expenses	14,757	(23,481)
Accounts payable	(87,550)	82,916
Deferred contributions	(75,796)	154,867
	807,126	451,236
Financing activity:		
Principal payments on long-term debt	-	(100,000)
Investing activities:		
Proceeds on patronage investments	(2,129)	766
Purchase of capital assets	(396,045)	(5,273)
Contributions received for capital assets	359,266	-
	(38,908)	(4,507)
Increase in cash	768,218	346,729
Cash, beginning of year	993,253	646,524
Cash, end of year	1,761,471	993,253
Cash consists of:		
Chequing	851,349	886,220
Term deposits - under 90 days	811,550	-
Chequing - trade show	14,239	22,700
Savings	1,000	1,000
Cash - RDAR unspent base funding (Note 3)	83,333	83,333
	1,761,471	993,253

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2025

1. Nature of operations

SARDA Ag Research Association (the organization) is a not-for-profit organization incorporated under the Societies Act of Alberta. The organization provides applied research and demonstration to facilitate and improve agriculture production in Northern Alberta. The organization is a registered charity under the *Income Tax Act*.

2. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. The significant accounting policies are detailed as follows:

(a) Fund accounting deferred

The organization uses fund accounting to ensure compliance with restrictions placed on the funds received. These funds are held in accordance with the objectives specified by the supporters or in accordance with the directives of the board of directors.

Internally Restricted Net Assets consists of restricted funds used to account for monies for a specific purpose. This includes the funds obtained and restricted for use in the trade show and for use towards capital assets.

Unrestricted Net Assets consists of all revenues and expenditures related to general and ancillary operations of the organization.

(b) Donated material and services

Donated capital items are recorded in the financial statements at fair value on the date of the donation.

(c) Cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are defined as cash, balances with banks, bank overdrafts, and short term deposits with term maturity of three months or less from year-end. Cash and cash equivalents designated and restricted for capital is shown as current.

(d) Patronage investments

Equity held in co-operatives are accounted for at cost plus undistributed earnings. Patronage dividends are recorded as revenue.

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2025

2. Significant accounting policies (Continued)

(e) Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost. The organization provides for amortization using the straight-line method and rates, with residual values as indicated, designed to amortize the cost of the capital assets over their estimated useful lives. The annual amortization rates are as follows:

Buildings	25 years, no residual
Automotive - vehicles	10 years, no residual
Automotive - motorized farm	25 years, 25% residual
Equipment - non-motorized	20 years, no residual
Equipment - motorized small	15 years, no residual
Equipment - seed drills	20 years, 25% residual
Computer equipment	5 years, no residual

(f) Revenue recognition

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions and reports on a fund accounting basis.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.

Restricted contributions for the purchase of capital assets that will be amortized are recorded as deferred capital contributions and recognized as revenue on the same basis as the amortization expense related to the acquired capital assets.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

(g) Income taxes

No provision is made for income tax as the organization is not subject to income tax under Section 149(1)e of the *Income Tax Act*.

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2025

2. Significant accounting policies (Continued)

(h) Financial instruments

(i) Measurement of financial instruments

The organization initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value.

The organization subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at cost or amortized cost, except for investments in equity instruments that are quoted in an active market, which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in excess of revenues over expenditures in the period incurred.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and deferred contributions.

The organization has not designated any financial asset or financial liability to be measured at fair value.

(ii) Impairment

For financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost, the organization determines whether there are indications of possible impairment. When there is an indication of impairment, and the organization determines that a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows, a write-down is recognized in excess of revenues over expenditures. A previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement. The carrying amount of the financial asset may not be greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in excess of revenues over expenditures.

(i) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Significant areas requiring the use of estimates include: estimated useful lives of capital assets and deferred revenue. Actual results may differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2025

3. Cash

Cash designated for:

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Operations	374,396	319,076
RDAR unspent base funding	83,333	83,333
Trade show	14,239	76,113
Capital assets	1,289,503	514,731
	1,761,471	993,253

Except for RDAR funds, the cash restrictions are internally imposed.

4. Accounts receivable

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Trade receivables	115,181	507,645
GST receivable	20,326	8,876
	135,507	516,521

5. Prepaid expenses

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Insurance	11,048	10,221
Trade show	-	22,887
Governance contracting	7,303	-
	18,351	33,108

6. Patronage investments

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Patronage equity - UFA	1,726	1,623
Patronage equity - Girouxville Co-op	1,752	1,403
Investment in Credit Union shares	13,377	11,699
	16,855	14,725

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2025

7. Capital assets

	2025		2024	
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land	44,375	-	44,375	44,375
Buildings	1,978,338	211,374	1,766,964	1,591,064
Automotive - vehicles	208,806	174,687	34,119	28,517
Automotive - motorized farm	643,615	226,518	417,097	436,405
Equipment - non-motorized	420,984	141,047	279,937	175,375
Equipment - motorized small	67,071	28,091	38,980	35,767
Equipment - seed drills	87,177	50,922	36,255	56,912
Computer equipment	29,682	26,844	2,838	4,257
	3,480,048	859,483	2,620,565	2,372,672

At December 31, 2025, included is \$245,225 of buildings under construction, with no amortization taken.

8. Accounts payable

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Trade payables	63,380	150,930

9. Deferred contributions

Deferred revenues externally restricted for specified expenditures are recognized when the specified expenditures are made.

	2025			
	Balance, beginning of year	Received (repaid)	Recognized	Balance, end of year
	\$	\$	\$	\$
RDAR base grant	83,333	333,333	(333,333)	83,333
RDAR Forage Position	43,502	150,000	(141,996)	51,506
CAP Forage Position - GOA	15,000	60,000	(60,000)	15,000
Farming Smarter	23,807	-	(13,000)	10,807
RBC Community Investment	50,000	75,000	(87,500)	37,500
Koch Research Trial	-	18,000	-	18,000
Trade show	76,300	-	(76,300)	-
	291,942	636,333	(712,129)	216,146

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2025

9. Deferred contributions (Continued)

	2024			
	Balance, beginning of year	Received	Recognized	Balance, end of year
	\$	\$	\$	\$
RDAR base grant	83,325	333,333	(333,325)	83,333
RDAR Forage Position	-	150,000	(106,498)	43,502
CAP Forage Position - GOA	25,000	-	(25,000)	-
CAP Forage Position - GOA	15,000	15,000	(15,000)	15,000
Resource management municipalities	13,750	-	(13,750)	-
Farming Smarter	-	23,807	-	23,807
RBC Community Investment	-	50,000	-	50,000
Trade show	-	76,300	-	76,300
	<u>137,075</u>	<u>648,440</u>	<u>(493,573)</u>	<u>291,942</u>

10. Unamortized capital contributions

	Balance, beginning of year	Received	Recognized	Balance, end of year
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Automotive - motorized farm funds	110,200	-	(5,800)	104,400
Building funds	690,000	344,266	(30,000)	1,004,266
Automotive - vehicles funds	-	15,000	(1,500)	13,500
	<u>800,200</u>	<u>359,266</u>	<u>(37,300)</u>	<u>1,122,166</u>

Deferred capital contributions relates to funds received towards the purchase of capital assets. Since capital assets are long-term assets, the deferred revenues are shown as a long-term liability accordingly.

A portion of deferred capital contributions is recognized each year on a basis consistent with the amortization of the assets purchased with these restricted funds.

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2025

11. Internal restrictions on net assets

Trade show:

In 1987 SARDA took over the duties of organizing the trade show. SARDA has a board policy to internally restrict a minimum of \$12,000 to be retained in a bank account and used for trade show purposes only. Trade shows are held every two years.

Capital asset reserve:

The board of directors for SARDA established a reserve for future capital asset purchases. Each year the board can internally restrict the surplus to this reserve.

SARDA may not use these internally restricted amounts for any purpose without the approval of the board of directors.

12. Financial instruments

Transactions in financial instruments may result in an entity assuming or transferring, to another party, one or more of the financial risks described below. The required disclosures provide information that assists users of financial statements in assessing the extent of risk related to financial instruments.

(a) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a transaction will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. The organization reduces its exposure to credit risk by reviewing a new customer's credit history before extending credit and conducting regular reviews of its existing customers' credit performance. An allowance for bad debts is set up when applicable. The organization maintains strict credit policies and limits in respect to counterparties. Credit risk is reduced due to the nature of credit being issued to governmental agencies for significant receivables. In the opinion of management the credit risk exposure to the organization is low and is not material.

13. Investment in capital assets

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	\$	\$
Capital assets - net book value	2,620,566	2,372,672
Less: Unamortized capital contributions	<u>(1,122,166)</u>	<u>(800,200)</u>
	<u>1,498,400</u>	<u>1,572,472</u>

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Schedules to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

Schedule of municipal funding

Schedule 1

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	\$	\$
Revenue:		
County of Grande Prairie	60,000	60,000
MD of Big Lakes #125	30,000	30,000
MD of Greenview #16	60,000	60,000
MD of Smoky River #130	60,000	60,000
Northern Sunrise County	70,000	70,000
Resource Management	-	88,750
	<u>280,000</u>	<u>368,750</u>

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Schedules to the Financial Information

For the year ended December 31, 2025

Schedule of RDAR Base Funding Expenses - 2025

Schedule 2

	<u>Base Funding 2024A010R</u>	<u>Base Funding 2025A010R</u>	<u>Total</u>
Expenditures:			
Board expenses	-	3,490	3,490
Fuel and oil	-	10,000	10,000
Insurance	3,000	10,000	13,000
Professional fees	-	23,600	23,600
Property taxes	-	23,000	23,000
Rent	-	2,700	2,700
Repairs and maintenance	1,633	10,000	11,633
Utilities	2,200	9,000	11,200
Wages and benefits	76,500	158,210	234,710
	<u>83,333</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>333,333</u>

Schedule of RDAR Base Funding Expenses - 2024

	<u>Base Funding 2023A010R</u>	<u>Base Funding 2024A010R</u>	<u>Total</u>
Expenditures:			
Insurance	8,768	3,000	11,768
Professional fees	-	17,000	17,000
Property taxes	-	22,609	22,609
Rent	-	5,000	5,000
Repairs and maintenance	-	22,911	22,911
Supplies & office expenses			
Utilities	2,545	10,480	13,025
Wages and benefits	72,012	169,000	241,012
	<u>83,325</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>333,325</u>

The above schedules represent the eligible administrative costs paid by RDAR Base Funding revenue. These expenditures are already included in the Statement of Operations.

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Schedules to the Financial Information

For the year ended December 31, 2025

Schedule of RDAR Project Funding - 2025

Schedule 3

	<u>2026G4406R</u>	<u>2023G3280R</u>	<u>Total</u>
Revenue:	2,000	141,997	143,997
Expenditures:			
Consulting	-	141,997	141,997
Supplies	-	-	-
Wages and benefits	2,000	-	2,000
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>141,997</u>	<u>143,997</u>
Surplus (deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Schedule of RDAR Project Funding - 2024

	<u>2023G1458R</u>	<u>2023G3280R</u>	<u>Total</u>
Revenue:	25,000	106,497	131,497
Expenditures:			
Consulting	23,704	106,497	130,201
Supplies	1,296	-	1,296
Wages and benefits	-	-	-
	<u>25,000</u>	<u>106,497</u>	<u>131,497</u>
Surplus (deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The above schedules represents the eligible expenses paid by RDAR Project Funding revenue. These expenditures are already included in the Statement of Operations.

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Schedules to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

Schedule of (surplus) deficit - trade show

Schedule 4

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	\$	\$
Revenue:		
Booth rental	145,325	-
Donations	10,500	-
Rental income	<u>1,500</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>157,325</u>	<u>-</u>
Expenditures:		
Advertising & Promotion	7,743	-
Display company	42,029	-
Door prizes	1,500	-
Facility rent	9,465	-
Food and caterers	10,148	-
Interest and service charges	3,032	-
Refunds	975	-
Security	3,000	-
Service contract coordination	24,600	-
Show supplies	4,212	-
Trade show expenses	231	-
Utilities	<u>580</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>107,515</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u><u>49,810</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of **SARDA Ag Research Association**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **SARDA Ag Research Association**, which comprise the statement of financial position as at **December 31, 2024**, and the statements of changes in net assets, operations and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at **December 31, 2024**, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with ASNPO.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with ASNPO, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organization's financial reporting process.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (Continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- ♦ Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- ♦ Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control.
- ♦ Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- ♦ Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- ♦ Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Peace River, Alberta
June 19, 2025

The logo for InVision, featuring the word "InVision" in a stylized, handwritten-style font. The "i" and "V" are notably larger and more prominent than the other letters.

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Current:		
Cash (Note 3)	909,920	563,199
Cash - RDAR unspent base funding (Note 3)	83,333	83,325
Accounts receivable (Note 4)	516,521	315,451
Prepaid expenses (Note 5)	33,108	9,627
	1,542,882	971,602
Patronage investments (Note 6)	14,725	15,491
Capital assets (Note 7)	2,372,672	2,494,944
	3,930,279	3,482,037
LIABILITIES		
Current:		
Accounts payable (Note 8)	150,930	68,014
Deferred contributions (Note 9)	291,942	137,075
	442,872	205,089
Long-term debt (Note 10)	-	100,000
Unamortized capital contributions (Note 11)	800,200	836,000
	1,243,072	1,141,089
NET ASSETS		
Net assets	2,687,207	2,340,948
	3,930,279	3,482,037

Approved by the Board

Members _____

Members _____

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Statement of Changes in Net Assets For the year ended December 31, 2024

	2024				
	Total	Invested in capital assets	Unrestricted net assets	Capital reserve	Trade show reserve
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance, beginning of year	2,340,948	1,558,943	150,000	620,005	12,000
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	346,259	(91,745)	438,004	-	-
Investment in capital assets and debt repayment	-	105,274	-	(105,274)	-
Transfer to (from) operating surplus	-	-	(10,700)	-	10,700
Balance, end of year	<u>2,687,207</u>	<u>1,572,472</u>	<u>577,304</u>	<u>514,731</u>	<u>22,700</u>
					2023
	Total	Invested in capital assets	Unrestricted net assets	Capital reserve	Trade show reserve
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance, beginning of year	2,204,325	1,607,780	150,000	434,545	12,000
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	136,623	(70,379)	146,669	-	60,333
Investment in capital assets and debt repayment	-	21,542	-	(21,542)	-
Transfer to capital reserve	-	-	(207,002)	207,002	-
Transfer to (from) operating surplus	-	-	60,333	-	(60,333)
Balance, end of year	<u>2,340,948</u>	<u>1,558,943</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>620,005</u>	<u>12,000</u>

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Revenues:		
Federal funding	14,061	23,364
Municipal funding (Schedule 1)	368,750	368,750
Other revenue	8,870	5,823
Project funding	686,080	365,907
Provincial funding	25,000	97,050
RDAR base funding (Schedule 2)	333,325	297,613
RDAR project funding (Schedule 3)	131,497	-
	1,567,583	1,158,507
Expenditures:		
Advertising	8,240	12,819
Bad debts	-	2,800
Board honorarium and expenses	5,495	8,497
Communications	10,993	9,470
Contract service	185,697	149,953
Fuel and oil	21,979	20,908
Insurance	11,811	15,035
Licenses and dues	11,505	8,219
Office expense	8,097	5,841
Other interest expense	146	58
Pesticide and fertilizer	3,725	1,102
Professional fees	24,600	17,193
Property taxes	22,609	12,883
Publications	5,771	-
Rent	4,120	33,965
Repairs and maintenance	32,186	37,203
Soil and sample analysis	19,258	15,253
Supplies	21,655	13,276
Travel	7,912	16,178
Utilities	13,026	19,161
Wages and benefits	710,754	612,024
	1,129,579	1,011,838
Excess of revenues over expenditures from operations	438,004	146,669
Other expenses (income):		
Amortization	127,545	127,282
Amortization of capital contributions	(35,800)	(35,800)
Gain on disposal of capital assets	-	(21,103)
(Surplus) deficit - trade show (Schedule 4)	-	(60,333)
	91,745	10,046
Excess of revenues over expenditures	346,259	136,623

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Operating activities:		
Excess of revenues over expenditures	346,259	136,623
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization	127,545	127,282
Gain on disposal of capital assets	-	(21,103)
Amortization on capital contributions	(35,800)	(35,800)
	438,004	207,002
Change in non-cash working capital items:		
Accounts receivable	(201,070)	(84,217)
Prepaid expenses	(23,481)	25,272
Accounts payable	82,916	(66,168)
Deferred contributions	154,867	32,184
	451,236	114,073
Financing activities:		
Principal payments on long-term debt	(100,000)	-
Proceeds of long-term debt	-	100,000
Issuance (repayment) of capital payable	-	(136,843)
	(100,000)	(36,843)
Investing activities:		
Proceeds on patronage investments	766	46
Purchase of capital assets	(5,273)	(790,483)
Proceeds on disposal of capital assets	-	218,941
Contributions received for capital assets	-	450,000
	(4,507)	(121,496)
Increase (decrease) in cash	346,729	(44,266)
Cash, beginning of year	646,524	690,790
Cash, end of year	993,253	646,524
Cash consists of:		
Chequings	886,220	550,199
Chequings - trade show	22,700	12,000
Savings	1,000	1,000
Cash - RDAR unspent base funding (Note 3)	83,333	83,325
	993,253	646,524

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2024

1. Nature of operations

SARDA Ag Research Association (the organization) is a not-for-profit organization incorporated under the Societies Act of Alberta. The organization provides applied research and demonstration to facilitate and improve agriculture production in Northern Alberta. The organization is a registered charity under the *Income Tax Act*.

2. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. The significant accounting policies are detailed as follows:

(a) Fund accounting deferred

The organization uses fund accounting to ensure compliance with restrictions placed on the funds received. These funds are held in accordance with the objectives specified by the supporters or in accordance with the directives of the board of directors.

Internally Restricted Net Assets consists of restricted funds used to account for monies for a specific purpose. This includes the funds obtained and restricted for use in the trade show and for use towards capital assets.

Unrestricted Net Assets consists of all revenues and expenditures related to general and ancillary operations of the organization.

(b) Donated material and services

Donated capital items are recorded in the financial statements at fair value on the date of the donation.

(c) Cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are defined as cash, balances with banks, bank overdrafts, and short term deposits with term maturity of three months or less from year-end. Cash and cash equivalents designated and restricted for capital is shown as current.

(d) Patronage investments

Equity held in co-operatives are accounted for at cost plus undistributed earnings. Patronage dividends are recorded as revenue.

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

2. Significant accounting policies (Continued)

(e) Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost. The organization's policy is to not capitalize assets under \$2,000, except for land. The organization provides for amortization using the straight-line method and rates, with residual values as indicated, designed to amortize the cost of the capital assets over their estimated useful lives. The annual amortization rates are as follows:

Buildings	25 years, no residual
Automotive - vehicles	10 years, no residual
Automotive - motorized farm	25 years, 25% residual
Equipment - non-motorized	20 years, no residual
Equipment - motorized small	15 years, no residual
Equipment - seed drills	20 years, 25% residual
Computer equipment	5 years, no residual

(f) Revenue recognition

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions and reports on a fund accounting basis.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.

Restricted contributions for the purchase of capital assets that will be amortized are recorded as deferred capital contributions and recognized as revenue on the same basis as the amortization expense related to the acquired capital assets.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

(g) Income taxes

No provision is made for income tax as the organization is not subject to income tax under Section 149(1)e of the *Income Tax Act*.

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2024

2. Significant accounting policies (Continued)

(h) Financial instruments

(i) Measurement of financial instruments

The organization initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value.

The organization subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at cost or amortized cost, except for investments in equity instruments that are quoted in an active market, which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in excess of revenues over expenditures in the period incurred.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and deferred contributions.

The organization has not designated any financial asset or financial liability to be measured at fair value.

(ii) Impairment

For financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost, the organization determines whether there are indications of possible impairment. When there is an indication of impairment, and the organization determines that a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows, a write-down is recognized in excess of revenues over expenditures. A previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement. The carrying amount of the financial asset may not be greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in excess of revenues over expenditures.

(i) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Significant areas requiring the use of estimates include: estimated useful lives of capital assets and deferred revenue. Actual results may differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

3. **Cash**

Cash designated for:

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Operations	319,076	(68,805)
RDAR unspent base funding	83,333	83,325
Trade show	76,113	12,000
Capital assets	514,731	620,004
	993,253	646,524

The prior period overdraft of cash was covered by collections of trade receivables in the current year. Except for RDAR funds, the cash restrictions are internally imposed.

4. **Accounts receivable**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Trade receivables	507,645	280,758
Allowance for doubtful accounts	-	(2,800)
GST receivable	8,876	37,493
	516,521	315,451

5. **Prepaid expenses**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Insurance	10,221	9,627
Trade show	22,887	-
	33,108	9,627

6. **Patronage investments**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Patronage equity - UFA	1,623	1,392
Patronage equity - Girouxville Co-op	1,403	1,100
Investment in Credit Union shares	11,699	12,999
	14,725	15,491

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

7. Capital assets

	2024		2023	
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land	44,375	-	44,375	44,375
Buildings	1,733,113	142,049	1,591,064	1,660,388
Automotive - vehicles	193,806	165,289	28,517	45,187
Automotive - motorized farm	643,615	207,210	436,405	455,714
Equipment - non-motorized	304,199	128,824	175,375	184,196
Equipment - motorized small	59,920	24,153	35,767	39,227
Equipment - seed drills	156,727	99,815	56,912	60,181
Computer equipment	29,682	25,425	4,257	5,676
	3,165,437	792,765	2,372,672	2,494,944

8. Accounts payable

	2024		2023	
	\$		\$	
Trade payables	150,930		68,014	

9. Deferred contributions

Deferred revenues externally restricted for specified expenditures are recognized when the specified expenditures are made.

	2024			
	Balance, beginning of year	Received (repaid)	Recognized	Balance, end of year
	\$	\$	\$	\$
RDAR base grant	83,325	333,333	(333,325)	83,333
RDAR Forage Position	-	150,000	(106,498)	43,502
CAP Forage Position - GOA	25,000	-	(25,000)	-
CAP Forage Position - GOA	15,000	15,000	(15,000)	15,000
Resource management municipalities	13,750	-	(13,750)	-
Farming Smarter	-	23,807	-	23,807
RBC Community Investment	-	50,000	-	50,000
Trade Show	-	76,300	-	76,300
	137,075	648,440	(493,573)	291,942

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

9. Deferred contributions (Continued)

	2023			
	Balance, beginning of year	Received	Recognized	Balance, end of year
	\$	\$	\$	\$
RDAR/CARA base grant	47,638	-	(47,638)	-
RDAR base grant	-	333,300	(249,975)	83,325
CAP Canola Seed Size	6,000	-	(6,000)	-
RDAR Forage Position	10,000	-	(10,000)	-
CAP Forage Position - GOA	-	100,000	(75,000)	25,000
CAP Forage Position - GOA	-	60,000	(45,000)	15,000
CAP Pest Monitoring - GOA	10,828	(10,828)	-	-
Resource management municipalities	27,500	-	(13,750)	13,750
Farming Smarter	-	-	-	-
RBC Community Investment	-	-	-	-
Trade Show	2,925	-	(2,925)	-
	104,891	482,472	(450,288)	137,075

10. Long-term debt

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Loan from Northern Sunrise County repaid during year.	-	100,000
	-	100,000

11. Unamortized capital contributions

	Balance, beginning of year	Recognized	Balance, end of year
	\$	\$	\$
Peace Region Forage Seed	116,000	(5,800)	110,200
Western Grain Research Foundation	720,000	(30,000)	690,000
	836,000	(35,800)	800,200

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2024

12. Internal restrictions on net assets

Trade show:

In 1987 SARDA took over the duties of organizing the trade show. SARDA has a board policy to internally restrict a minimum of \$12,000 to be retained in a bank account and used for trade show purposes only. Trade shows are held every two years.

Capital asset reserve:

The board of directors for SARDA established a reserve for future capital asset purchases. Each year the board can internally restrict the surplus to this reserve.

SARDA may not use these internally restricted amounts for any purpose without the approval of the board of directors.

13. Financial instruments

Transactions in financial instruments may result in an entity assuming or transferring, to another party, one or more of the financial risks described below. The required disclosures provide information that assists users of financial statements in assessing the extent of risk related to financial instruments.

(a) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a transaction will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. The organization reduces its exposure to credit risk by reviewing a new customer's credit history before extending credit and conducting regular reviews of its existing customers' credit performance. An allowance for bad debts is set up when applicable. The organization maintains strict credit policies and limits in respect to counterparties. Credit risk is reduced due to the nature of credit being issued to governmental agencies for significant receivables. In the opinion of management the credit risk exposure to the organization is low and is not material.

14. Investment in capital assets

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$	\$
Capital assets - net book value	2,372,672	2,494,943
Less: Unamortized capital contributions	(800,200)	(836,000)
Less: Long-term debt	-	(100,000)
	<u>1,572,472</u>	<u>1,558,943</u>

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Schedules to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2024

Schedule of municipal funding

Schedule 1

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$	\$
Revenue:		
County of Grande Prairie	60,000	60,000
MD of Big Lakes #125	30,000	30,000
MD of Greenview #16	60,000	60,000
MD of Smoky River #130	60,000	60,000
Northern Sunrise County	70,000	70,000
Resource Management	<u>88,750</u>	<u>88,750</u>
	<u><u>368,750</u></u>	<u><u>368,750</u></u>

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Schedules to the Financial Information

For the year ended December 31, 2024

Schedule of RDAR Base Funding Expenses

Schedule 2

	<u>2023A010R</u>	<u>2024A010R</u>	<u>Total</u>
Expenditures:			
Insurance	8,768	3,000	11,768
Professional fees	-	17,000	17,000
Property taxes	-	22,609	22,609
Rent	-	5,000	5,000
Repairs and maintenance	-	22,911	22,911
Utilities	2,545	10,480	13,025
Wages and benefits	72,012	169,000	241,012
	<u>83,325</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>333,325</u>

The above schedule represents the eligible administrative costs paid by RDAR Base Funding revenue. These expenditures are already included in the Statement of Operations.

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Schedules to the Financial Information

For the year ended December 31, 2024

Schedule of RDAR Project Funding

Schedule 3

	<u>2023G1458R</u>	<u>2023G3280R</u>	<u>Total</u>
Revenue:	<u>25,000</u>	<u>106,497</u>	<u>131,497</u>
Expenditures:			
Consulting	23,704	106,497	130,201
Supplies	<u>1,296</u>		<u>1,296</u>
	<u>25,000</u>	<u>106,497</u>	<u>131,497</u>
Surplus (deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The above schedule represents the eligible expenses paid by RDAR Project Funding revenue. These expenditures are already included in the Statement of Operations.

SARDA AG RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Schedules to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2024

Schedule of (surplus) deficit - trade show

Schedule 4

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Revenue:		
Booth rental	-	128,550
Donations	-	27,975
Rental income	-	600
	-	157,125
 Expenditures:		
Accounting and auditing	-	1,001
Advertising and promotion	-	9,179
Display company	-	39,882
Door prizes	-	1,500
Entertainment	-	1,780
Facility rent	-	8,921
Food and caterers	-	8,620
Interest and service charges	-	2,320
Office supplies	-	34
Security - TS	-	3,000
Service contract coordination	-	16,640
Service contract other	-	575
Show guide advertising	-	576
Show supplies	-	1,369
Trade show expenses	-	581
Utilities	-	814
	-	96,792
 Excess of revenues over expenditures	-	60,333

Request for Decision

Report Submission Details

Item Number: **7.1**

Report Title: **Agricultural Services Program Report**

Presenter: **Lee Brachmann, General Manager, Community Services**

Supported By: Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Meeting: Agricultural Service Board Meeting

Meeting Date: July 8, 2026

Agenda Category: New Business

Recommended Action

For information.

Previous Council / Committee Action

Not applicable.

Background and Analysis

Administration will provide the Agricultural Service Board with an update on Agricultural Services department activities for the period of April 2026 to June 2026. The update includes key highlights related to seasonal operations and ongoing service delivery.

Following the cancellation of the April Agricultural Service Board Meeting, the April update was provided to the ASB for review and is included in the attachments.

Organizational Capacity and Resourcing

Level of Service: Not applicable.

Additional resources required: Yes No

Not applicable.

Options Analysis and Financial Implications

For information.

Strategic Plans Alignment: [Strategic and Business Plan | County of Grande Prairie](#)

Strategic Themes:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 1 Quality of Life | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 4 Land Use and Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 2 Economy | <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 5 Governance and Organizational Excellence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 3 Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable. |

Other Plans:

2024 – 2027 Agricultural Service Board Strategic Plan

Stakeholder Engagement

Not applicable.

Public Engagement and Communication

Not applicable.

Attachments

1. April 7, 2026: Agricultural Service Program Report Presentation
2. July 8, 2026: Agricultural Service Program Report Presentation

Approved by General Manager

Approved by County Manager

Agricultural Service Board Meeting

April 7, 2026

Agriculture Department Updates



Peace Country Classic Ag Show



40th Annual Peace Country Classic Agri-Show



Peace Country Classic Ag Show



"The auction was great! We had 35 kids, and about 50 lots to sell. Mark with VJV being out auctioneer.

The candy tower was a hit once again, with the kids saving their money to bet on it!

I really appreciate the donation from the County"

- Quinn Anderson.



Farm Family

First Nature Farms/ The Homestead – Kitt Family



Farm Family

First Nature Farms/ The Homestead – Kitt Family



Agenda

- Interview with Big Country Radio
- Lunch sponsored by Farm Credit
- Wagon Ride
- “Ringing of the Bell” to open the bull sale
- Mingle throughout toe PCC Agri-Show
- Meet at Clarkson hall for Farm Family Banquet





Farm Family

First Nature Farms/ The Homestead – Kitt Family



Location: Clarkson Hall

169 Attendees

Entertainment: Night Ryders

Food: Featured items from First Nature Farms and The Homestead





Farm Family

Northern Alberta Awards

- Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies hosting annual awards
- Honoring Farm families throughout Northern and Central Alberta
- Submit application for 2026 Farm Family to be recognized at 2027 Convention
- Day of activities and award received at Banquet





Events/Workshops/ Training

- 2026 ASB Provincial Conference
- Corridor Workshop with Alberta Transportation and ATCO
- Peace Regional Agricultural Fieldman meetings
- Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies Convention
- Inter-departmental meetings : PUL Access, 75th Anniversary
- Peace Country Classic Ag Show
- Wildfire preparation meetings

Winter Activities

Website updates (beautification mowing plan added) [Beautification Mowing Plan 2026.docx](#)

Beautification Mowing Plan 2026

SCOPE OF WORK

The Agriculture Department's Beautification Mowing program is responsible for maintaining grass at the following County-owned greenspaces and leased properties:

- Public Parks and Playgrounds
- Public Utility Lots or easements (land owned by the County for municipal infrastructure) with surfaces that can be mowed
- Public Trail systems and abutting greenspace(s)
- Public parking lots
- Public boulevards
- Approved public boulevards (as per maps)
- Approved County buildings (as per maps)
- Approved Cemeteries

Only those areas identified in the Council approved maps will be maintained to ensure services are provided throughout the County in a consistent manner. The 109 approved Beautification mowing maps can be found on the County of Grande Prairie's website [Mowing Services | County of Grande Prairie](#).

Residents are responsible for maintaining their own property according to approved bylaw(s).

countygp.ab.ca

PROCESS

The following practices will be followed:

- **Mowing Height:** Grass must be a minimum of four inches tall prior to mowing, and cut to a height of whichever is greater between:
 - using the 1/3 rule (no more than 1/3 of the grass should be removed during mowing)
 - or 2.5 inches (two-and one-half inches)
- **Mowing Pattern:** Greenspaces to be mowed in a different direction each time to prevent excess compaction and facilitate even blade growth.
- Grass Clippings will be left to add nutrients back into the soil. Only excessive clippings which are detrimental to the health of the grass will be removed.
- Areas are to be cleared of litter, refuse, and rocks prior to mowing.
- Grass will be trimmed around all stationary permanent objects to the same height as the mowed grass.

In addition:

- Weeds listed in the Alberta Weed Control legislation will be controlled utilizing principles of Integrated Pest Management where feasible, ensuring all control methods are aligned with provincial and federal regulation. Single plants or small manageable patches may be dealt with by certified staff within the beautification mowing team, but larger cases may be sent to the Vegetation Management (spraying) team for control.
- Playgrounds will be sprayed for dandelion control with registered herbicide for use in playgrounds. Sites will be posted in accordance with standard herbicide notification practices.
- All sites will be assessed for hazards in advance of work being done. Sites may be left in a natural state where they are determined by the Agricultural Fieldman to be:
 - too steep to mow considering operator safety, equipment capability or to minimize erosion and loss of topsoil
 - located in standing water or otherwise too wet to mow
- Fertilizing, aerating, overseeding and top dressing will only be considered where necessary and on a special project basis as budget allows. Sites will be reviewed and determined by the Agricultural Fieldman.

Adopted: January 14, 2026





Winter Activities

Winter Activities Continued

- Obtaining permits/Licensing
- Working with GIS to create Kochia mapping layer
- Website updates
- Inter-municipal meetings
 - (Mosquito Control Program -City of GP)
 - Urban Weed control
- 2028 Provincial ASB Conference- majority of votes to host in the Peace Region





Alberta Agriculture- Provincial program

- Compound 1080 - New Federal and Provincial Regulations and process updated
- Grant reporting- end of April
- Preparing for Alberta Agriculture audit
- Regular webinars





LERP update

Livestock Emergency Response Plan | County of Grande Prairie

- Wildfire Plan Workbook
- Wildfire Plan Workbook Guide

Sheltering-in-Place

During an emergency, it is not always possible to evacuate livestock from the area of the hazard due to time of year (spring birthing), the nature of how the animals are kept (animals that are barn based and difficult to move), or the emergency developed quickly not allowing enough time to safely load and transport livestock.

If evacuation is not possible or feasible, producers should prepare for sheltering their livestock in place prior to the producer and family evacuating.



Preparing Animals to Shelter-in-Place



In the event of an evacuation, it isn't always feasible to evacuate your livestock from your farm or grazing lease. **Prepare a plan to shelter-in-place, in case the situation requires it.**

Food & Water	Fencing	Open Space
If possible, animals should have access to a watering source that is independent of power.	Open any cross fencing to provide animals space to move. Managing vegetation around fence	Moving livestock to larger pens away from structures, or to an open, fire-resistant pasture, is ideal.

Livestock Emergency Response Plan Questionnaire

Please complete the questionnaire below to enroll in the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 Livestock Emergency Response Plan

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

General Information

1. Name *

2. Primary Phone Number (Cell Phone) *



Seasonal Staff Preparation

Interviews and hiring completed to secure team of 44 seasonals.

- 13 new seasonals
- 70% returnee rate
- Preparation for new additions to programs





Old Business

September 2025 ASB Meeting continued

Stats for Chemical Jug collection from our sites

SITE	2024	2025
Elmworth	N/A	22
Teepee	N/A	6
Regional Landfill	39	73
Clairmont	99	88 (bags collected before they closed this location)

Note:

Cleanfarms noted that contractor only began data collection for the Elmworth and Teepee transfer stations in 2025.



Old Business

September 2025 ASB Meeting continued

Weed Inspection statistics emailed Jan 16th

Inspections	2024	2025
Complaints	101	141
Inspections	814	1267
Weed Notices	42	28
Weed Control Requests	423	549

Agricultural Service Board Meeting

July 8, 2026





County of
Grande Prairie No. 1

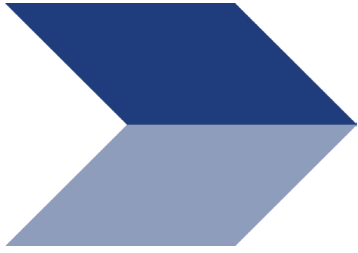
Agriculture Department Updates



Operations

- Seasonal staff start date May 4th, 2026
- Training
- Litter clean up in playgrounds, parks
- Peace regional training:
- May 13th Weed Inspecting workshop
- May 14th Spray Crew Workshop
- Equipment rentals beginning of June
- Set up Kochia layer on Webmaps to plot





Operations – Pest and Disease

- May Diamondback moth pheromone traps set
- June Diamondback moth (no moths found in 6 weeks)
Betha Armyworm traps set
Hessian Fly traps set
- Inspections Pea Leaf Weevil – inspect field peas between 2-6 node stage (14 fields)
Tree Inspection as requested by residents – 6
- Crop Inventory Mapping
- Spot sprayed small areas
- Hosted All About Trees workshop May 19th



Operations – Vegetation Management

- Appointed as Weed Inspectors for Towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith and Wembley
- Received new equipment : extendable boom and Skid mount Sprayer
- Supplied Weed Inspectors with backpack sprayers and PPE



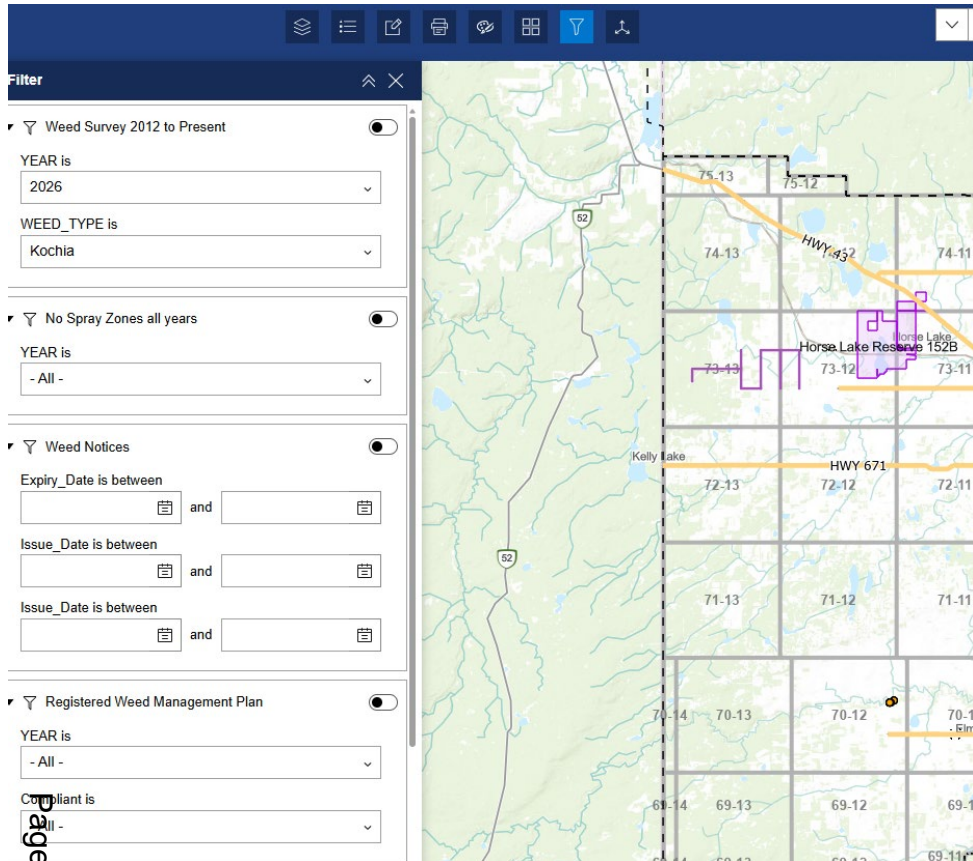
Operations – Weed Inspecting

- May included training and Herbicide application procedures and proper use of PPE
- Ensured all Weed inspectors held valid Authorized Assistants certification as they will be spot spraying
- Shifted into full inspections end of May starting with County owned and maintained parcels
- Weed Control requests issued to Spray Crew and Weed Inspectors sprayed 15 sites whilst inspecting
- Workload will increase as we head into peak season

Weed inspecting – (cont)



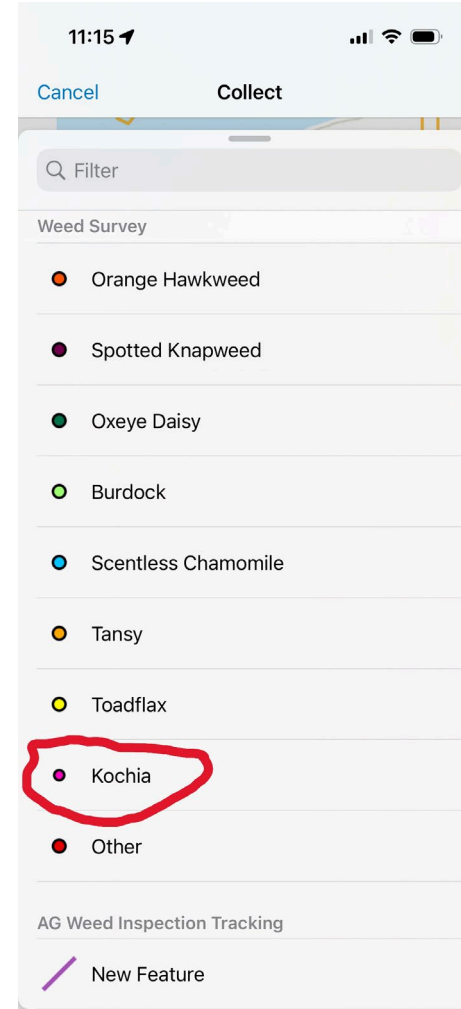
Kochia layer



The screenshot shows a web-based GIS application interface. On the left, there is a 'Filter' panel with several sections:

- Weed Survey 2012 to Present:** Includes a 'YEAR is' dropdown set to '2026' and a 'WEED_TYPE is' dropdown set to 'Kochia'.
- No Spray Zones all years:** Includes a 'YEAR is' dropdown set to '- All -'.
- Weed Notices:** Includes three 'Issue_Date is between' date range selectors.
- Registered Weed Management Plan:** Includes a 'YEAR is' dropdown set to '- All -' and a 'Compliant is' dropdown set to '- All -'.

The main map area displays a grid of land parcels with various labels such as '75-13', '74-13', '73-13', '72-13', '71-13', '70-13', '69-13', '75-12', '74-11', '73-12', '72-12', '71-12', '70-12', '69-12', '70-11', '69-11', '70-14', '70-13', '70-12', '70-11', '69-14', '69-13', '69-12', '69-11'. A purple outline highlights a specific parcel area, and an orange line indicates a road labeled 'HWY 432'. Other labels include 'Kelly Lake', 'Horse Lake Reserve 152B', and 'HWY 671'.

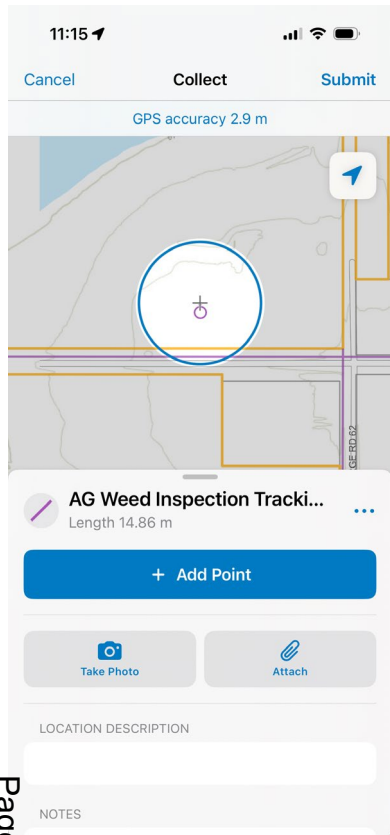
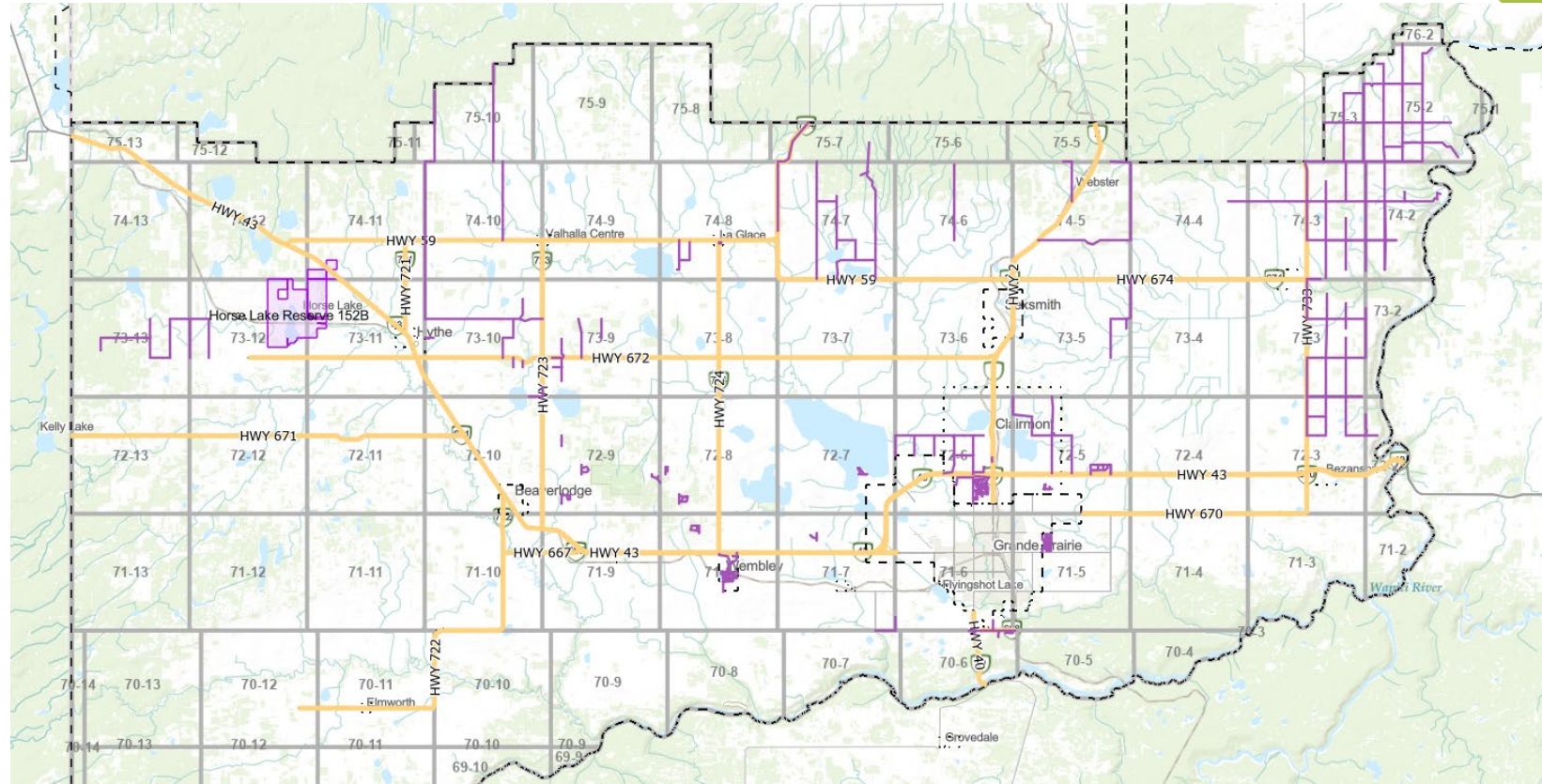


The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for a 'Weed Survey'. At the top, there is a 'Filter' search bar. Below it, the title 'Weed Survey' is displayed. A list of weed types is shown, each with a colored circular icon:

- Orange Hawkweed (orange dot)
- Spotted Knapweed (dark red dot)
- Oxeye Daisy (green dot)
- Burdock (light green dot)
- Scentsless Chamomile (blue dot)
- Tansy (yellow dot)
- Toadflax (yellow-green dot)
- Kochia (purple dot, circled in red)**
- Other (red dot)

At the bottom, there is a section titled 'AG Weed Inspection Tracking' with a 'New Feature' icon (a purple line).

Tracking layer





Oil and Gas sites- AER

- Effective May 1st, 2026, The Alberta Energy Regulators (AER) will be able to enforce compliance related to weeds and agricultural pests on well and facility sites.
- The AER may issue reasonable care and measures (RCAM) orders to support the enforcement actions initiated by Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation or by Municipal authorities
- Municipalities remain responsible for inspection and enforcement under the Agricultural Pest Act and Weed Control Act.
- AER may become involved when municipal or AGI enforcement tools have failed to resolve a compliance issue

Weed management- Interdepartmental collaboration





Roadside Spraying

- New extendable boom installed on one truck
- Skid mount sprayer delivered in May
- No Spray applications received (deadline April 15th) and signage set up for season
- Cross training for Weed inspectors to spray small spots and truck to tackle ditches
- Operations being adjusted to accommodate weather variability, with extended working hours implemented during favorable spraying conditions and additional weekend work scheduled to offset delays.

Roadside spraying(cont)





Roadside spraying(continued)

Spray Truck Boom Extension Demo

Roadside Mowing



- Mowing began end of May with 35% being done of the first pass
- Great start to the season with no equipment issues
- 1500 miles mowed to date

Beautification Mowing



- Training in May and litter clean up of all Hamlets, Rural Estates, Country Residential and Cemeteries
- Skid mount sprayer delivered
- Began spraying for Dandelions in Playgrounds
- Cutting at 3.5 inches to allow grass to grow, will reduce to 2.5 inches with moisture and growth
- Bringing back grass health by mowing in different directions each rotation to aid soil compaction and
- Weed control requests on rainy days – picked 340kg of Tansy near water bodies

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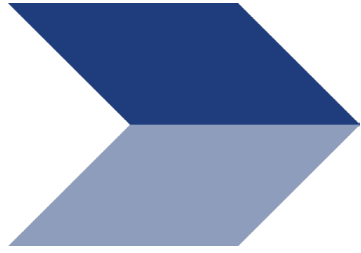
Dandelions

Westlake
Before



Westlake
After





Dandelions

Whispering 2
Before

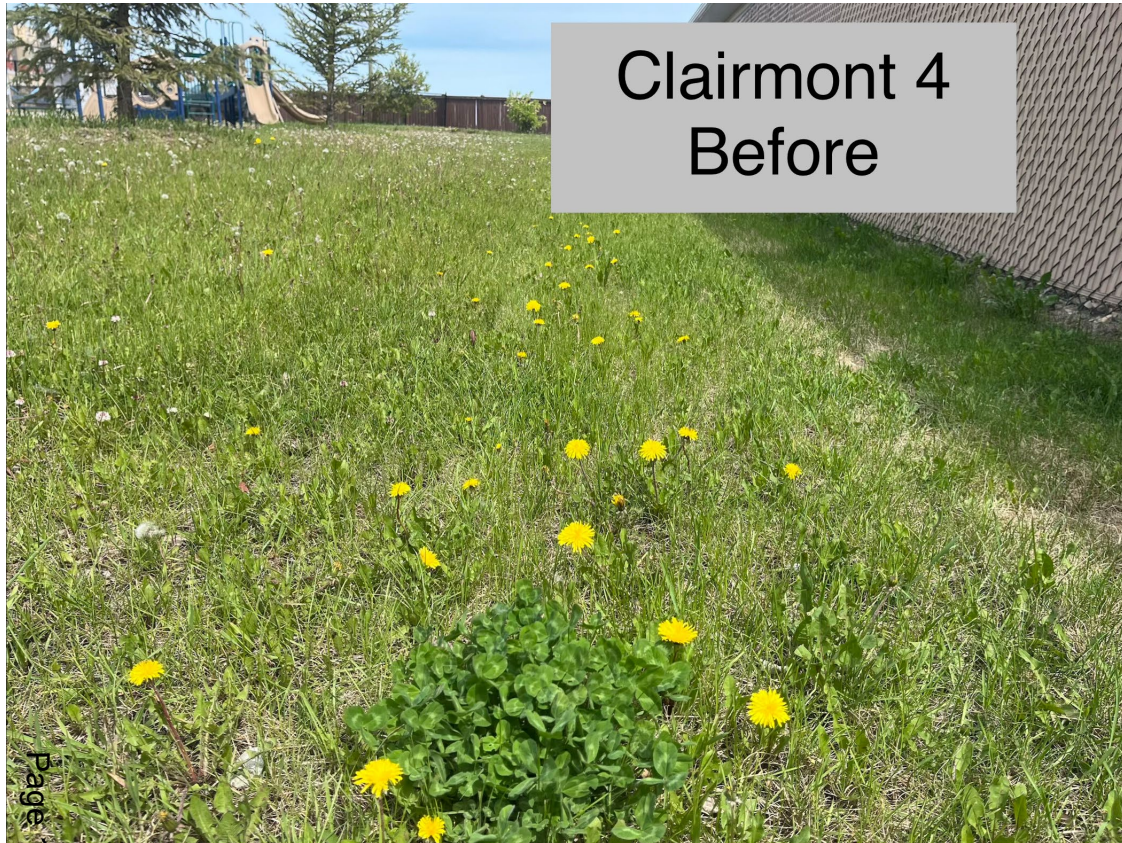


Whispering 2
After





Dandelions





Dandelions

Hythe
Ball Diamond
Before



Hythe
Ball Diamond
After





Dandelions

Clairmont 5
Before



Clairmont 5
After



Problem Wildlife

- Beavers and beaver dams
- Coyotes
- Skunks
- Other wildlife related inquiries/ education





Livestock Emergency Response Plan (LERP)

- Strive for continual improvement
- Agricultural producer specific re-entry permitting system.
- Broadening scope to include full agricultural operations (ie seeding)
- Shift from “response” to “supporting emergency preparedness”
- New resources available; preparedness booklet
- Agricultural Emergency Preparedness Plan



Preparing Animals to Shelter-in-Place

In the event of an evacuation, it isn't always feasible to evacuate your livestock from your farm or grazing lease. **Prepare a plan to shelter-in-place, in case the situation requires it.**

Food & Water

If possible, animals should have access to a watering source that is independent of power.

Ensure animals have available food and water to sustain them for 3 days.



Fencing

Open any cross fencing to provide animals space to move.

Managing vegetation around fence lines throughout the season can help reduce the risk of surface fires on your farm.



Open Space

Moving livestock to larger pens away from structures, or to an open, fire-resistant pasture, is ideal.

Ensure there are at least a few acres of open space away from trees/power lines.

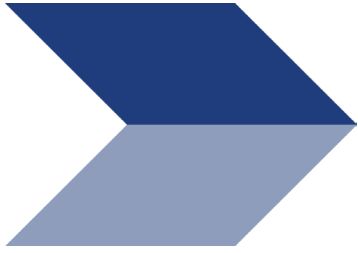


2026 Youth Ambassador



Taylor Dietz

Taylor is a motivated, community-minded youth who brings strong communication, teamwork, and public-facing skills to the role.



Parades

Grande Prairie Stompede





Parades

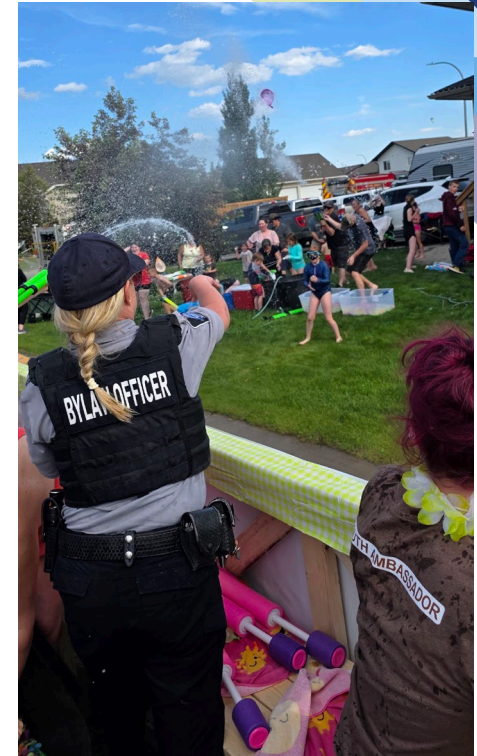
Sexsmith Chautauqua Days

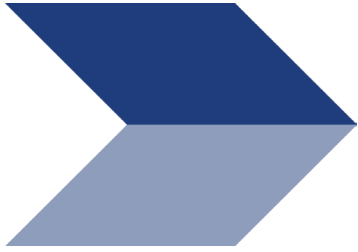




Parades

Wembley Water Fight





Parades

Wembley Water Fight Continued ...



Tradeshows/Open Houses





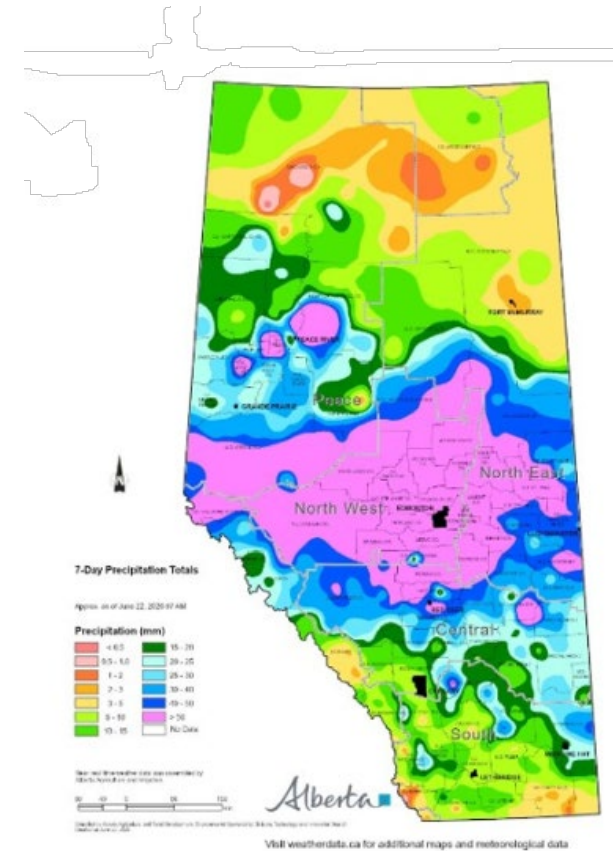
Northern Alberta Farm Family Awards

- Farm Families from North/Central Alberta
- Awarded at the Alberta Agricultural Societies Convention every February
- 2026 Farm Family can be recognized in 2027
- Deadline for nomination August 1, 2026
- Submissions by year – County of Grande Prairie is every second year, i:e 2026, 2028, 2030
- County contributes a \$500 cheque to the Farm Family to help with cost of attending our event and Northern Alberta event (if applicable).



Provincial Program Update

- Annual grant reporting process completed in April
- Completing regular crop reporting inputs
- Receiving regular Crop condition reports and Soil moisture updates
- Attending AGI updates
 - Current topics:
 - Strychnine (Richardson ground squirrel- Southern AB)
 - High stream flow advisories given high precipitation in some areas





Wheatland County Summer Tour July 14-16



[ASB Summer Tour Schedule - Wheatland County](#)

Questions?





Request for Decision

Report Submission Details

Item Number: **7.2**

Report Title: **Rural Extension and Soil Conservation and Stewardship Programs Update**

Presenter: **Lee Brachmann, General Manager, Community Services**

Supported By: Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services and Tracelle Hinze, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman

Meeting: Agricultural Service Board Meeting

Meeting Date: July 8, 2026

Agenda Category: New Business

Recommended Action

For information.

Previous Council / Committee Action

Not applicable.

Background and Analysis

Jill Henry, Rural Extension Officer (REO) and Kate Winterford, Soil Conservation and Stewardship Coordinator (SCSC) will provide the Agricultural Service Board with a program update.

The Rural Extension and Soil Conservation Stewardship Programs are responsible for providing high-quality extension services to the County of Grande Prairie and surrounding areas by enabling improvements in profitability and sustainability of agriculture, with an eye to increasing the awareness of ecological issues, land stewardship and the function of wetlands and watersheds within the County. A detailed report on the program results to date is attached for the Board's review.

Organizational Capacity and Resourcing

Level of Service: Not applicable.

Additional resources required: Yes No

Not applicable.

Options Analysis and Financial Implications

For information.

Strategic Plans Alignment: [Strategic and Business Plan | County of Grande Prairie](#)

Strategic Themes:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 1 Quality of Life | <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 4 Land Use and Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 2 Economy | <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 5 Governance and Organizational Excellence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 3 Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable. |

Other Plans:

2024 – 2027 Agricultural Service Board Strategic Plan

Stakeholder Engagement

Not applicable.

Public Engagement and Communication

Not applicable.

Attachments

1. April 7, 2026 - Rural Extension and Soil Conservation Stewardship Programs Update
2. July 8, 2026 - Rural Extension and Soil Conservation Stewardship Programs Update
3. Rural Extension Officer and Soil Conservation and Stewardship Coordinator Photos Appendix

Approved by General Manager

Approved by County Manager

Rural Extension and Soil Conservation Stewardship Programs Update:

Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP) Programs: Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP) & On Farm Efficiency Program (OFEP)

- A current Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) is a prerequisite
- Due to significant interest, SCAP Applications for RALP are now closed to applications
- SCAP applications for the OFEP are now closed and will re-open April 2026
- Subscribe to SCAP updates on their website

Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR) On Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF)

- RDAR Applications for the 2025 OFCAF have been open since April 9, 2025
- [On-Farm Climate Action Fund | RDAR](#)
- Requires a Professional Agrologist (PAg) or Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) signoff
- Subscribe to RDAR program updates on their website

Alberta Environmental Farm Plan (EFP)

- 3 new EFP requests
- 1 Action Plan Submission

Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program (WRRP)

- New WRRP grant application submitted in partnership with Cows and Fish to promote riparian health and education over the next 3 years

Shelterbelt Program

- Order form opened December 1, 2025

- Currently 264 orders have been placed
- Expecting 33,850 seedlings in spring 2026 – shortage of white spruce and Manitoba Maple
- Order form will remain available until all species are sold out: [2026 Shelterbelt Order Form](#)
- Learn more about the program: [Shelterbelt Program | County of Grande Prairie](#)

Classroom Agriculture Program (CAP) / Agriculture for Life

- Grades 4 and 5 are eligible for a presentation
- All potential volunteers must now register on the Ag for Life website
- Volunteers must be prescreened and attend a mandatory online training session prior to being matched with a school in their selected area

Grant Updates

Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) Conservation, Community, and Education Grant

- Following a successful grant in 2025, we have submitted a new grant application for the following 2026 activities in collaboration with Recreation and Culture:
 - Weed Warriors (bags, zip ties, cooler, snacks)
 - Invasive Species Workshop (hall rental, food, speaker fee, supplies)

Ecosystem Services Grant

- Currently investigating options/opportunities with Alberta Conservation Association

Monthly Agricultural Newsletter - Rural Report

- Continuing to provide timely updates each month to 78 subscribers
- Link to subscribe: <https://forms.office.com/r/PCwsMWvqjk>

Past Events and Workshops

Soil Health Conference – Dawson Creek – Feb 2026

Pest & Disease Webinar Series – February 23 & March 2, 2026

- 3 Recordings available on YouTube: [Agriculture webinars - YouTube](#)

Peace Country Classic AgriShow – March 12-14, 2026

Inside Education Youth Agriculture – March 12, 2026

AWES Shelterbelt Success Webinar – March 18, 2026

- Recording on YouTube:

Upcoming Events and Workshops

Home and Garden Show – April 17-19 ,2026 – Evergreen Park

Earth Day School Presentation – April 22, 2026 – Evergreen Park

Bumble Bee Box Workshop – April 22, 2026 – Evergreen Park

West County Watershed Society AGM – April 22, 2026 – 3x Bar Ranch Cabin

Earth Day – April 25, 2026, in collaboration with the City of Grande Prairie

Alberta Envirothon – May 6-8, 2026

- 1 Beaverlodge team & 2 Grande Prairie teams

Walk Through the Forest – May 12-14, 2026 – The Wetland Centre

High School Spring Riparian Tour – May 2026 – Hommy Park

All About Trees Workshop – May 20, 2026 – Webster Hall

AgricultHER School – June 27, 2026 – Saddle Hills County

Succession Planning Workshop – TBD

Rural Extension and Soil Conservation Stewardship Programs Update:

Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP) Programs: Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP) & On Farm Efficiency Program (OFEP)

- A current Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) is a prerequisite
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- SCAP applications for the OFEP are now closed and will re-open April 2026
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- RDAR Applications for the 2025 OFCAF have been open since April 9, 2025
- [On-Farm Climate Action Fund | RDAR](#)
- Requires a Professional Agrologist (PAg) or Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) signoff
- Subscribe to RDAR program updates on their website

Alberta Environmental Farm Plan (EFP)

- 1 new EFP request
- 1 Action Plan Submission

Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program (WRRP)

- New Watershed Restoration Resiliency Program grant application submitted in partnership with Cows and Fish to promote riparian health and education over the next 3 years
 - The WRRP Grant Funding stream has been permanently suspended, so this application has been declined

Shelterbelt Program

- Order form opened December 1, 2025
- 33,850 seedlings delivered June 2026
 - 272 orders were assembled and distributed to residents from June 8-10
 - Unclaimed orders offered to waitlisted customers
- Learn more about the program: [Shelterbelt Program | County of Grande Prairie](#)

Grant Updates

Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) Conservation, Community, and Education Grant

- Following a successful grant in 2025, and with our 2026 application now approved, we will undertake the following activities in collaboration with Recreation and Culture:
 - Weed Warriors (bags, zip ties, cooler, snacks)
 - Invasive Species Workshop (hall rental, food, speaker fee, supplies)

Ecosystem Services Grant

- Currently investigating options/opportunities with Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance (MPWA)

West County Project Team

- Site tour of past and ongoing restoration projects with the following organizations: Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance, Alberta Conservation Association, Cows and Fish, and County of Grande Prairie

Monthly Agricultural Newsletter - Rural Report

- Continuing to provide timely updates each month to 89 subscribers
- Link to subscribe: <https://forms.office.com/r/PCwsMWvqjk>

Past Events and Workshops

Home and Garden Show – April 17-19 ,2026 – Evergreen Park

Earth Day School Presentation – April 22, 2026 – Evergreen Park, 12 students

Bumble Bee Box Workshop – April 22, 2026 – Evergreen Park, 30 attendees

West County Watershed Society AGM – April 22, 2026 – 3x Bar Ranch Cabin

Earth Day – April 25, 2026, in collaboration with the City of Grande Prairie

Alberta Envirothon – May 6-8, 2026, 120 students and advisors

- **Lakeland College Vermilion Campus**
- **Annual Theme: Non-Point Source Pollution: It Begins at Home!** challenged students to explore how individual and community actions can help protect water resources.
- Throughout the competition, teams tested their knowledge in aquatics, forestry, wildlife, soils and land use, current environmental issue and Indigenous Knowledge
- Aseniwuche Winewak Nation was represented at the event through the participation of community members who provided cultural guidance and shared Indigenous Knowledge with students and organizers
- 1 Beaverlodge High School team & 2 Grande Prairie St John Paul II teams attended
 - First Place: Strathmore High School – Provincial Champion
 - Second Place: St John Paul II, Grande Prairie
 - Third Place: Parkland Composite High School, Edson
 - Strathmore High School will represent Alberta International NCF competition 2026 U of M in Starkville, Mississippi
 - The Alberta Envirothon program will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2027, with next year's competition scheduled for **May 12-14 at the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus in Camrose.**

Walk Through the Forest: May 12-14, 2026 – The Wetland Centre at Evergreen Park, 685 grade 6 students

All About Trees Workshop: May 19th at the Webster Hall, 20 attendees

Watershed School Presentation: May 20th at St Mary's in Sexsmith, 30 grade 7/8 students

High School Spring Riparian Tour: May 21st at Hommy Park, 75 students

Beaverlodge Ag Society Day in Agriculture: June 4th at the Agriplex in Beaverlodge

Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance AGM: June 15th in Peace River

County Open Houses: June 17&18th at Evergreen Park & Webster Hall



County of
Grande Prairie No. 1

Riparian Field Day: June 25th at Hommy Park

Weed Warriors: June & July, teams TBD

AgricultHER School: June 27th in Saddle Hills County (Westmark Hall & Burnt River Ranch)

Upcoming Events and Workshops

ASB Grant Provincial Staff Field Visit/Audit – July 22, 2026

Succession Planning Workshop – TBD

Regional ASB Conference 2026 – Tangent Hall, Birch Hills County

Planning for the Provincial Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen (AAAF) In Service Training

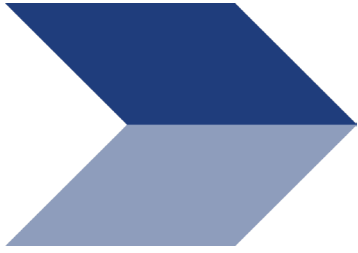
- December 2027, Grande Prairie

Planning for the 2028 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference

- January 2028, County of Grande Prairie

REO & SCSC Appendix

July 8 ASB Meeting April 2026 to July 2026



Shelterbelt Program

272 Orders & 33,850 Seedlings





West County Project Team



Bear River Evulsion Rehab



Trees & Beavers in Goodfare



Red Willow Riverbank Stabilization



West County Project Team



Saskatoon Lake Field Erosion



Cattle Crossing & Riparian Fencing - Beaverlodge River



Earth Day

PWEC School Presentation

Happy Earth Day!

N	T	A	N	S	Y	O	V	R	D
O	C	B	K	L	A	S	A	F	T
M	J	R	A	T	L	O	Q	Y	H
M	Z	U	S	G	B	A	S	P	I
O	M	X	H	D	J	I	W	Q	S
C	J	D	L	H	A	U	E	Y	T
L	R	I	G	D	T	Y	A	D	L
B	W	M	I	A	O	Z	P	G	E
N	G	O	L	D	F	I	S	H	Z
R	E	A	Y	P	T	X	V	U	R

Invasive Species Word Search

- Daisy 
- Common Tansy 
- Thistle 
- Wild Boar 
- Rat 
- Goldfish 

Beneficial Pollinator Word Scramble

1. FTBELYRUT _____
2. EMLUBB EBE _____
3. EETBEL _____
4. PAWS _____
5. HMOT _____



True or False?

- There are over 300 species of native bees in Alberta
T F
- In Alberta, daisies are a native wildflower
T F
- Alberta is known as the world's largest inhabited rat-free area
T F



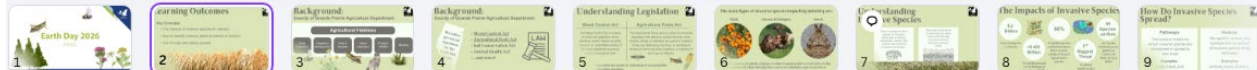
Did you know that invasive species cost Alberta \$2 Billion each year?

Learning Outcomes



Key Concepts:

- The impacts of invasive species on industry
- How to identify invasive plants & insects of concern
- How to help and reduce spread





Bumble Bee Box Workshop



West County Watershed Society AGM



Earth Day

Booth with the City of Grande Prairie





Alberta Envirothon





Walk Through the Forest





All About Trees Workshop



Watershed Presentation

With the Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance



Slideshow & Identification of Aquatic Invertebrates

High School Spring Riparian Tour



Beaverlodge & La Glace Schools

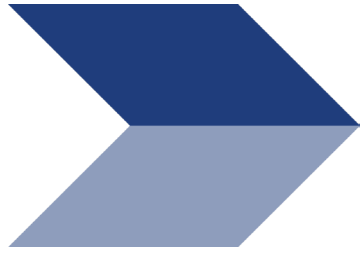
Beaverlodge Ag Society Day in Agriculture



Invasive Species Education



Ag Society promo for indoor & outdoor riding arenas



County Open Houses



Evergreen Park - Clarkson Hall



Webster Hall



Riparian Field Day

* HOMMY PARK * HANDS-ON * FIELD DAY *

JOIN US FOR A
RIPARIAN FIELD DAY

LEARN HANDS-ON ABOUT RIPARIAN ZONES, RIPARIAN PLANTS, AND RIPARIAN HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

June 25, 2026
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



Hommy Park
County of GP

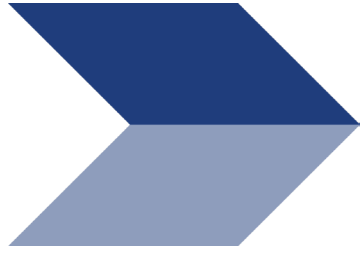
REGISTRATION & COFFEE AT 9:15 A.M.



RIPARIAN ZONES * RIPARIAN PLANTS * RIPARIAN HEALTH

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



3rd Annual Peace Region AgricultHER School



SCHOOL

SATURDAY JUNE 27 2026	9:00 - 6:00 LUNCH & SUPPER INCLUDED	BURNT RIVER RANCH & WESTMARK HALL WOKING, AB
------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

Join us for an informative and engaging female-focused event surrounding several key topics. This event will include a farm tour, a Producer Panel, and expert discussions on farm management, mental health, and other relevant industry topics. Break up the day with a professionally led Yoga session, and network with fellow women in the Agriculture sector of Alberta.



Tickets Available Online - Pre Registry Required, Limited Space Available
www.peacecountrybeef.ca

Brought to you in partnership with...



Weed Warriors

2026 Teams:

- Hillcrest Christian School Team 1
- Hillcrest Christian School Team 2
- Grande Prairie Garden Club
- Girl Guides
- Junior Forest Rangers



Request for Decision

Report Submission Details

Item Number: **7.3**

Report Title: **2026 Agricultural Service Board Audit**

Presenter: **Lee Brachmann, General Manager, Community Services**

Supported By: Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Meeting: Agricultural Service Board Meeting

Meeting Date: July 8, 2026

Agenda Category: New Business

Recommended Action

For Information.

Previous Council / Committee Action

Not applicable.

Background and Analysis

Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation (AGI) will be conducting a field visit to the County of Grande Prairie on July 22, 2026.

The objective of the visit is to strengthen relationships with Agricultural Service Boards while ensuring compliance with legislative, grant, and Office of the Auditor General requirements.

The Agricultural Services department will showcase program outcomes, resource management extension services and key initiatives through a full-day field tour.

Organizational Capacity and Resourcing

Level of Service: Not applicable.

Additional resources required: Yes No

Not applicable.

Options Analysis and Financial Implications

For information.

Strategic Plans Alignment: [Strategic and Business Plan | County of Grande Prairie](#)

Strategic Themes:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 1 Quality of Life | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 4 Land Use and Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 2 Economy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 5 Governance and Organizational Excellence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 3 Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable. |

Other Plans:

2024 – 2027 Agricultural Service Board Strategic Plan.

Stakeholder Engagement

Not applicable.

Public Engagement and Communication

Not applicable.

Attachments

1. County of Grande Prairie Field Visit Letter
2. Field Visit FAQ
3. Draft Itinerary Field Visit

Approved by General Manager

Approved by County Manager

March 23, 2026

Bob Chrenek, Chair
Agricultural Service Board
County of Grande Prairie No. 1
10001 – 84 Avenue
Clairmont, AB
T8X 5B2

Dear Bob Chrenek:

The Agricultural Service Board Program Team co-ordinates ~ 15 field visits across Alberta each year and this year includes a visit to your municipality. The purpose of our visit is to strengthen our relationships with ASBs and ensure legislative and grant requirements are met as part of our responsibility to comply with the Office of the Auditor General mandate. This is a unique opportunity for the ASB to highlight programs, accomplishments and meet provincial ASB Program staff. In the past, ASBs have found visits to be beneficial as there is 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 2026. 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 best accomplished when your programs are operating.

If you have any health, biosecurity or safety protocols please let us know as our ASB team will comply with all requirements in effect on the day of the Field Visit. To ensure compliance, we will work closely with your Agricultural Fieldman, so our team is aware of these protocols and make the required modifications for the visit prior to arrival.

A typical field visit is a full day process starting with a short meeting (approx. half to one hour) with your ASB members followed by an office and field tour with your Agricultural Fieldman and any staff or board members that you wish to have there. The priority of the field visit is to tour the municipality to see examples of programs implemented under the Legislative and if applicable Resource Management and/or Rat Program Funding Streams of the ASB Grant Program. The field visit focuses on the outcomes and deliverables of your ASB program as provided in your grant application, and we will provide a checklist outlining the requirements and supporting documentation we will review for the field visit. To make the most of the field visit we are requesting that you provide us with copies/links for the documentation in advance of the visit. This allows us to focus on verifying outstanding items with time to view your projects and programs. We have also included a "Frequently Asked Questions" document that provides an overview of the field visit process.

Once you have discussed potential dates that will work for your field visit, please contact Alan Efetha, Provincial ASB Specialist at alan.efetha@gov.ab.ca or phone (403) 315-5121, as he will be coordinating the dates for the field visits schedule this year. You can also contact Alan if you have any questions regarding the field visit.

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



Sincerely,
Kerriane Koehler-Munro, Manager
Agricultural Service Board Program
Enclosure

cc: Tracelle Hinze, Agricultural Fieldman
Julia Whittleton, CAO

Field Visit FAQs

Why do you do field visits?

The ASB Program has been asked by the Auditor General to conduct a field visit approximately every five years to ensure that the grant dollars are supporting program activities related to enforcement of delegated legislation and where relevant, resource management extension and/or rat program activities. To accomplish this, we conduct a field visit that focuses on learning about and verifying the ASB's program activities that provide assurance for compliance of the legislation as well meeting the terms and conditions of your ASB grant, and if applicable resource management and/or rat programs.

How many field visits do you do every year?

Our goal is to complete ~ 15 field visits each year. Two to five municipalities per region are selected for a field visit annually. We will be completing 15 field visits in 2026.

What time of year will the field visit occur?

The field visits are scheduled between mid-June and mid-September.

What is the process for a field visit?

Pre field visit - review of documents submitted, usually by the Fieldman, prior to the scheduled field visit (see checklist provided to the Fieldman upon scheduling the field visit for examples of the required documentation).

During the field visit - meeting with the ASB members, followed by a review of any outstanding documentation that was not received prior to the field visit and then a field and site tour with the Fieldman to view programs in action. This may include ASB members and any other staff or supporting partners.

Post field visit – Agriculture and Irrigation (AGI) staff will submit a draft report of the field visit findings and recommendations for the Ag Fieldmen to review and request any changes or clarifications. A final field visit report is then sent to the Fieldman for signatures from both the ASB Chair and Fieldman accepting the recommendations.

We prefer to keep the meeting with the ASB members short to allow time to view as many projects as possible. A half to one hour is generally enough time to meet with the ASB. This is also the ASBs opportunity to ask us questions regarding the program and to discuss any concerns. We also understand that it may not always be possible to visit with your ASB members as this is a very busy time of year for them. If this is the case, upon request, we can provide an overview of the field visit process to the ASB in advance of the field visit, and we will meet with the Fieldman and relevant staff during the field visit and upon request, schedule a time in the fall or winter to meet with ASB members to go through the findings and recommendations in your field visit report.

We want to spend most of our time in the field looking at examples of your programs and accomplishments such as your inspection and control programs, and where relevant resource

management projects, and anything that you do that is unique in your municipality. This will include time to stop and take pictures of the different projects you have completed or are currently working on.

Who will be coming from AGI to do the field visit?

A member of the Crop Assurance Programming Section will attend each of the field visits. In some instances, another AGI staff member may attend the field visit as well. For example, Regional Liaisons, Plant Bee Health Surveillance Section, Natural Resource, Wild Boar and Rat program colleagues may be invited to attend to gain a better understanding of the roles of ASBs and the Fieldmen.

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

It is up to each individual ASB to decide whether the ASB members come for the “field” portion of the visit. You may also wish to have other staff members or partners join at some stops.

What will we be looking for?

As per the Auditor General, we are required to verify that ASBs are using the ASB grant dollars to support program activities related to enforcement of the delegated legislation and if applicable resource management extension and/or rat program. This means we need to see the inspection, enforcement, and control programs you have in place related to the legislation requirements in 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 confirm compliance with the governance responsibilities and duties related to the *Agricultural Service Board Act*. Please reference your grant application with the checklist (sent to Fieldman) for examples of the documentation we will be looking for.

For example, this would include but not limited to:

- Did the ASB provide a report of your activities to council? Did council accept the report?
- Has the municipality appointed the appropriate 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 and support?

The checklist (sent to Fieldman) will outline the requested documents from each Goal Area in your ASB grant application. If possible, we request that you send copies/links at least two weeks in advance of your visit to allow time to prepare and then see examples of your program activities, such as:

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

Typical Field Visit Day

- 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 your programs that collect data for inspection programs
 - Copies of policies that you work under (if they weren't provided in advance)
 - Certification (i.e., Form 7) and inspector/officer identification
- Tour the shop to look at equipment for programs
 - Herbicide storage
 - Toxicant storage
 - Rental equipment yard
- Meet with inspectors and other Agriculture 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
 - Resource management projects
 - Solar water demonstration sites
 - Riparian sites
 - Bioengineering projects
 - Ag plastics recycling
 - Rat program
 - Inspection and control sites
 - Investigation records
 - Other activities your ASB may be involved in
 - Extension that economically benefits your producers
 - Any programs or activities listed in your grant application such as projects related to enforcement of the Acts or included on your ASB Strategic Plan
 - Agriculture related problems and issues 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

2026 County of Grande Prairie Field Visit – AGI (Draft)

8:30 – 9:00am	Arrival/Coffee
9:00 – 9:45am	Meet with ASB
9:45 – 10:45am	Administrative Documents Licences, Permits, Certification Policies Weed Notices, Maps Spray Reports Pest and Disease Rural Extension Meet with Inspectors
10:45 – 11:30am	Shop Tour Herbicide, Toxicant Storage Rental Equipment
11:30-12:30pm	LUNCH Provided
12:30 – 16:00pm	Road Tour Seeding Weed Notices issued Projects Roadside vegetation Riparian Site Ag Plastics recycling
16:30pm	End of Field Visit

Request for Decision

Report Submission Details

Item Number: **7.4**

Report Title: **Agricultural Services Department Policy Review Update**

Presenter: **Lee Brachmann, General Manager, Community Services**

Supported By: Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Meeting: Agricultural Service Board Meeting

Meeting Date: July 8, 2026

Agenda Category: New Business

Recommended Action

Option 1:

That the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) approve the proposed plan to streamline the Agricultural Services department policies to ensure alignment with legislation and reporting requirements.

Previous Council / Committee Action

Not applicable.

Background and Analysis

The County is currently in the process of conducting a policy review. Of the 18 policies managed by the Agricultural Services department, many have been determined to be procedural in nature. A plan has been developed to streamline and restructure the policies to better support departmental operations and align with provincial reporting requirements. The proposed plan will be presented to the ASB for discussion and direction.

The plan is to transition most of the existing policies to procedures with 6 overarching policies tied to specific legislation or common operational themes which will be outlined in the attached presentation

Organizational Capacity and Resourcing

Level of Service: Not applicable.

Additional resources required: Yes No

Not applicable.

Options Analysis and Financial Implications

Option1: That the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) approve the proposed plan to streamline the Agricultural Services department policies, to ensure alignment with legislation and reporting requirements.

There are no financial implications with this option.

Strategic Plans Alignment: [Strategic and Business Plan | County of Grande Prairie](#)

Strategic Themes:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 1 Quality of Life | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 4 Land Use and Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 2 Economy | <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 5 Governance and Organizational Excellence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 3 Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable. |

Other Plans:

2024 – 2027 Agricultural Service Board Strategic Plan

Stakeholder Engagement

Not applicable.

Public Engagement and Communication

Not applicable.

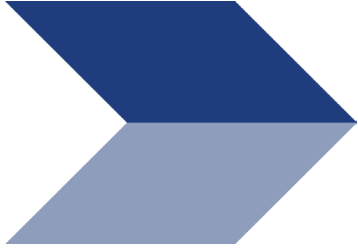
Attachments

1. July 8, 2026: Agriculture Services Department Policy Review Update Presentation
2. Agricultural Pests, Diseases and Nuisance species (draft policy)
3. Agriculture Celebration and Community Enrichment Policy (draft policy)
4. Agriculture Operating Assistance Grant Policy (draft policy)
5. Animal Health Policy (draft policy)
6. Regulated and Nuisance Weed Control (draft policy)

Approved by General Manager

Approved by County Manager

Agriculture Services Department Policy Review Update



Current Policies

D01- Control of Coyotes and Other Pests

D02- Removal of Beaver Dams

D03- Weed Control on County of Grande Prairie Property and Roadside Right-of-Ways

D04- Brush Control Along County Roadside Right-of Ways

D05- No Spray Program

D06- Virulent Blackleg Guidelines

D07- 100 Years of Farming

D09- Roadside Private Land Spraying

D10- Rental Equipment

D11- Roadside Seeding

D12- Weed Inspection

D13- Mosquito Control

D14- Nuisance Weed Control

D17- Farm Family Awards

D18- Roadside Mowing

D19- Clubroot

D21- County Youth Ambassador

D22- Soil Conservation



Review of Existing Policies

- What is necessary?
- What is missing?
- Of what remains, what fits naturally together and is consistent?



Streamline Approach

- What is necessary?
 - Most existing policies are procedural in nature
 - Provincial grant reporting is very specific to policy being tied to legislation



Streamline Approach

- **What is missing?**
 - No current policy speaking to:
 - The issuance of grants or operating funds
 - Animal Health Act requirements



Streamline Approach

- Of what remains, what fits naturally together and is consistent?
 - *Youth Ambassador*
 - *Farm Family*
 - *100 years of Framing*
 - *Rental Equipment*
- Common theme was community enrichment and the celebration of agriculture



Moving Forward

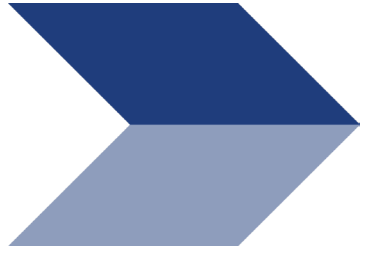
Move to six overarching policies, supported by existing policies

Four legislation specific policies

- D22 Soil Conservation
- NEW- Animal Health Act
- NEW- Regulated and Nuisance Weed Control
- NEW- Agricultural Pests and Disease and Nuisances

Two operational policies

- NEW- Agriculture Operating Assistance Grant Policy
- NEW- Agriculture Celebration and Community Enrichment



Legislation Specific

D22 Soil Conservation

- No changes required
- Updated required Fall 2025
- *Subject to Soil Conservation Act*



Legislation Specific

NEW- Animal Health Act

- Currently no policy speaking to responsibilities
- *Subject Animal Health Act*



Legislation Specific

NEW- Regulated and Nuisance Weed Control

- *Subject to Weed Control Act*
- *Allows for ASB or Council direction for management of other nuisance species*

D03 Weed Control

D12 Weed Inspection

D05 No Spray Program

D18 Roadside Mowing

D14 Nuisance Weed Control

*Remove the following as both are Transportation and Utility functions:
D4 Brush Control and D11 Roadside seeding*



Legislation Specific

NEW- Agricultural Pests and Disease and Nuisances

- *Subject to Agricultural Pests Act*
- *Allows for ASB or Council direction for management of other nuisance species*

D01 Control of Coyotes and Other Pests

D02 Removal of Beaver Dams

D19 Clubroot

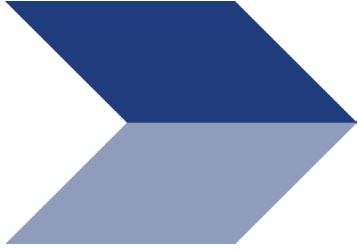
Remove the following as no longer relevant:

D06 Virulent Blackleg Guidelines and D13 Mosquito Control Policy



Grant Funding

- **NEW- Agriculture Operating Assistance Grant Policy**
- No current guiding document on the allocation of funding
- Specifies funding can be allocated to organizations conducting various agricultural research, extension, and education that supports County's agricultural producers
- Guidelines on annual requirements:
 - Formal request is required annually to ASB
 - Presentation of past years work, and future years plans; need to tie how supports County of GP agricultural producers
 - Past years financial statement
 - Formalizes process into a guiding document, creates transparency and accountability



Agriculture Celebration and Community Enrichment

- NEW- Agriculture Celebration and Community Enrichment
 - Four policies combined into one, content from each incorporated
 - D21 Youth Ambassador
 - D17 Farm Family
 - D7 100 years of Framing
 - D10 Rental Equipment
 - Common theme was community enrichment and the celebration of agriculture



County of
Grande Prairie No. 1

Questions?



Agricultural Pests and Other Nuisance Species Policy

Agricultural Services
Policy XX

Policy:	Agricultural Pests and other Nuisance Species Policy
Policy Department(s):	Agricultural Services
Adoption Date:	Month Day, Year
Adoption Reference:	Council Motion Number
Effective Date:	Month Day, Year
Last Amended:	Month Day, Year

Policy Purpose

This policy establishes the County of Grande Prairie's role in supporting the control and mitigation of pests, diseases and nuisance species in accordance with provincial legislation and to meet the needs of residents. It ensures a coordinated and timely response to protect agricultural operations, residents, and the broader community.

Policy Statement

Pursuant to Section 2(c) of the Agricultural Service Board Act, the County of Grande Prairie direct pest control by implementing measures to prevent the establishment of and/or to control agricultural pests, and to encourage the control of pests and problematic nuisance species. The County may use this policy to address the management of other non-regulated pest species to ensure resident satisfaction and protection of property.

The County of Grande Prairie is committed to directing pest control through the implementation of measures that prevent the establishment and spread of agricultural pests. The County will also undertake actions to control such pests and actively encourage residents to manage pests and problematic nuisance species.

Furthermore, this policy provides a framework for addressing the management of non-regulated pest species, with the objective of maintaining resident satisfaction and ensuring the protection of property within the County.

Commented [SM1]: @Andrew Goldberg Suggested rewrite framed as a policy statement.

Definitions

"Agricultural Fieldman" means the individual appointed under the Agricultural Service Board Act.

"Act" means the Agricultural Pests Act [Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000 Chapter A-8 of Alberta](#).

"[Agricultural Service Board](#)" means the Agricultural Service Board [members offer](#) the County of Grande Prairie [No.1](#).

"[Council](#)" means the duly elected Council members of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1.



Agricultural Pests and Other Nuisance Species Policy

Agricultural Services Policy XX

“County” ~~means the municipality of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 having jurisdiction under the Municipal Government Act and other applicable legislation~~ means the County of Grande Prairie No. 1.

“Inspector” ~~means any individual appointed as an inspector under the~~ as defined in the Agricultural Pests Act.

“Minister” ~~means the Provincial Minister of the department responsible for Agriculture matters in Alberta~~ as defined in the Agricultural Pests Act.

“Nuisance” ~~means an animal, bird, insect, plant or disease declared to be a nuisance under~~ as defined in the Agricultural Pests Act.

“Other ~~n~~Nuisance ~~s~~Species” means any other species declared to be a nuisance by the Agricultural Service Board or Council, but not specified in the Agricultural Pests Act.

“Pest” ~~means an animal, bird, insect, plant or disease declared to be a pest under~~ as defined in the Agricultural Pests Act.

“Weed and Pest Appeal Committee” means an independent committee ~~made of Council~~ appointed ~~comprised of~~ public members appointed by Council to hear appeals for both the Weed Control Act and Agricultural Pests Act.

Policy Guidelines

1. In accordance with the Chief Administrative Officer Bylaw, Agriculture Services ~~D~~epartment staff will be appointed as ~~i~~nspectors under the Act. The Agriculture Fieldman is, by virtue of title under the Agricultural Service Board Act, automatically appointed as an Inspector under the Act.
2. ~~As authorized by the Act, County staff appointed as i~~nspectors will conduct inspections, surveillance and monitor and accurately record pest outbreaks. Staff appointed as inspectors will be provided with appropriate identification as inspectors under the Act.
3. Inspectors will issue and enforce notices as required by the Act when the Inspector is of the opinion that the land, property, or livestock contains, or is likely to contain a pest, or should be protected against a declared pest. Notices may prescribe specific conditions to rectify the issue.
 - 3.1. Inspectors will prioritize voluntary compliance with the requirements of the Act; however, where issues remain unabated, the County may impose penalties upon the landowner as required by the Act.
 - 3.2. Where notice requirements remain unabated and action is required to be taken by the County to address the issue, cost recovery efforts may be made by the County with respective landowners in accordance with the Act.
4. In accordance with the Weed and Pest Appeal Committee Bylaw, an independent appeal committee will be appointed to review appeals and make decisions on appeals.



Agricultural Pests and Other Nuisance Species Policy

Agricultural Services Policy XX

5. The ASB and Council will ensure that appropriate resources and personnel will be allocated to fulfill obligations of the Act.
6. The Agriculture Services Department will provide information to residents, ratepayers, and stakeholders in appropriate pest prevention and management practices.
7. The ASB or Council may direct the Agriculture Services Department to effectively deal with other nuisance species not listed in the Act to ensure the protection of property, agricultural operations, resident satisfaction, and the well-being of the broader community. Any such work will be conducted in accordance with Federal and Provincial legislation, and
 - 7.1. Agricultural Services Department staff will obtain any Federal and Provincial licences and permits as required prior to commencing any such work.
8. Work completed by the County for removal of other nuisance species may be charged back to the landowner or neighbouring municipality in accordance with the County's Schedule of Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.

Attachments

Example- Pest Notice with Appeal process

References

Legal Authorities	Agricultural Service Board Act; Agricultural Pests Act and regulations, Agricultural Pests and other Nuisance Species Policy
Related Plans, Bylaws, Policies, Etc.	B1 – Policy Development (all policies will reference Policy B1)
Other	Procedure XX

Revision History

Review Date	Description
Month Day, Year	Reviewed and Amended CM(motion number)
Month Day, Year	Adoption Date CM(motion number)



Agricultural Pests and Other Nuisance Species Policy

Agricultural Services
Policy XX

Schedule A – Name of Schedule

Agricultural Celebration and Community Enrichment Policy

Agricultural Services
Policy XX

Policy:	Agriculture Celebration and Community Enrichment Policy
Policy Department(s):	Policy Department
Adoption Date:	Month Day, Year
Adoption Reference:	Council Motion Number
Effective Date:	Month Day, Year
Last Amended:	Month Day, Year

Policy Purpose

Formalize the County's role in the following areas:

- Celebration of exceptional agriculture families, farms and homesteads
- Promoting youth leadership within the County
- Enriching the rural community by providing support with an equipment rental program

Policy Statement

The County of Grande Prairie recognizes agriculture as a foundational component of its economy, identity, and rural lifestyle. The County is committed to fostering a strong connection between residents with agriculture and the rural lifestyle through programs and initiatives that celebrate and support agricultural producers, rural landowners and youth leaders.

This policy establishes a coordinated framework to deliver programs that strengthen community engagement, economic resilience, and long-term sustainability of agriculture within the municipality.

Definitions

"County" means the County of Grande Prairie No. 1

Policy Guidelines

1. **Celebration of exceptional agriculture families, farms and homesteads**

The County will continue to celebrate exceptional agricultural practices and those longstanding families or properties that have reached significant agricultural milestones through the Farm Family and 100 years of Farming programs.

Farm Family

Agricultural Celebration and Community Enrichment Policy

Agricultural Services Policy XX

This award is to recognize the significant contributions made by committed agricultural producers in the County and to recognize and celebrate worthy farm families on an annual basis through the awarding of an annual Farm Family Award.

Farm Family Award guidelines:

- Nominations will be accepted until December 1st of each year. The Agricultural Fieldman may extend beyond this date if no applications have been received.
- Nominators may include the public at large, or members of Council. Self nominations will not be accepted.
- Qualified candidate applications will be presented to Council to select a worthy farm family to represent the County as the farm family recipient for the coming year.
- The Agriculture Department shall host the Farm Family Banquet each year at Evergreen Park during the Peace Country Classic Agri-Show, inviting past farm families to celebrate the newly awarded Farm Family.
- The division Councillor, Agricultural Fieldman or designate, of the farm family will present the award to the farm family at the Peace Country Classic Agri-Show annual event. A \$500 stipend will be provided to the family at the event to cover any associated travel fees or other costs they incur to attend.
- If an external Farm Family event is occurring, the current Farm Family may have the opportunity to attend to represent the County. As these events are not managed by the County, invitation and attendance should be managed by the organization overseeing the event. County involvement would only be to connect the Farm Family with the organizers for information on any potential event, and **any costs associated with attending this event will not be covered by the County.**

100 Years of Farming Award

This award is to effectively recognize the significant contributions pioneer farming families have made to the County, there are two streams for this award. Applications for either can be received year-round.

1. The first is the Heritage Homestead Award, which focuses on the achievement of maintaining the homestead quarter within the family through the generations.

Criteria:

- The farm / ranch must be the original title's quarter (ie: the same piece of land must have been continuously farmed/ranched for the 100-year period).
- Kinship ties to the original homestead founder must be clearly explained (ie: provide family tree showing kinship ties).
- Date of homestead establishment must be provided.

Agricultural Celebration and Community Enrichment Policy

Agricultural Services Policy XX

- Copy of the land title must be provided, to show ownership.
- The land must still produce agricultural commodities by the owner.

2. The second is the Pioneer Farming Family Award, which recognizes 100 years of residing and farming within the County.

Criteria:

- Date of arrival to the County must be provided and substantiated (old homestead records, newspaper articles, archival documents, diary entries etc.).
- Kinship ties to the original pioneer founder must be clearly explained (ie: family tree clearly showing kinship ties).
- Copy of the land title must be provided, to show ownership of land within the County, or a statement must be provided from at least one landowner in the County that states the family is renting land from them for agricultural production.
- One witness must provide a statement in the form of a Statutory Declaration (requires a Commissioner of Oaths) attesting to their historical knowledge of the family presence in the County for 100 years. This individual must have long-term ties to the County, in the form of current residence or, or previous presence/residence in the County.
- The family must still produce agricultural commodities.

Guidelines:

- The Agricultural Fieldman and / or Assistant Agricultural Fieldman are responsible for reviewing applications to ensure the applicants qualify for the award.
- Valid applications are brought to the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) for award.
- Recipients are invited to an ASB meeting for presentation of the award, but recipients may choose to have the award presented at their farm or residence.

2. Promoting youth leadership within the County

The County will support youth development and future leadership through the Youth Ambassador program.

This program will be to provide County youth the opportunity to represent the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 in a positive, inspiring, and engaging manner by interacting with people in our community at various events.

Agricultural Celebration and Community Enrichment Policy

Agricultural Services Policy XX

Youth Ambassador Guidelines:

- The application to become a County Youth Ambassador will be available to the public on the County's website, and applications will be accepted until April 15th of each year. The Agricultural Fieldman may extend beyond this date if no applications have been received.
- The Agricultural Fieldman and / or Assistant Agricultural Fieldman are responsible for reviewing applications to ensure the applicants qualify for the Youth Ambassador position.
- Valid applications are brought to ASB or Council for selection. A maximum of two (2) worthy Youth Ambassadors will be selected per year to represent the County.
- The County Youth Ambassador(s) will be appointed for a term of approximately one year as specified by Council or the Agricultural Service Board.
- Recipients will be notified of their selection and advised on the following before accepting the role:

To represent the County, Youth Ambassadors will undertake the following:

- Represent and promote the County in a positive manner at various events throughout the year. Scheduling conflicts with events should be considered before accepting the role.
 - Exhibit good social skills, integrity, and maturity.
 - Demonstrate leadership in the community.
 - Engage with the public at events willingly and positively.
 - Effectively communicate the benefits of County life with others.
- A County t-shirt will be provided and a \$100 honorarium for each event attended.
 - 3. **Enriching the rural community by providing support with an equipment rental program**

The County will support and enrich the lives of agricultural producers and rural acreage owners by providing access to rental equipment that supports them with their agricultural pursuits and enhancements to their rural properties. This will be achieved through the Rental Equipment program administered by the Agriculture Services Department.

Agricultural Celebration and Community Enrichment Policy

Agricultural Services Policy XX

All rentals will be subject to terms and conditions listed in the rental agreement and rates or charges will be in accordance with the County's Schedule of Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.

Attachments

Schedule A - Farm Family Application example

Schedule B - 100 Years of Farming application example

Schedule C - Rental equipment agreement example.

References

Legal Authorities	Agricultural Service Board Act;
Related Plans, Bylaws, Policies, Etc.	B1 – Policy Development (all policies will reference Policy B1)
Other	Procedure XX

Revision History

Review Date	Description
Month Day, Year	Reviewed and Amended CM(motion number)
Month Day, Year	Adoption Date CM(motion number)



County of
Grande Prairie No. 1

Agricultural Celebration and Community Enrichment Policy

Agricultural Services
Policy XX

Schedule A – Name of Schedule



Agriculture Operating Assistance Grant Policy

Agricultural Services
Policy XX

Policy:	Agriculture Operating Assistance Grant Policy
Policy Department(s):	Policy Department
Adoption Date:	Month Day, Year
Adoption Reference:	Council Motion Number
Effective Date:	Month Day, Year
Last Amended:	Month Day, Year

Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define the process by which the County of Grande Prairie No.1 provides Operating Assistance Grant funding to organizations that operate external agriculture research, extension or education programs.

Policy Statement

The County is committed to ensuring that the County’s agricultural producers are supported through various agricultural research, extension, and education. The County offers financial assistance to organizations to help support general operating expenses through annual operating assistance grant funding.

Definitions

“ASB” means the Agricultural Service Board for the County of Grande Prairie

“Council” means the duly elected Council members of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1

“County” means the municipality municipal corporation of the County of Grande Prairie No.1 having jurisdiction under the Municipal Government Act and other applicable legislation.

“Grants” are non-repayable funds or products disbursed by the County of Grande Prairie Council to a grant recipient, such as a not-for-profit entity, local organization or volunteer group that provides agriculture based research, extension or education that benefit County of Grande Prairie residents

“Operating Funding” is funding intended to help offset utility and operating costs or for projects related to maintaining or enhancing operations that are not directly related to infrastructure unless otherwise directed by Council.

“Organization” means an incorporated municipality, or a duly registered society in good standing within the Province of Alberta, or a formal service group which has been identified by County Council as the provider of community services.

“Term Funding” refers to operating funding for a facility/organization that has been allocated through a council motion with specific timelines attached.



Agriculture Operating Assistance Grant Policy

Agricultural Services
Policy XX

Policy Guidelines

1. Eligibility:
 - 1.1. Any organization that provides agriculture based research, extension or education within the County and can prove effective use of the programs they provide by agricultural producers within the County of Grande Prairie.
 - 1.2. Recipients are in good standing with no compliance issues.
2. Funding
 - 2.1. County Council or ASB establishes Operating Assistance funding for organizations providing agriculture-based research, extension or education during their annual budget process. This funding will be distributed to approved organizations based on an annual application process. The intention is to help offset utility and operational costs unless otherwise directed by Council or ASB.
 - 2.2. Operating Assistance funding is dependent on completion of the previous year's reporting requirements.
 - 2.3. Intermunicipal agreements with neighbouring municipalities fall outside of this policy, including grant processes related to regulated weed control measures under the Weed Control Act of Alberta.
 - 2.4. Council or ASB retains the right to modify annual Operating Assistance funding for a specific organization outside of this policy with a Council or ASB motion.
3. Applications for Funding
 - 3.1. Applications for Operating Assistance grants are accepted from January 1 through May 31 annually and will be submitted to the Agriculture department according to established grant procedures.
 - 3.2. New applications for Operating Assistance must include:
 - 3.2.1. Current year operating budget;
 - 3.2.2. Financial statement from prior year;
 - 3.2.3. Clearly identify costs for programs
 - 3.2.4. Program and project objectives for the current year,
 - 3.2.5. Demonstrate benefit to County residents;
 - 3.3. Returning applicants must provide:
 - 3.3.1. A report on the past years work completed
 - 3.3.2. Financial statement from prior year;



Agriculture Operating Assistance Grant Policy

Agricultural Services Policy XX

- 3.4. Applicants should not duplicate or compete with existing grant opportunities funded by the County of Grande Prairie unless there is a definite need or benefit to be achieved.
- 3.5. Applicants are required to present their operating funding request to the ASB at a regularly scheduled ASB meeting.
- 4. Allocation of Funds
 - 4.1. ASB will make a recommendation to Council for any new funding requests, and Council will decide on all new funding allocation.
 - 4.2. ASB will approve any funding that has already been allocated in that year's budget by Council. Operating Assistance funding is released to organizations after a decision is made at the ASB meeting they presented.
- 5. Notification
 - 5.1. Applicants will be notified on the status of their application following the ASB in which they presented their application.
 - 5.2. The recipient of any Operating Assistance funding under this policy must notify the County if the organization or their programs becomes inoperable for any reason. Failure to comply with may impact an organization's ability to receive any additional County grants in the future.
- 6. Recognition
 - 6.1. All Operating Assistance grant recipients must publicly recognize the contributions that the County made to their project as reasonably requested by ASB or Council.

Attachments

N/A

References

Legal Authorities	Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
Related Plans, Bylaws, Policies, Etc.	Policy B1 - Policy Development Policy K6 -- Connected Community Grant Policy K10 - Capital Grant Policy C27 - Financial Reserves

Commented [LB1]: @Andrew Goldberg Not sure these two are relevant.

Commented [AG2R1]: OK I wasn't sure so left them in for now. They were in Hayley's which this one was built off of.



Animal Health Act Policy

Agricultural Services
Policy XX

Policy:	Animal Health Act Policy
Policy Department(s):	Agricultural Services
Adoption Date:	Month Day, Year
Adoption Reference:	Council Motion Number
Effective Date:	Month Day, Year
Last Amended:	Month Day, Year

Policy Purpose

This policy establishes the County of Grande Prairie’s role in supporting the control and mitigation of animal diseases in accordance with provincial legislation. It ensures a coordinated and timely response to protect agricultural operations, residents, and the broader community.

Policy Statement

Pursuant to Section 2(c) of the Agricultural Service Board Act, the County of Grande Prairie will support the Province of Alberta with the control of animal diseases under the Animal Health Act.

The County will support the Province of Alberta in the control of animal diseases in accordance with the Animal Health Act. This includes implementing appropriate measures, facilitating communication and collaboration with stakeholders, and promoting awareness and compliance to minimize the risk and impact of animal diseases within the municipality.

Commented [SM1]: Suggested rewrite.

Definitions

“Agricultural Fieldman” means the individual appointed under the Agricultural Service Board Act.

“Act” means the Animal Health Act of Alberta.

“ASB” means the Agricultural Service Board for the County of Grande Prairie.

“Office of Chief Provincial Veterinarian” means the provincial authority responsible for animal disease oversight in the Province of Alberta.

“Minister” means the Provincial Minister of the department responsible for Agriculture matters in Alberta

Policy Guidelines

1. The Agricultural Fieldman or designate will report known or suspected cases of reportable and/or notifiable diseases to the Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian within 24 hours of becoming aware of any such reports.



Animal Health Act Policy

Agricultural Services Policy XX

2. The Agricultural Fieldman or designate will serve as an inspector under the Animal Health Act, when requested and under appointment of the Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian or Officer of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
3. The Agricultural Fieldman or designate will provide information and technical support to the Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian on animal disease prevention and biosecurity as well as distribute authorized outbreak communications to the public.
4. The Agricultural Fieldman or designate will provide logistical support to the Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian during outbreaks if requested.
5. The Agricultural Fieldman or designate will provide information and technical assistance to producers, residents, and members of the public in appropriate animal disease prevention practices and will conduct activities to encourage the adoption of farm biosecurity measures.

Attachments

N/A

References

Legal Authorities	Agricultural Service Board Act; Animal Health Act
Related Plans, Bylaws, Policies, Etc.	B1 – Policy Development (all policies will reference Policy B1)
Other	Procedure XX

Revision History

Review Date	Description
Month Day, Year	Reviewed and Amended CM(motion number)
Month Day, Year	Adoption Date CM(motion number)

Regulated and Nuisance Weed Control Policy

Policy:	Regulated and Nuisance Weed Control
Policy Department(s):	Policy Department
Adoption Date:	Month Day, Year
Adoption Reference:	Council Motion Number
Effective Date:	Month Day, Year
Last Amended:	Month Day, Year

Policy Purpose

This policy establishes the County of Grande Prairie’s role in supporting the control of regulated weed species in accordance with provincial legislation and to meet the needs of residents. It ensures a coordinated and timely response to protect public and private lands within the County from having issues with weed species become established.

Policy Statement

1. Pursuant to Section 2(c) of the Agricultural Service Board Act, the County of Grande Prairie will direct regulated weed control by implementing measures to prevent establishment and control the spread of Noxious and Prohibited Noxious species in accordance with the Alberta Weed Control Act and the Alberta Weed Control Regulation. The County may use this policy to address the management of other non-regulated weed species to ensure resident satisfaction with public green spaces.

Definitions

“Agricultural Fieldman” means the individual appointed under the Agricultural Service Board Act.

“Act” means the Weed Control Act of Alberta.

“ASB” means the Agricultural Service Board for the County of Grande Prairie

“County” means the County of Grande Prairie No. 1

“Inspector” means any individual appointed as an inspector under the Weed Control Act.

“Minister” means the Provincial Minister of the department responsible for Agriculture matters in Alberta

Regulated and Nuisance Weed Control Policy

“Noxious species” means a noxious weed as defined in the Weed Control Act

“Other nuisance species” means any other species declared to be a nuisance by the ASB or Council but not specified in the Weed Control Act.

“Prohibited Noxious species” means a prohibited noxious weed as defined in the Weed Control Act

“Regulated weed species” means any noxious or prohibited noxious weed as defined in the Weed Control Act

“Weed and Pest Appeal Committee” means an independent committee made of Council appointed public members to hear appeals for both the Weed Control Act and Agricultural Pests Act.

Policy Guidelines

- 1 In accordance with the Chief Administrative Officer Bylaw, Agriculture Services Department staff will be appointed as inspectors under the Act. The Agriculture Fieldman is, by virtue of title under the Agricultural Service Board Act, automatically appointed as an Inspector under the Act.
- 2 As authorized by the Act, County staff appointed as inspectors will conduct inspections, surveillance and monitor and maintain accurate records. Staff appointed as inspectors will be provided with appropriate identification as inspectors under the Act.
2. Inspectors will issue and enforce notices as required by the Act when the Inspector is of the opinion that the land or property contains any noxious or prohibited noxious weed species. Notices may prescribe specific conditions to rectify the issue.

Inspectors will prioritize voluntary compliance with the requirements of the Act; however, where issues remain unabated, the County may impose penalties upon the landowner as required by the Act.

Where notice requirements remain unabated and action is required to be taken by the County to address the issue, cost recovery efforts may be made by the County with

Regulated and Nuisance Weed Control Policy

respective landowners in accordance with the Act and with the municipalities Schedule of Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.

4. Intermunicipal agreements may be made with neighbouring municipalities to conduct weed inspection and control requirements under the Act on their behalf. Cost recovery efforts may be made by the County in accordance with the Act and with the approved Schedule of Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.
5. Intergovernmental agreements may be made with the Provincial government to conduct weed inspection and control requirements under the Act on their behalf. Cost recovery efforts may be made by the County in accordance with the Act and with the approved Schedule of Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.
6. In accordance with the Weed and Pest Appeal Committee Bylaw, an independent appeal committee will be appointed to review appeals and make decisions on appeals.
7. The ASB and Council will ensure that appropriate resources and personnel will be allocated to fulfill obligations of the Act.
8. The Agriculture Services Department will provide information to residents, ratepayers, and stakeholders in appropriate weed prevention and management practices.
9. The ASB or Council may direct the Agriculture Services Department to effectively deal with other nuisance species not listed in the Act to ensure the protection of property, agricultural operations, residents, and the broader community. Any such work will be conducted in accordance with Federal and Provincial legislation, and Agricultural Services Department staff will obtain any Federal and Provincial licences and permits as required prior to commencing any such work.
10. The County will manage a “no spray program” where an agreement may be entered between the County and ratepayers to manage for any regulated weed species or brush on County lands adjacent to their titled property. The agreement will define locations, measures and conditions required for the ratepayer to manage any regulated weed species or brush.

Attachments

Example- Weed Notice with Appeal process

Example No spray agreement

Regulated and Nuisance Weed Control Policy

Schedule B – Name of Schedule

Schedule C – Name of Schedule

References

Legal Authorities	Agricultural Service Board Act; Weed Control Act and regulations, Regulated and Nuisance Weed Control Policy
Related Plans, Bylaws, Policies, Etc.	B1 – Policy Development (all policies will reference Policy B1)
Other	Procedure XX

Revision History

Review Date	Description
Month Day, Year	Reviewed and Amended CM(motion number)
Month Day, Year	Adoption Date CM(motion number)



Regulated and Nuisance Weed Control Policy

Schedule A – Name of Schedule

Request for Decision

Report Submission Details

Item Number: **10.1**

Report Title: **Information Items**

Presenter: **Lee Brachmann, General Manager, Community Services**

Supported By: Andrew Goldberg, Director, Agricultural Services

Meeting: Agricultural Service Board Meeting

Meeting Date: July 8, 2026

Agenda Category: Information Items

Recommended Action

For information.

Previous Council / Committee Action

For information.

Background and Analysis

Correspondence sent or received from Municipal, Provincial and Federal levels of government, media coverage, and information are included on an Agricultural Service Board (ASB) agenda for information.

Organizational Capacity and Resourcing

Level of Service: Not applicable.

Additional resources required: Yes No

Not applicable.

Options Analysis and Financial Implications

For information.

Strategic Plans Alignment: [Strategic and Business Plan | County of Grande Prairie](#)

Strategic Themes:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 1 Quality of Life | <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 4 Land Use and Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 2 Economy | <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 5 Governance and Organizational Excellence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 3 Transportation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable. |

Other Plans:

2024-2027 Agricultural Service Board Strategic Plan

Stakeholder Engagement

Not applicable.

Public Engagement and Communication

Not applicable.

Attachments

1. January 01, 2026 - March 20, 2026, Information Items
2. March 21, 2026 - June 22, 2026, Information Items
3. 2024-2027 Agricultural Service Board Strategic Plan

Approved by General Manager

Approved by County Manager



Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133

Box 389 Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0 Telephone (780) 864-3500

E-mail: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

January 8, 2026

Hon. R.J. Sigurdson
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation
3rd Floor – 7000 113 Street
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6

RE: Support for Saddle Hills County Regarding Proposed On-Farm Slaughter Operation (OFSO) License Amendments

Dear Minister Sigurdson,

On behalf of the Municipal District of Spirit River #133 Agriculture Service Board, I am writing to express our support for the concerns outlined by Saddle Hills County regarding the recent proposed amendments to the On-Farm Slaughter Operation (OFSO) License program.

Producers within our municipality, much like those across the Peace Region, rely on the OFSO program as an essential component of their agricultural operations. Many have made significant investments in infrastructure, training, and compliance in good faith under the existing framework. Proposed limitations—such as previously discussed annual slaughter thresholds—risk undermining the economic viability of these operations and could unintentionally limit local food availability and consumer choice in rural Alberta.

We also share concerns that recent consultation efforts, including survey-based engagement, may not fully capture the practical and operational realities faced by OFSO license-holders. Meaningful, direct dialogue with producers and relevant working groups is critical to ensuring that any program changes are balanced, informed, and aligned with the original intent of supporting local food systems.

The MD of Spirit River ASB strongly supports a collaborative approach and respectfully requests that the Government of Alberta engage directly with OFSO license-holders prior to implementing further amendments. Doing so would help ensure regulatory outcomes that protect food safety while sustaining rural livelihoods and local food resilience.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. We appreciate your continued attention to the needs of Alberta's agricultural communities.

Sincerely,

Jesse Meyer, Chairman
Municipal District of Spirit River #133 Agriculture Service Board

cc:

Hon. Joseph Schow, Minister of Jobs, Economy, Trade, and Immigration
Hon. Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta
Agricultural Service Boards Provincial Committee

January 14, 2026

Honourable R.J. Sigurdson
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation
131 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Sigurdson,

RE: Canadian Food Inspection Agency Proposed Amendments to Livestock Traceability Regulations

Since 2023 the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has been working on draft regulation amendments pertaining to the Traceability portion of the *Health of Animals Regulations*. These amendments to the regulations could have devastating effects on the agriculture industry across the nation. We request that the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation not only advocate against the implementation of the regulations, but investigate the process and consultations conducted by the CFIA in both regulation development and past conduct pertaining to disease outbreaks.

Following multiple cases of the CFIA destroying herds and leaving agricultural producers in financially tumultuous situations, it calls to question the efficacy of the organization, current and new regulations, and their implementation processes. The CFIA conducted a consultation period that was insufficient and did not accurately portray the voices of the Canadian livestock sectors. While Canada ranks among the highest for global leaders in animal health and disease-free meats, our national cattle herds have faced significant decline, now reporting low numbers that haven't been seen in the last 40 years. With clean herds and low populations, these combined factors put Canadian meat products at low risk for disease outbreaks and prove that current practices have more than adequately controlled the risk of disease.

Implementation of these proposed amendments would prove challenging to any agricultural producer and would place undue strain both financially and laboriously especially on smaller, locally focused producers. The potential enforcement of these regulations would be unsupported, unrealistic, and unsustainable. Agricultural producers deserve to have the freedom to operate their business and operations as they see fit, to have their voices heard,

January 14, 2026

Page 2

and have their contributions both to their communities and to the economy appreciated. Big Lakes County supports and appreciates our agricultural community and would ask the Minister to advocate and support them in this manner as well.

Sincerely,



Tyler Airth
Reeve, Big Lakes County

CC:

Mr. Greg Orencsak, Deputy Minister of Health

Mr. Scott Sinclair, MLA Lesser Slave Lake

Honourable Todd Loewen, Minister of Forestry and Parks

Mr. Arnold Viersen, MP Peace River-Westlock

Mr. Chris Warkentin, MP Grande Prairie

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Paul MacKinnon, CFIA President

Diane Allan, CFIA Associate Vice-President, Policy and Programs

Tanya Day, Ministerial Liaison for Health Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Robert Ianiro, Vice-President, Policy and Programs

Brad Dubeau, General Manager, Alberta Beef Producers

Doug Roxburgh, Chair, Alberta Beef Producers

Bill Hanson, Zone 4 Director, Western Stock Growers Association

Chris Sloan, Zone 4 Director, Western Stock Growers Association

Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen

Alberta Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee

Brodie Haugan, Officer, Canadian Cattle Association

Dennis Laycraft, Executive Vice President, Canadian Cattle Association

Ryder Lee, General Manager, Canadian Cattle Association

Jennifer Babcock, Chief Government and International Affairs Officer, Canadian Cattle Association

Andrea Brocklebank, Executive Director, Beef Cattle Research Council



Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133

Box 389 Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0 Telephone (780) 864-3500

E-mail: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

January 8, 2026

Hon. R.J. Sigurdson
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation
3rd Floor – 7000 113 Street
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6

RE: Support for Saddle Hills County Regarding Proposed On-Farm Slaughter Operation (OFSO) License Amendments

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We also share concerns that recent consultation efforts, including survey-based engagement, may not fully capture the practical and operational realities faced by OFSO license-holders. Meaningful, direct dialogue with producers and relevant working groups is critical to ensuring that any program changes are balanced, informed, and aligned with the original intent of supporting local food systems.

The MD of Spirit River ASB strongly supports a collaborative approach and respectfully requests that the Government of Alberta engage directly with OFSO license-holders prior to implementing further amendments. Doing so would help ensure regulatory outcomes that protect food safety while sustaining rural livelihoods and local food resilience.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. We appreciate your continued attention to the needs of Alberta's agricultural communities.

Sincerely,

Jesse Meyer, Chairman
Municipal District of Spirit River #133 Agriculture Service Board

cc:

Hon. Joseph Schow, Minister of Jobs, Economy, Trade, and Immigration
Hon. Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta
Agricultural Service Boards Provincial Committee



Brazeau County

7401 – Twp Rd 494, P.O. Box 77, Drayton Valley, Alberta T7A 1R1
PHONE: (780) 542-7777 - FAX: (780) 542-7770
www.brazeau.ab.ca

February 18, 2026

Honourable RJ Sigurdson
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation
131 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Sigurdson,

Re: Support for Unlimited On-Farm Slaughter Operation (OFSO) Licence In Alberta

On behalf of the Brazeau County Agricultural Services Board (ASB) I am writing to express our support for unlimited on-farm slaughter sales for compliant operations in Alberta. Like other municipalities, we appreciate the pause on proposed limits to the On-Farm Slaughter Operation (OFSO) Program while a thorough review of the proposed changes can be done.

On-farm slaughter operations play an important role in strengthening Alberta's local food systems and enhancing producer viability—especially in rural and remote regions. While we would like this program to continue without the proposed weight limit, we believe there should be an emphasis on the importance of robust inspections, regulatory compliance, and food safety within the OFSO framework. An OFSO licence without a slaughter weight limit, when paired with stringent inspection protocols, ensures that food safety and public health remain paramount. Alberta's existing regulatory framework already establishes clear requirements for food safety and an OFSO licence with no cap does not diminish these standards; rather, it allows qualified operators who consistently demonstrate compliance to operate at a scale that reflects demand while remaining fully accountable to inspectors and regulatory authorities.

Regular inspection and verification by trained officials are essential to maintaining consumer confidence and regulatory integrity. An OFSO licence with no cap may incentivize operators to maintain high standards of compliance, especially if continued authorization is directly tied to demonstrated compliance with provincial legislation and inspection findings. This approach would support continuous improvement and increased compliance within the OFSO program.

In conclusion, I believe that granting OFSO licences with no cap, to operators who meet and maintain Alberta's inspection standards is a responsible, forward-looking policy choice. It upholds food safety, strengthens local food systems, and ensures that regulatory oversight remains both practical and effective.

Sincerely,

Shayne Blosky
Chair, Brazeau County Agricultural Service Board
Councillor Division 5

Cc: Agricultural Service Boards



February 24, 2026

To: All Chief Administrative Officers
Alberta Municipal Districts and Counties

Re: **Concerns over the closure of the Lacombe Research and Development Centre**

I am writing today on behalf of Lacombe County Council regarding the federal government's announced decision to close the Lacombe Research and Development Centre (LRDC). At our most recent Council meeting, the following resolution was passed:

That Lacombe County request that Alberta's Municipal Districts and Counties advocate to the Government of Canada (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada) to reverse its decision to close the Lacombe Research and Development Centre.

We are therefore reaching out to request letters of support urging the federal government to reverse this closure.

WHY THIS MATTERS PROVINCIALY

- **Economic Harm:** Loss of more than 100 stable, professional jobs in a small labour market, including the erosion of a major employment anchor for the region.
- **Student Pipeline Loss:** Reduction in hands-on student placements, mentorship, and early-career opportunities that are essential for Canada's agri-food workforce.
- **Research Disruption:** Termination or relocation of long-term scientific trials that cannot be replicated without irreparable loss of data and infrastructure value.
- **Ecosystem Damage:** Undermining the research cluster that connects academia, industry, and public-sector innovation in Central Alberta.
- **National Capacity Risks:** A weakening of Canada's independent agricultural research base at a time of heightened global uncertainty.

ABOUT THE LACOMBE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

For 119 years, the Lacombe Research and Development Centre has been a cornerstone of Canadian agricultural innovation and public-interest research. The Centre currently delivers high-value applied research, including active projects in integrated crop protection, climate-smart agriculture, livestock and crop genetics, production efficiency, and is **Canada's only federally operated meat sciences program**. Its long-term trials and decades of continuous data cannot be transferred or replicated elsewhere without irreparably damaging national research capacity.

The Centre is not only scientifically significant, but also a critical contributor to the identity, sustainability, and economic stability of the City of Lacombe, Lacombe County, and surrounding municipalities.

The proposed closure also comes at a time of global instability, trade pressures, and increasing climate-related agricultural challenges - circumstances that demand more, not less, investment in independent, public-interest agricultural research. Canada relies on robust, science-based information to ensure food security, strengthen competitiveness, and support producers in making informed decisions. The elimination of this centre weakens that capacity at a moment when it is most needed.

REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

We request that your municipality send a letter urging the federal government to reverse its decision to close the Lacombe Research and Development Centre.

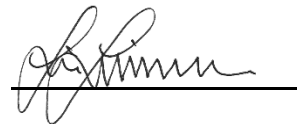
If you are supportive of our request, please forward your letters to:

The Honourable Heath MacDonald
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
1341 Baseline Road
Tower 7, Floor 8
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5

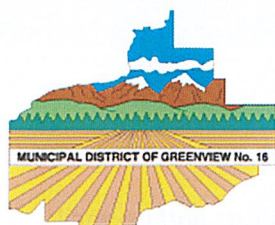
Please also forward a copy of your letter to your respective MPs and MLAs.

Thank you for supporting this urgent matter affecting Alberta's agricultural future.

Sincerely,



Tim Timmons, CLGM
County Manager, Lacombe County



2/24/2026

To: Agricultural Service Boards of the Peace Region of Alberta

ATTN: 2028 Provincial ASB Conference

Every five years, the Peace Region Association of Agricultural Fieldman plan and host the Provincial Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Conference. This last occurred in 2023 and will reoccur in 2028. On January 28th, the Greenview Agricultural Service Board considered where the Board would prefer to have the 2028 Conference hosted. Currently, the Conference is under a 3-year long contract with Delta South Edmonton that expires after the 2027 Provincial Conference. While hosting in Grande Prairie has not resulted in high contract fees to hold a booking, the Board had other concerns that they would like to communicate.

Greenview's ASB is recommending the event be hosted in Edmonton. While the economic impact of such an event for the region was considered, the Board prioritized the following areas:

- 1) Attendance is reduced when the event is hosted in Grande Prairie. For a Provincial Conference, maximizing attendance should be prioritized.
- 2) When hosted in Grande Prairie, delegates are bussed to the Evergreen Centre from multiple hotels, decreasing opportunities for networking with other municipal delegates. These events are important and one of the most valuable opportunities is the opportunity to learn from other delegates.
- 3) Provincial Minister attendance was discussed, noting Ministers have very tight schedules. Hosting in Grande Prairie reduces the likelihood of the Conference featuring a "Bear Pit" as seen at other conferences such as the Federation of Alberta Gas Co-Ops. Agricultural Service Boards should be able to generate the same Provincial buy-in as other organizations, seeing as they are an advisor to the Provincial Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation.

As the hosting location of the Provincial Conference has previously been contested by Peace Region municipalities, the Board felt the matter warranted consideration and support of Greenview Council prior to being communicated to the Peace Region as a whole. This consideration occurred on February 24th, 2026, with Council supporting the Boards decision.

Greenview ASB recognizes it is one vote of thirteen, but we hope all other Boards and Councils deliberate with equal prioritization while making their decision.

Respectfully,



Dave Gibbard,
Greenview ASB Chair

Cc: MD of Smoky River
MD of Fairview
MD of Peace
Birch Hills County
Saddle Hills County
Big Lakes County
Clear Hills County
Mackenzie County
MD of Spirit River
County of Northern Lights
Northern Sunrise County
County of Grande Prairie



March 2, 2026

The Honourable RJ Sigurdson
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation
Office of the Minister
Agriculture and Irrigation
131 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Sent via email to: 310farm@gov.ab.ca

RE: Proposed Changes to the On-Farm Slaughter Operation Licensing Program

Dear Minister Sigurdson,

Lac La Biche County wishes to provide input regarding the proposed amendments to the On-Farm Slaughter Operation (OFSO) Licence program, and the potential impacts these changes may have on local producers.

The OFSO program plays an important role in supporting agricultural operations throughout our region. Producers have invested substantial time, resources, and capital into establishing on-farm slaughter facilities that meet regulatory requirements. Any changes that affect the long-term viability of these operations are therefore of significant concern. In particular, the previously proposed annual slaughter limit of 5,000 pounds raised questions about whether the program would remain practical or economically feasible for many licence holders. Such limitations risk undermining the program's original objective of strengthening local food systems and improving access to locally produced meat.

While we acknowledge the Government of Alberta's efforts to gather feedback through a producer survey, some licence holders have expressed concern that the survey may not have fully captured the operational realities and challenges faced by those participating in the OFSO program.

Lac La Biche County is strongly committed to supporting local agriculture and maintaining a regulatory environment that allows rural producers to plan and operate with confidence. In light of these concerns, we respectfully encourage the Government of Alberta to engage directly with OFSO licence holders and relevant stakeholder groups prior to implementing any further program changes.

.../2

Thank you for the opportunity to share our perspective on this matter.

Sincerely,



Vic Toutant
Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Chairman

cc: The Honourable Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta
The Honourable Laila Goodridge, M.P., Fort McMurray – Cold Lake
The Honourable Brian Jean, Minister of Energy and Minerals and MLA for Fort
McMurray – Lac La Biche
Lac La Biche County Council
Agricultural Service Board, Lac La Biche County
Agricultural Service Boards Provincial Committee
Alberta Association of Agricultural Fieldmen
Manny Deol, Chief Administrative Officer, Lac La Biche County



The Honourable Heath MacDonald
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
1341 Baseline Road, Tower 7
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0C5

Re: Federal Funding Cuts to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

On behalf of Clearwater County Council and the Clearwater County Agricultural Service Board, we are writing to express our serious concern regarding the recent federal funding cuts to agricultural research facilities, and in particular the closure of the Lacombe Research Centre.

Canada's agriculture sector is currently operating in an increasingly uncertain global environment, challenged by strained relationships with key trading partners, volatile commodity prices, climate variability, and rising international competition. In this context, the potential loss of the Lacombe Research Centre risks weakening the sector's ability to remain competitive, innovative, and resilient at a time when these attributes are more critical than ever.

Farmers must continually adapt to changing market conditions, evolving customer expectations, and emerging production and environmental risks. Scientific research is paramount to enabling producers not only to survive, but to thrive, and to reduce vulnerability and instability across the agricultural industry. Publicly funded research plays a vital role in providing practical, regionally relevant solutions that individual producers and the private sector cannot generate alone.

Canada's reputation as a reliable, high-quality agricultural exporter has been built over decades through sustained investment in publicly funded scientific research. This research has driven productivity and profitability while maintaining a strong focus on sustainability. At Lacombe, this includes critical work in crop and livestock genetics, soil health, disease and pest resistance, and environmental stewardship. Competing agricultural nations continue to invest heavily in research and innovation to secure productivity gains and export markets. It is essential that Canada does not fall behind and shift from a position of leadership to one of catch-up.

Maintaining agricultural research capacity at Lacombe is a strategic investment in regional economic stability, rural communities, and Canada's long-term food security and export success. The Lacombe Research Centre has been in operation for over a century, and the benefits of its research are cumulative, often taking decades to fully realize. The work conducted at this site cannot be easily replicated elsewhere, and the loss of long-term trials currently underway would be devastating. Once research capacity, expertise, and long-term data sets are lost, the impacts extend far beyond short-term budget considerations and are felt across generations of producers.

As an Agricultural Service Board, we see firsthand how federal research supports on-farm decision-making, extension services, and innovation at the local level. We respectfully urge the Government of Canada to reconsider the proposed funding cuts and potential closure of the Lacombe Research Centre, and to engage meaningfully with municipalities, Agricultural Service Boards, producers, and research partners when assessing regional impacts.

We believe strongly that continued investment in agricultural research is essential to ensuring a resilient, competitive, and sustainable agricultural sector for Canada.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We would welcome the opportunity to participate in further discussion on how federal, provincial, and municipal partners can work together to protect this critical research capacity.

Sincerely,

X 

Aaron Terpsma
Chairperson, Clearwater County ASB

X 

Jordan Northcott
Reeve, Clearwater County

C.C.

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada, P.C., M.P.
The Honourable Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta, E.C.A., M.L.A.
The Honourable R.J. Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, E.C.A., M.L.A.
The Honourable Jason Nixon, Minister of Assisted Living and Social Services, E.C.A., M.L.A.
Tanya Day, Ministerial Liason for Health Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Paul Mackinnon, CFIA President
Alberta Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee
Alberta Association of Agricultural Fieldman



March 12, 2026

To: Agricultural Service Boards of the Peace Region of Alberta

RE: 2028 Provincial ASB Conference

The Northern Sunrise County Agricultural Service Board (ASB) is writing to formally recommend that the 2028 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference be hosted centrally in Edmonton. We support the letter written by the Municipal District of Greenview No.16 dated February 24, 2026.

According to the five-year rotation for hosting the Provincial ASB Conference, the Peace Region Association of Agricultural Fieldman (PRAAAF) is scheduled to plan and host the event in 2028. The most recent Provincial conference in the Peace Region was held in 2023, hosted in Grande Prairie. While hosting the conference in the Peace Region is desirable due to the associated economic impact and the opportunity to showcase our region, there are several challenges with hosting the event in Grande Prairie that should be considered. These include limited venue capacity, the need for transportation from multiple hotels, the potential for decreased overall attendance, and the possibility of lower participation from Provincial Ministers. We believe that Grande Prairie’s facilities may not be adequately sized to accommodate a conference of this scale. In particular, the challenges mentioned above can hinder effective networking and detract from the overall conference experience.

The Northern Sunrise County ASB believes the Provincial ASB Conference would be better suited to a central location such as Edmonton. Hosting the conference centrally would help to maximize attendance for all ASBs and Provincial Ministers, while supporting the conference’s primary objectives of effective advocacy and showcasing of the strength of the agricultural industry across the province.

Sincerely,

Simon Lavoie, Chairperson
Agricultural Service Board
Northern Sunrise County

- CC: Claude Rodrigue, Reeve
- Municipal District of Smoky River No. 130
- Municipal District of Fairview No. 136
- Municipal District of Greenview No.16
- Municipal District of Peace No. 135
- Birch Hills County
- Saddle Hills County
- Big Lakes County
- Clear Hills County
- Mackenzie County





Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133
County of Northern Lights
County of Grande Prairie





March 12, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

The Right Honourable Heath MacDonald
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
1341 Baseline Road Tower 7, Floor 8
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5

RE: Request to Reverse Closure of the Lacombe Research and Development Centre

The Northern Sunrise County Agricultural Service Board echoes the concerns expressed in the letter dated February 25, 2026, from the Alberta Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee (ASBPC) urging reconsideration of the decision to close the Lacombe Research and Development Centre.

We have profound concerns regarding the closure of a federal research institute with 119 years of agriculture innovation and scientific advancement. Closing this facility risks the loss of decades of institutional knowledge, established research programs, and the collaborative networks built with universities, producers, and industry partners. Agriculture research is critical to advancing innovation, promoting environmental stewardship, and driving economic development to ensure the long-term sustainability and competitiveness of the Canadian agriculture industry. The closure of such a facility represents a significant loss to national research capacity in areas vital to food security and climate resilience. Once dismantled, these capabilities are extremely difficult and costly to rebuild. Maintaining a strong Canadian research infrastructure is an investment in the future of Canada's agriculture sector and its global competitiveness. The innovations and knowledge generated in an evolving world will shape the productivity, sustainability, and resilience of our industry for decades to come.

We strongly encourage the Government of Canada to consider alternative options to safeguard the research partnership in Lacombe and other federal research institutes, which are essential to the long-term stability and success of Canada's agriculture sector.

We respectfully urge the Government of Canada to:

1. Pause and reconsider the closure of the Lacombe Research and Development Centre.
2. Preserve critical capacity in forage breeding, feed efficiency selection, carcass grading, and food safety research.
3. Protect long-term data sets and ensure completion of producer-funded projects.
4. Engage directly with provincial, municipal, and industry partners to explore collaborative solutions that maintain national research capacity.





Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Simon Lavoie'.

Simon Lavoie, Chairperson
Agricultural Service Board
Northern Sunrise County

CC: Claude Rodrigue, Reeve
Alberta Agricultural Service Boards
Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen
Honourable RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation





NORTHERN ALBERTA FARM FAMILY AWARDS

December 1, 2025

Hello,

On behalf of the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies (AAAS), we are excited to invite you to take part in the 2026 Northern Alberta Farm Family Awards. Your involvement is vital in helping us honour the remarkable families throughout Northern and Central Alberta who contribute to a strong agricultural industry and keep our rural communities thriving.

The Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies is proud of its ongoing commitment to inspire vibrancy in Alberta communities by uniting people to celebrate the achievements and diversity of our rural communities. As part of this commitment, we are inviting your Agricultural Service Board to forward your **2026** award recipients from a farm or ranching family within your Municipal District or County whose livelihood is rooted in agriculture for the Northern Alberta Farm Family Awards.

All recipients will be recognized during a special program at the 2027 AAAS Convention on **Saturday, February 6, 2027**. As honoured guests, families will take part in a full day of activities, culminating in an awards banquet and dinner. The families will also be recognized throughout the year through social media highlights and local initiatives. We also welcome a representative from your organization to join us for this celebration.

Once we receive the completed nomination form from your office, we will connect directly with the nominated family to gather more background information. This will help us prepare a meaningful and personalized awards program.

If you have any questions regarding the nomination criteria, please feel free to contact me. We kindly ask that nominations be submitted on or before **Saturday, August 1, 2026**. Email submissions prior to the deadline are preferred, as this allows us to begin collecting family details right away. If you anticipate any issues with the application or meeting the deadline, please let me know.

Best regards,

Tim Carson, CEO
Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies
780.427-2174

NORTHERN ALBERTA FARM FAMILY AWARDS

PURPOSE:

Each year, farm families from North/Central Alberta communities are selected as the recipients of the Farm Family Awards. These awards recognize families who best represent the values of the family farm within their rural community. Awards will be presented at the annual AAAS Convention on **Saturday, February 6, 2027**.

OBJECTIVES:

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

SELECTION COMMITTEE AT THE LOCAL LEVEL: the families honoured by the municipal districts and counties in **2026** to be recognized at the Northern Alberta Farm Family Awards on **February 6, 2027**.

GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION:

Please select a family deserving of recognition for both agricultural and community involvement. The farm family must be active in primary agriculture, have agriculture as the main source of income and have members residing on the farm (agribusiness not eligible). The method of selection is up to the individual Agricultural Service Board. It is important that the family selected be the representative of the municipality from which they are chosen.

It is also important to keep in mind that this program focuses on recognizing the contribution to the enhancement of quality of life as a family unit, not necessarily the business of farming. Areas of consideration include

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

NOTE: A form for the collection of additional information will be forwarded to the family upon receipt of this nomination. Completion and submission of this form will be their responsibility. You will not be required to provide any further information after that time.

The Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies reserves the right to decline a nomination



ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

NORTHERN ALBERTA FARM FAMILY AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

Family Name:	
First Name(s):	
Farm Primary Contact (if different from above): <i>If more than one farmer or farm couple within a family unit is being named, a primary contact must be identified for communication purposes.</i>	
Address:	
Town:	Postal Code:
Primary Phone Number:	
Email:	

SUBMITTED BY (Agricultural Service Board)

Name:	
Contact Phone Number:	
Address:	
Town:	Postal Code:
Email:	
Website:	

Chairman or Reeve (Please Print)

Signature

Please submit this form by **Saturday, August 1, 2026** to:

Northern Alberta Farm Family Awards: E-mail: tracey@albertaagsocieties.ca or mail to below address.

The Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies reserves the right to decline a nomination

Northern Farm Family Award Submissions By Year

		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
	Nominee Submission Deadline:	December 19, 2025	August 1, 2026	August 1, 2027	August 1, 2028	August 1, 2029	August 1, 2030
	AAAS Convention Date (Awards):	February 7, 2026	February 6, 2027	February 2028	February 2029	February 2030	February 2031
1	Athabasca County	-	X	-	X	-	X
2	Beaver County	X	-	X	-	X	-
3	Big Lakes County	-	X	-	X	-	X
4	Birch Hill County	-	X	-	X	-	X
5	Brazeau County	-	X	-	X	-	X
6	Camrose County	-	X	-	X	-	X
7	Clear Hills County	-	X	-	X	-	X
8	Clearwater County	X	-	X	-	X	-
9	County of Barrhead	X	-	X	-	X	-
10	County of Grand Prairie	-	X	-	X	-	X
11	County of Minburn	-	X	-	X	-	X
12	County of Northern Lights	-	X	-	X	-	X
13	County of Paintearth	-	X	-	X	-	X
14	County of St. Paul	X	-	X	-	X	-
15	County of Two Hills	X	-	X	-	X	-
16	County of Vermilion River	X	-	X	-	X	-
17	County of Wetaskiwin	X	-	X	-	X	-
18	Flagstaff County	-	X	-	X	-	X
19	Lac La Biche	X	-	X	-	X	-
20	Lac Ste. Anne County	-	X	-	X	-	X
21	Lacombe County	X	-	X	-	X	-
22	Lamont County	-	X	-	X	-	X
23	Leduc County	-	X	-	X	-	X
24	Mackenzie County	X	-	X	-	X	-
27	Municipal District of Bonnyville	-	X	-	X	-	X
28	Municipal District of Fairview	-	X	-	X	-	X
29	Municipal District of Greenview	X	-	X	-	X	-
30	Municipal District of Lesser Slave River	X	-	X	-	X	-
25	Municipal District of Opportunity	X	-	X	-	X	-
31	Municipal District of Peace	X	-	X	-	X	-
32	Municipal District of Provost	X	-	X	-	X	-
33	Municipal District of Smoky River	X	-	X	-	X	-
26	Municipal District of Spirit River	X	-	X	-	X	-
34	Municipal District of Wainwright	-	X	-	X	-	X
35	Northern Sunrise County	X	-	X	-	X	-
36	Parkland County	-	X	-	X	-	X
37	Ponoka County	-	X	-	X	-	X
38	Red Deer County	-	X	-	X	-	X
39	Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo	X	-	X	-	X	-
40	Saddle Hills County		-		-		-
41	Smoky Lake County	-	X	-	X	-	X
42	Stettler County	X	-	X	-	X	-
43	Strathcona County	X	-	X	-	X	-
44	Sturgeon County	-	X	-	X	-	X
45	Thorhild County	X	-	X	-	X	-
46	Westlock County	-	X	-	X	-	X
47	Woodlands County	-	X	-	X	-	X
48	Yellowhead County	X	-	X	-	X	-



Supporting Alberta's Farmers in Adopting Beneficial Management Practices

- Nitrogen Management
- Cover Crops
- Rotational Grazing



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Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada



Peace Country Beef & Forage Association
Quarterly Ag Service Board Report
October – December 2025

Operational Updates

Following our Annual General Meeting in November and then the organizational meeting of the new board, we are pleased to announce the 2026 Board of Directors and their Executive:

Name	Zone	Location	Position
Jordan Barnfield	Southwest	Teepee Creek	President
Clay Hanson	Southeast	Valleyview	Vice President
Kyle Davies	North	Brownvale	Treasurer
Corey Beck	Southwest	Teepee Creek	Secretary
Andrew Hale	North	Worsley	Director
Bonnie Wanchuk	North	Grimshaw	Director
Andrew Miller	At Large	Bay Tree	Director
Brett Mitchell	At Large	Teepee Creek	Director
Tanner Hale	North	Eureka River	Director

We have also been approved for a grant from RDAR to engage a consultant to work with us to update our current strategic plan (which expires in 2026) and carry out some business planning activities. Included in the business planning activities will be a review of our producer services, as well as planning for future infrastructure and capital needs.

Research Program

We are currently reviewing and editing the research reports for our 2025 Annual Report, as well as working on a total of 11 funder proposals for new research projects that would begin in 2026.

Extension Program

Between October and December, we hosted or participated in the following events:

October 15th – Big Lakes County Producer Consultation Day (High Prairie)

October 22nd – Rangeland & Holistic Management Seminar (High Prairie)

November 5th - Wintering Cattle in the Peace Seminar (Tangent)

November 6th - EFP Workshop (Fairview)

November 18th – Presentation at MD of Greenview Producer Event (1 of 2)

November 26th - Presentation at MD of Greenview Producer Event (2 of 2)

November 29th - Annual General Meeting (Fairview)

December 3rd - Ranching for Profit Workshop (Berwyn)

Upcoming Events:

February 19th & 20th – 3rd Annual Northern Women in Agriculture Conference (Fairview)

February 26th – Below Ground Soil Health Conference (Dawson Creek)

March 10th – Soil Health Seminar (Tangent)

For more information on our upcoming events, please reach out to alaina@pcbfa.ca or visit www.peacecountrybeef.ca/upcoming-events.



Municipal District of **GREENVIEW**

March 24, 2026

Honourable Marjorie Michel
Minister of Health
Health Canada
Address Locator 0900C2
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

Attention: Minister of Health

Re: Council Concerns with Proposed Amendments to the Traceability Regulation

Dear Minister,

On behalf of the Council of the Municipal District of Greenview, we are writing to formally express concern regarding the proposed amendments to the federal Traceability Regulation, particularly as they relate to mandatory reporting timelines, reliance on digital reporting systems, and the resulting impacts on livestock producers operating in northern and rural regions.

The Municipal District of Greenview is a large, predominantly rural municipality in northwestern Alberta with a strong livestock production base. Council is concerned that the proposed amendments do not adequately account for the realities faced by producers in regions where reliable internet and cellular connectivity remain limited or unavailable. Many livestock operations within Greenview are located in remote areas where consistent access to broadband services does not exist, and producers may only have periodic connectivity.

The proposed seven day reporting deadline presents a serious compliance challenge under these conditions. Council is concerned that producers may face enforcement risks or administrative penalties despite making reasonable efforts to comply, simply because of infrastructure limitations beyond their control. Regulatory requirements that rely heavily on timely electronic reporting must reflect current rural connectivity and availability to be both fair and workable.

Council is also concerned about the cumulative impact the proposed amendments will have on the cost of production for livestock producers. Additional administrative requirements, increased record-keeping, investments in technology, potential reliance on third-party service providers, and added labour demands will all contribute to higher operating costs. These added pressures come at a time when producers are already managing rising input costs,

market uncertainty, and narrow margins. For many family-run operations, the financial and administrative burden associated with the proposed changes is significant.

Greenview Council supports the underlying objectives of traceability, including food safety, animal health, and system integrity. However, Council believes these objectives can only be achieved through regulations that are practical, regionally appropriate, and sensitive to the operational realities of northern and rural producers.

Accordingly, Council respectfully urges the federal government to reconsider aspects of the proposed amendments and to incorporate greater flexibility for regions with limited connectivity. This may include extended reporting timelines, alternative or offline reporting mechanisms, or regional accommodations where digital infrastructure does not support the proposed requirements.

Thank you for considering the concerns of Greenview Council and the livestock producers we represent. We would welcome the opportunity to provide further input or participate in continued discussions as these regulatory amendments are considered.

Respectfully,



Ryan Ratzlaff
Reeve
Municipal District of Greenview

cc: Canadian Food Inspection Agency
Provincial Agricultural Service Board Committee
Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen
Alberta Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
Local Members of Parliament
RMA

From: [Andrew Goldberg](#)
To: [Elizabeth Naeth](#)
Subject: ASB INFO FW: Strychnine Supply - Anticipated Demand by County
Date: 22 June 2026, 09:32:07

Andrew Goldberg
Director Agricultural Services, Community Services
County of Grande Prairie

Office: 780-567-5584, 2588 Direct line: 825-606-5663
www.countygp.ab.ca | [Join us on social](#)

The County is a sustainable, prosperous, and safe community.

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From: Laura Poile <lpoile@rockyview.ca>

Sent: April 17, 2026 2:35 PM

To: Aaron Van Beers <aaron@leduc-county.com>; Alanna Wowk <Alanna.wowk@laclabichcounty.com>; Albert Anderson <albert.anderson@wheatlandcounty.ca>; Amanda Kihn <amanda.k@lamontcounty.ca>; Amanda Ouellet <aouellet@countygp.ab.ca>; Anders Schoepp <Anders.schoepp@parklandcounty.com>; Andrew Goldberg <agoldberg@countygp.ab.ca>; Angela Veenstra <aveenstra@sturgeoncounty.ca>; Anne-Marie Bertagnolli <abertagnolli@clearwatercounty.ca>; Aren Skogstad <askogstad@LSAC.ca>; Ashley Garnham <agarnham@northernsunrise.net>; Ashley Stewart <AStewart@rockyview.ca>; Bailee Richardson <bailee.richardson@mdfairview.ab.ca>; Ben Senft <bsenft@countygp.ab.ca>; Bettina van Nieuwkerk <BvanN@clearwatercounty.ca>; Boyd Hum <boyd.hum@mdgreenview.ab.ca>; Brady Kautz <bkautz@clearwatercounty.ca>; Braiden Bodin <braiden.bodin@cypress.ab.ca>; Brandon Galster <brandon.galster@starlandcounty.com>; Bree Webb <bree.webb@foothillscountyab.ca>; Brennan Scott <brennan.scott@laclabichcounty.com>; Brett Sauder <bsauder@saddlehills.ab.ca>; Brieann Eden <brieden@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>; Caleb Scott <caleb.scott@vulcancounty.ab.ca>; Cameron Schoff <CSchoff@beaver.ab.ca>; Carla Preachuk <carla@mdwillowcreek.com>; Carleigh Danyluk <cdanyluk@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>; Chad Ritter <Chad.ritter@parklandcounty.com>; Chad Verpy <cverpy@mvcounty.com>; Chelsea Jaeger <cjaeger@countybarrhead.ab.ca>; Chelsey Krause <ckrause@rdcounty.ca>; Chris Chrenek <cchrenek@mvcounty.com>; Chris Elder <celder@county24.com>; Chris Schuh <cschuh@county.stpaul.ab.ca>; Clarence Dowhan <clarence.dowhan@thorhildcounty.com>; Corey Grover <Corey.Grover@mdgreenview.ab.ca>; Corey Stuber <cstuber@county.camrose.ab.ca>; Courtney Alstott <calstott@clearwatercounty.ca>; Danielle Ens <dens@clearwatercounty.ca>; Darrell Marynowich <Darrell.Marynowich@strathcona.ca>; Dawn Fortin <dawn.fortin@woodlands.ab.ca>; Dawnia McCann <DMcCann@brazeau.ab.ca>; Deanna Heather <deanna.heather@vulcancounty.ab.ca>; Delaney McNaughton <DMcNaughton@rockyview.ca>; Dennis Begg <dennis.begg@fortymile.ab.ca>; Derek Vance <Dvance@lethcounty.ca>; Devon Lloyd <devonlloyd@ponokacounty.com>; Don Hogan <don.hogan@specialareas.ab.ca>; Don Medcke <DMedcke@countybarrhead.ab.ca>; Elden Kozak <ekozak@thcounty.ab.ca>; Elise Graham <elise.graham@strathcona.ca>; Fallon Sherlock <Fallon.Sherlock@kneehillcounty.com>; Farrah Fischer <ffischer@stettlercounty.ca>; Gary Murray <gary.murray@mdwillowcreek.com>; Gary Secrist <gsecrist@lethcounty.ca>; Graydon Garner <Graydon.Garner@wheatlandcounty.ca>; Greg Cameron <gcameron@brazeau.ab.ca>; Greg Coon <greg@clearhillscounty.ab.ca>; Hannah Musterer <acao@county24.com>; Jacob Marfo <jacob.marfo@laclabichcounty.com>; Jalene Makus <jmakus@lacombecounty.com>; James Aitken <james.aitken@woodlands.ab.ca>; James Breadon <jbreadon@westlockcounty.com>; James H. Albers <jalbers@county10.ca>; James Meeks <jmeeks@warnercounty.ca>; Janice Boden <jboden@md.bonnyville.ab.ca>; Jason Regehr <jason.regehr@wheatlandcounty.ca>; Jeff Cosens <jcosens@countypaintearth.ca>; Jeff Fleischer

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Subject: FW: Strychnine Supply - Anticipated Demand by County

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As per Jeff's approval, see his response to AGI below.

Laura Poile, BSc Ag, ATT
Agricultural Services Officer | Agricultural & Environmental Services

Rocky View County
262075 Rocky View Point | Rocky View County | AB | T4A 0X2
Phone: 403-520-7273 | Cell: 403-478-8276
lpoile@rockyview.ca | www.rockyview.ca

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From: Jeff Cosens <JCosens@countypaintearth.ca>

Sent: Friday, April 17, 2026 8:51 AM

To: AGI ASB Program <ASBProgram@gov.ab.ca>

Cc: Doug Macaulay (doug.macaulay@gov.ab.ca) <doug.macaulay@gov.ab.ca>; Alan Efetha <alan.efetha@gov.ab.ca>; Kerrienne Koehler-Munro <kerrienne.koehler-munro@gov.ab.ca>; Khalil Ahmed <Khalil.Ahmed@gov.ab.ca>; Joshua Melzer <Joshua.Melzer@gov.ab.ca>; Stephanie Cerny <Stephanie.Cerny@gov.ab.ca>; Laura Poile <lpoile@rockyview.ca>

Subject: RE: Strychnine Supply - Anticipated Demand by County

Stephanie,

I am writing to provide feedback on the current rollout of the strychnine program.

In my view, and certainly no fault of your own, this rollout has been poorly timed and overly cumbersome. It would have made more sense to have a fully developed, properly resourced program ready for next spring, rather than implementing a system that producers and municipalities are now struggling to navigate.

As discussed during the Teams meeting, supply is currently restricted (800 cases distributed across 49 counties this summer, according to the map provided) and the administrative burden is significant. Producers with land across multiple municipalities can only obtain product through their home municipality, which adds another layer of complexity. At the same time, they are expected to complete training, manage multiple forms, and work within narrow application windows during an already short and critical control season.

This is not a practical approach and risks undermining the effectiveness of the program.

If the province is serious about supporting producers, the program must be workable on the ground, meaning adequate supply, streamlined requirements, and a rollout aligned with achieving effective control, not one that creates frustration and uncertainty.

With the emergency use registration expiring in November 2027, there is still time to get this right, but it will require a shift from a rushed rollout to a well-planned, coordinated, and producer-focused program.

For context, from 2019 to 2021, we sold an average of 180 cases of strychnine annually. In 2021, we were sold out by April and could have sold additional product if more supply had been available from the manufacturer.

I am also curious why Saskatchewan has chosen to delay implementation until the fall, and whether that timing reflects some of the challenges we are currently experiencing. In my opinion, a coordinated rollout between provinces would make more sense to ensure consistency and effectiveness.

Sincerely,

Jeff Cosens

From: Stephanie Cerny <Stephanie.Cerny@gov.ab.ca> **On Behalf Of** AGI ASB Program

Sent: April 13, 2026 4:05 PM

Cc: Doug Macaulay <Doug.Macaulay@gov.ab.ca>; Alan Efetha <Alan.Efetha@gov.ab.ca>; Kerrienne Koehler-Munro <Kerrienne.Koehler-Munro@gov.ab.ca>; Khalil Ahmed <Khalil.Ahmed@gov.ab.ca>; Joshua Melzer <Joshua.Melzer@gov.ab.ca>; Stephanie Cerny <Stephanie.Cerny@gov.ab.ca>

Subject: Strychnine Supply - Anticipated Demand by County

Good afternoon, Ag Fieldmen and Assistant Ag Fieldmen,

I hope this message finds you well and that spring preparations are progressing successfully. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation for your continued support and for taking the time to respond to our inquiries throughout this busy season. Your cooperation is greatly valued.

As we prepare for the upcoming arrival of strychnine, which will be available in limited quantities, we are working to assess anticipated demand across each county that was approved for Emergency Use Registration.

When your schedule allows, we would appreciate your estimated order requirements for the 2026 season once the product becomes available. We will be working with Saskatchewan and the manufacture regarding supply allocation in the upcoming weeks. For your reference, each case contains 24 bottles of 2% liquid strychnine, with one bottle treating approximately one acre of infestation.

Should you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you again for your assistance and collaboration.

Kind regards,
ASB Program

Classification: Protected A



Municipal District of **GREENVIEW**

May 14th, 2026

Attention: Peace Regional Agricultural Service Boards

RE: REGIONAL COLLABORATION REQUEST – PROACTIVE KOCHIA MANAGEMENT IN THE PEACE REGION

Dear Agricultural Service Board Chairs and Managers,

The Municipal District of Greenview No. 16 is writing to request discussion among Peace Region Agricultural Service Boards regarding a coordinated, proactive approach to the management of kochia (*Bassia scoparia*).

Kochia occurrence and infestation levels across much of the Peace Region are currently relatively low, creating an opportunity to focus on prevention, early detection, and consistent management before the species becomes more established and increasingly costly to control.

In recognition of this risk, Greenview elevated kochia to noxious status in 2022 as a preventative measure. This local designation has increased awareness and ensured kochia is consistently included within municipal inspection and communication activities, supporting early identification and timely control while populations remain limited.

It is also recognized that inspection for kochia is not currently a priority in all Peace Region municipalities, reflecting local conditions and program focus. In this context, Greenview wishes to encourage regional discussion on whether individual municipalities across the Peace Region may wish to consider elevating kochia to noxious status within their own jurisdictions. While such decisions rest with each municipality, broader uptake could help establish a shared regional priority, improving awareness, inspection focus, and coordination across municipal boundaries.

While municipalities will continue to manage kochia in ways that reflect local priorities, a regionally aligned approach, achieved through individual municipal action, could strengthen consistency and long-term effectiveness, particularly given kochia's ability to spread along transportation corridors and disturbed sites.

Greenview is interested in exploring collaboration options that may include:

- Prevention-focused and early-season management approaches
- Regional discussion on municipal elevation of kochia to noxious status as an inspection and awareness tool
- Alignment of messaging for high-risk areas such as roadways and industrial lands
- Consistent education and information-sharing on best practices

Greenview is seeking feedback on interest in further regional dialogue and whether members see value in individual municipal elevation of kochia to noxious status as part of a coordinated regional approach to prioritizing the species for awareness, inspection, and control.

Thank you for considering this request. We look forward to continued collaboration in supporting sustainable agriculture across the Peace Region.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dave Gibbard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Dave Gibbard
Chair
Greenview Agricultural Service Board

From: [Andrew Goldberg](#)
To: [Elizabeth Naeth](#)
Subject: ASB INFO FW: Rural Alberta Producer Survey for Distribution
Date: 22 June 2026, 09:34:12
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[QRCode for Rural Alberta Producer Survey - Economic Value of Veterinary Access.png](#)

Andrew Goldberg
Director Agricultural Services, Community Services
County of Grande Prairie

Office: 780-567-5584, 2588 Direct line: 825-606-5663
www.countygp.ab.ca | [Join us on social](#)

The County is a sustainable, prosperous, and safe community.

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From: Laura Poile <lpoile@rockyview.ca>

Sent: May 25, 2026 7:54 AM

To: Aaron Van Beers <aaron@leduc-county.com>; Alanna Wowk <Alanna.wowk@laclabichedcounty.com>; Albert Anderson <albert.anderson@wheatlandcounty.ca>; Amanda Kihn <amanda.k@lamontcounty.ca>; Amanda Ouellet <aouellet@countygp.ab.ca>; Anders Schoepp <Anders.schoepp@parklandcounty.com>; Andrew Goldberg <agoldberg@countygp.ab.ca>; Angela Veenstra <aveenstra@sturgeoncounty.ca>; Anne-Marie Bertagnolli <abertagnolli@clearwatercounty.ca>; Aren Skogstad <askogstad@LSAC.ca>; Ashley Garnham <agarnham@northernsunrise.net>; Ashley Stewart <ASTewart@rockyview.ca>; Bailee Richardson <bailee.richardson@mdfairview.ab.ca>; Ben Senft <bsenft@countygp.ab.ca>; Bettina van Nieuwkerk <BvanN@clearwatercounty.ca>; Boyd Hum <boyd.hum@mdbighorn.ca>; Brady Kautz <bkautz@clearwatercounty.ca>; Braiden Bodin <braiden.bodin@cypress.ab.ca>; Brandon Galster <brandon.galster@starlandcounty.com>; Bree Webb <bree.webb@foothillscountyab.ca>; Brennan Scott <brennan.scott@laclabichedcounty.com>; Brett Sauder <bsauder@saddlehills.ab.ca>; Briemann Eden <brieden@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>; Caleb Scott <caleb.scott@vulcancounty.ab.ca>; Cameron Schoff <CSchoff@beaver.ab.ca>; Carla Preachuk <carla@mdwillowcreek.com>; Carleigh Danyluk <cdanyluk@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>; Chad Ritter <Chad.ritter@parklandcounty.com>; Chad Verpy <cverpy@mvcounty.com>; Chelsea Jaeger <cjaeger@countybarrhead.ab.ca>; Chesley Krause <ckrause@rdcounty.ca>; Chris Chrenek <cchrenek@mvcounty.com>; Chris Elder <celder@county24.com>; Chris Schuh <cschuh@county.stpaul.ab.ca>; Clarence Dowhan <clarence.dowhan@thorhildcounty.com>; Corey Grover <Corey.Grover@mdgreenview.ab.ca>; Corey Stuber <cstuber@county.camrose.ab.ca>; Courtney Alstott <calstott@clearwatercounty.ca>; Danielle Ens <dens@clearwatercounty.ca>; Darrell Marynowich <Darrell.Marynowich@strathcona.ca>; Dawn Fortin <dawn.fortin@woodlands.ab.ca>; Dawnia McCann <DMcCann@brazeau.ab.ca>; Deanna Heather <deanna.heather@vulcancounty.ab.ca>; Delaney McNaughton <DMcNaughton@rockyview.ca>; Dennis Begg <dennis.begg@fortymile.ab.ca>; Derek Vance <Dvance@lethcounty.ca>; Devon Lloyd <devonlloyd@ponokacounty.com>; Don Hogan <don.hogan@specialareas.ab.ca>; Don Medcke <DMedcke@countybarrhead.ab.ca>; Elden Kozak <ekozak@thcounty.ab.ca>; Elise Graham <elise.graham@strathcona.ca>; Fallon Sherlock <Fallon.Sherlock@kneehillcounty.com>; Farrah Fischer <ffischer@stettlercounty.ca>; Gary Murray <gary.murray@mdwillowcreek.com>; Gary Secrist <gsecrist@lethcounty.ca>; Graydon Garner <Graydon.Garner@wheatlandcounty.ca>; Greg Cameron <gcameron@brazeau.ab.ca>; Greg Coon <greg@clearhillscounty.ab.ca>; Jacob Marfo

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Subject: FW: Rural Alberta Producer Survey for Distribution

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Laura Poile, BSc Ag, ATT
Agricultural Services Specialist | Agricultural & Environmental Services

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From: Shelby Oracheski <soracheski@mdwainwright.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2026 9:22 AM
To: Laura Poile <lpoile@rockyview.ca>
Subject: Rural Alberta Producer Survey for Distribution

Good morning AAAF,

The M.D. of Wainwright kindly asks that you circulate this survey to your ASB and publicly if you are able to 😊 following the ASB Provincial Conference we sent a letter regarding the inclusion of veterinarians in the Canada Student Loan Forgiveness Program and have subsequently been tasked with collecting the producer perspective on the economic value of veterinary access to support advocacy efforts at the federal level. It is a short 10 questions survey, and it will remain open until June 30th. We hope to collect feedback from across Alberta, and your assistance in sharing it with producers would be greatly appreciated. A QR code is attached, and the survey link is below:

[Rural Alberta Producer Survey: Economic Value of Veterinary Access – Fill out form](#)

Thank you!

Shelby Oracheski

Agricultural Fieldman

780-842-4454

717 14 Ave Wainwright, AB T9W 1B3

mdwainwright.ca



Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61

...A Thriving Part of Rural Alberta

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ALBERTA
**Invasive
Species**
— COUNCIL



Weed Control Act Social Media Toolkit

for municipalities & partner organizations

Executive Summary

The Alberta Weed Control Regulation has undergone its first major update since 2010, reflecting significant changes in the distribution, management feasibility, and priority status of invasive plant species across the province.

This communications toolkit was developed to help municipalities and partner organizations clearly explain these regulatory updates to residents, landowners, and stakeholders while reinforcing continued shared responsibility for invasive plant management.

The updated regulation includes:

- 17 new species added as Prohibited Noxious weeds
- 5 new species added as Noxious weeds
- 12 species reclassified from Prohibited Noxious to Noxious
- Removal of creeping bellflower and perennial sowthistle from provincial regulation

A central message throughout the toolkit is that removal from regulation does not mean a species is harmless or no longer invasive. Instead, these changes reflect a strategic shift toward focusing provincial regulatory efforts where they are most effective, particularly on species that are newly emerging, localized, or still feasible to contain or eradicate.

For widespread species such as creeping bellflower, management approaches are transitioning from provincial enforcement to education, stewardship, prevention, and local action. Municipalities remain essential partners in invasive species management and may regulate additional species through local bylaws based on regional priorities.

The toolkit provides ready-to-use communications materials including newsletter articles, FAQs, social media content, and key messaging designed to:

- Improve public understanding of the regulation updates
- Address misconceptions around deregulated species
- Encourage continued invasive plant management by landowners and residents
- Promote prevention and responsible stewardship practices
- Support consistent messaging across Alberta communities

Overall, the regulation updates aim to strengthen Alberta's invasive plant management framework by prioritizing early detection and rapid response, improving resource allocation, and supporting practical, science-based approaches to invasive species control across the province.

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Key Messaging

Use these across everything:

- Regulation reflects **what is feasible to control**, not what is harmful.
- **Widespread does not mean harmless.**
- Removal from regulation = **shift in strategy, not endorsement.**
- Management shifts from enforcement → **education and stewardship.**
- Municipalities remain **critical partners in local control** and have the ability to regulate species in their jurisdiction.
- Early detection and rapid response remain the most effective tools for managing invasive species.
- Everyone has a role in preventing spread.

The following appendices provide ready-to-use content to assist you with promoting the updates to the Alberta Weed Control Act in your area. If you're interested in something not found in this toolkit, please reach out to the AISC at communications@abinvasives.ca and we will work with you to get you what you need. Thank you for doing your part to protect Alberta from the impacts of invasive species!

Newsletter Articles

Newsletter Article Full

Title: Updates to Alberta's Weed Control Regulation: What's Changed and What It Means

Body:

The list of regulated species under Alberta's Weed Control Regulation has been updated for the first time since 2010, reflecting changes on how invasive plants are distributed across the province and how effectively they can be managed.

The updated regulation includes several key changes:

- 17 new species added as *Prohibited Noxious* weeds
- 5 new species added as *Noxious* weeds

- 12 species reclassified from *Prohibited Noxious* to *Noxious*
- 2 species removed from regulation: creeping bellflower and perennial sowthistle

These updates ensure that regulatory efforts remain focused where they are most effective.

Why do weed regulations change?

Weed regulations are not static. They are updated to reflect what is practical and effective to manage.

Regulation is most useful when a species is:

- new or emerging in Alberta
- limited in distribution
- still possible to contain or eradicate

As invasive plants spread and become more common, regulation becomes less effective as a control tool. At that stage, management shifts toward education, prevention, and local stewardship.

Why were some species removed from regulation?

Two species were removed from the provincial regulated list:

1. Creeping bellflower

Creeping bellflower is now widespread across Alberta, particularly in urban areas where it is commonly found in yards, boulevards, and parks. Because of its extensive distribution, provincial regulation is no longer an effective tool for limiting its spread.

While herbicide options are limited in urban environments, control remains possible in agricultural settings, and municipalities may still regulate this species through local bylaws. Residents are encouraged to check with their municipality for guidance.

2. Perennial sowthistle

Perennial sowthistle has also become widely distributed across the province. In addition to its widespread presence, it has a relatively lower ecological impact compared to other regulated weeds.

Multiple non-regulatory management options are available, and it was determined that regulatory efforts could be better focused on higher-priority species.

Important: Removal does not mean harmless

A key message in these updates is that **removal from regulation does not mean a species is no longer invasive or harmful.**

In many cases, it means:

- the species is already widespread
- regulation is no longer effective at a provincial scale
- management is better addressed through awareness, prevention, and local action

This reflects a shift in strategy, not a change in the plant's impact.

What does this mean for municipalities and residents?

The Alberta Weed Control Act continues to require:

- **Prohibited Noxious weeds** to be destroyed (completely removed/eradicated)
- **Noxious weeds** to be controlled to prevent spread

Municipalities:

- remain responsible for enforcement within their jurisdictions
- can regulate additional species through local bylaws
- may choose to manage other invasive plants not listed on the provincial list

Residents and landowners:

- should continue managing invasive plants on their property
- are responsible for preventing the spread of regulated weeds to neighbouring lands and natural areas
- should consult municipal bylaws for local requirements

Why this matters

Invasive plants continue to impact Alberta's landscapes by reducing biodiversity, affecting agriculture, and increasing management costs.

These regulatory updates help ensure that:

- early detection and rapid response remain a priority
- resources are focused where they can have the greatest impact
- Albertans have clear, practical guidance on managing invasive plants

For more information, including the full list of regulated species, visit the [Alberta Weed Control Act](#) and [Weed Control Regulation](#).

Newsletter Article Condensed

Title: Updates to Alberta’s Weed Control Regulation

The list of regulated species under Alberta’s Weed Control Regulation has been updated for the first time since 2010. The update includes new species added to the regulated list, some reclassifications, and the removal of two species: creeping bellflower and perennial sowthistle.

These changes reflect how invasive plants are distributed across the province and where regulation is most effective.

It’s important to note that removal from regulation does not mean a plant is no longer invasive or harmful. In most cases, it means the species has become too widespread for provincial regulation to be effective.

In some situations, additional factors may also be considered, such as available management options or how the species is used in certain settings. However, these considerations do not change the plant’s ability to spread or cause impacts.

Creeping bellflower, for example, is commonly found in yards and urban areas across Alberta. While no longer regulated provincially, it remains invasive and can still spread into neighbouring properties and natural areas.

Residents are encouraged to continue managing invasive plants on their property and to consult local bylaws for any additional requirements.

For more information on regulated weeds and your responsibilities, visit:

- abinvasives.ca
- alberta.ca/weeds

Newsletter Article – Ultra Short

The list of regulated species under Alberta’s Weed Control Regulation has been updated for the first time since 2010.

Some species have been added or reclassified, and two species, creeping bellflower and perennial sowthistle, have been removed from the regulated list.

Removal does not mean these plants are harmless. In most cases, it means they are now too widespread for provincial regulation to be effective.

Residents are encouraged to continue managing invasive plants and to check local bylaws for guidance.

FAQ

1. What is the Alberta Weed Control Act?

This Act mandates the control or destruction of specific invasive plant species to protect against economic, social and ecological risks. It requires landowners to destroy prohibited noxious weeds and control noxious weeds on their property. The Act also establishes inspector authority to enforce compliance, through land inspections, notices and weed management, and governs seed-cleaning facilities.

2. Why were some weeds removed from regulation?

Because they are now too widespread for regulation to be effective. Regulation works best for new or localized species.

3. Does removal from the regulations mean these plants are no longer invasive?

No. They are still invasive and can still cause harm.

4. Why not regulate all invasive plants?

Regulation is most effective early in an invasion. Once a species is widespread, other tools like education and local management are more effective.

5. Is this the same as when dandelions were removed?

Yes in principle. Removal reflects how widespread a species is, not whether it is beneficial or harmless.

6. Should I still control creeping bellflower?

Yes. It spreads aggressively and is difficult to manage once established.

7. Should I still control perennial sowthistle?

Yes. It can spread aggressively and is difficult to manage once established.

8. Can municipalities still regulate these species?

Yes. Municipalities may prioritize locally important species through the use of bylaws to regulate additional species.

9. What's the difference between prohibited noxious and noxious?

- Prohibited noxious: must be destroyed (completely removed, eradicated)
- Noxious: must be controlled to prevent spread

Social Media Posts

Post 1 – Awareness



🔔 Alberta's Weed Control Regulation list of weeds has been updated for the first time since 2010!

These updates help focus provincial resources where they can have the greatest impact—on invasive plants that are still possible to contain or eradicate. Check out the updates:

- 2 species deregulated (creeping bellflower and perennial sowthistle)
- 5 species added as noxious (all hawkweed species in the genus *Pilosella*)
- 17 species added as prohibited noxious

- 12 species reclassified from prohibited noxious to noxious (3 hawkweed and 9 knapweed species)
- 95 species total are now provincially regulated

Landowners are required to control noxious weeds and destroy prohibited noxious weeds

Post 2 – Creeping Bellflower



Creeping bellflower has been removed from provincial regulation.

Why? It's now widespread across Alberta, especially in urban areas and there are limited control options that often require persistence and repeated treatment. Regulation of this species wasn't effective in controlling its spread.

But it's still invasive and still worth controlling.

Post 3 – Myth Busting

MYTH BUSTER

✗ MYTH:
If it's not regulated, it's not a problem.

✓ FACT:
Some of the most widespread invasive plants are no longer regulated because province-wide regulation is no longer effective.



Myth: If it's not regulated, it's not a problem.

Fact: Some of the most widespread invasive plants are no longer regulated because province-wide regulation is no longer effective. But a legal list isn't the only way to stop the spread—we all play a part!

Post 4 – Action-Oriented



Invasive plants don't stop at property lines.

Even if a species isn't regulated provincially:

- ✓ it's a good idea to still manage it on your property to prevent the spread
- ✓ it may be regulated municipally, check local bylaws

Post 5 – Action-Oriented



What can you do to prevent the spread of invasive plants?

- Come clean and leave clean / clean your gear / PlayCleanGo
- BePlantWise – don't plant invasive species in your garden
- Choose Wildflowers Not Weeds
- Learn to identify and report invasive plants
- Use weed-free products when available
- Never dispose of invasive plants in compost and discard of yard waste only in appropriate places

Prevention is easier than control – protect the places you love!

Resources

Webinar

The AISC will be hosting a free webinar called '**Invasive Plants in Alberta: Understanding the New Weed Regulations**' to the general public on June 3rd, 2026 at 6:30PM on Zoom.

Recording will be posted to the AISC's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/@ABinvasives

Registration link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-7nH-SXMR3KEemKVJ05NLQ#/registration

Hashtags

Below are several hashtags to include for use throughout social media.

- #invasiveplants, #ABinvasives, #invasive, #invasivespecies, #weeds
- #WeedControlAct, #WeedControlRegulation, #AB
- #prohibitednoxious, #noxious
- #updates, #changes, #revision
- #control, #destroy, #regulated
- #report, #identify, #takeaction, #citizenscience, #EDDMapS
- #PlayCleanGo, #WildflowersNotWeeds, #GrowMeInstead, #BePlantwise, #WeedFreeProducts #WeedFreeForage

Webpage links

Below are links to include in social posts, newsletters, webpages, etc.

- [Alberta's provincially regulated weeds](#)
- [Alberta Weed Control Act](#)
- [Alberta Weed Control Regulations](#)
- [AISC's New Updates to Alberta's Weed Control Regulations infographic](#)
- [AISC's Invasive Plant factsheets](#)
- [AISC's Invasive Plants of Alberta Guide](#)
- [AISC's Invasive Species photo gallery](#)
- [AISC's EDDMapS page](#)
- [EDDMapS main webpage](#)
- [PlayCleanGo webpage](#)

ALBERTA'S WEED CONTROL REGULATION HAS BEEN UPDATED



2 species deregulated



5 species added as noxious



17 species added as prohibited noxious



12 species reclassified from prohibited noxious to noxious



95 species total



**LANDOWNERS ARE REQUIRED TO
CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS AND
DESTROY PROHIBITED NOXIOUS WEEDS**

MYTH BUSTER



MYTH:

If it's not regulated,
it's not a problem.



FACT:

Some of the most
widespread invasive
plants are no longer
regulated because
province-wide
regulation is no
longer effective.



WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE PLANTS?



**Come clean,
leave clean**



**BePlantWise –
don't plant
invasive species**



**Choose
Wildflowers
Not Weeds**



**Learn to identify
and report**



**Use weed-free
products**



**Dispose of yard
waste properly**



**Small actions. Big impact.
Healthy land. Healthy communities.**

From: [Andrew Goldberg](#)
To: [Elizabeth Naeth](#)
Subject: ASB INFO FW: Rural Alberta Producer Survey for Distribution
Date: 22 June 2026, 09:34:12
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[QRCode for Rural Alberta Producer Survey - Economic Value of Veterinary Access.png](#)

Andrew Goldberg
Director Agricultural Services, Community Services
County of Grande Prairie

Office: 780-567-5584, 2588 Direct line: 825-606-5663
www.countygp.ab.ca | [Join us on social](#)

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From: Laura Poile <lpoile@rockyview.ca>
Sent: May 25, 2026 7:54 AM
To: Aaron Van Beers <aaron@leduc-county.com>; Alanna Wowk <Alanna.wowk@laclabichedcounty.com>; Albert Anderson <albert.anderson@wheatlandcounty.ca>; Amanda Kihn <amanda.k@lamontcounty.ca>; Amanda Ouellet <aouellet@countygp.ab.ca>; Anders Schoepp <Anders.schoepp@parklandcounty.com>; Andrew Goldberg <agoldberg@countygp.ab.ca>; Angela Veenstra <aveenstra@sturgeoncounty.ca>; Anne-Marie Bertagnolli <abertagnolli@clearwatercounty.ca>; Aren Skogstad <askogstad@LSAC.ca>; Ashley Garnham <agarnham@northernsunrise.net>; Ashley Stewart <ASTewart@rockyview.ca>; Bailee Richardson <bailee.richardson@mdfairview.ab.ca>; Ben Senft <bsenft@countygp.ab.ca>; Bettina van Nieuwkerk <BvanN@clearwatercounty.ca>; Boyd Hum <boyd.hum@mdbighorn.ca>; Brady Kautz <bkautz@clearwatercounty.ca>; Braiden Bodin <braiden.bodin@cypress.ab.ca>; Brandon Galster <brandon.galster@starlandcounty.com>; Bree Webb <bree.webb@foothillscountyab.ca>; Brennan Scott <brennan.scott@laclabichedcounty.com>; Brett Sauder <bsauder@saddlehills.ab.ca>; Briemann Eden <brieden@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>; Caleb Scott <caleb.scott@vulcancounty.ab.ca>; Cameron Schoff <CSchoff@beaver.ab.ca>; Carla Preachuk <carla@mdwillowcreek.com>; Carleigh Danyluk <cdanyluk@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>; Chad Ritter <Chad.ritter@parklandcounty.com>; Chad Verpy <cverpy@mvcounty.com>; Chelsea Jaeger <cjaeger@countybarrhead.ab.ca>; Chesley Krause <ckrause@rdcounty.ca>; Chris Chrenek <cchrenek@mvcounty.com>; Chris Elder <celder@county24.com>; Chris Schuh <cschuh@county.stpaul.ab.ca>; Clarence Dowhan <clarence.dowhan@thorhildcounty.com>; Corey Grover <Corey.Grover@mdgreenview.ab.ca>; Corey Stuber <cstuber@county.camrose.ab.ca>; Courtney Alstott <calstott@clearwatercounty.ca>; Danielle Ens <dens@clearwatercounty.ca>; Darrell Marynowich <Darrell.Marynowich@strathcona.ca>; Dawn Fortin <dawn.fortin@woodlands.ab.ca>; Dawnia McCann <DMcCann@brazeau.ab.ca>; Deanna Heather <deanna.heather@vulcancounty.ab.ca>; Delaney McNaughton <DMcNaughton@rockyview.ca>; Dennis Begg <dennis.begg@fortymile.ab.ca>; Derek Vance <Dvance@lethcounty.ca>; Devon Lloyd <devonlloyd@ponokacounty.com>; Don Hogan <don.hogan@specialareas.ab.ca>; Don Medcke <DMedcke@countybarrhead.ab.ca>; Elden Kozak <ekozak@thcounty.ab.ca>; Elise Graham <elise.graham@strathcona.ca>; Fallon Sherlock <Fallon.Sherlock@kneehillcounty.com>; Farrah Fischer <ffischer@stettlercounty.ca>; Gary Murray <gary.murray@mdwillowcreek.com>; Gary Secrist <gsecrist@lethcounty.ca>; Graydon Garner <Graydon.Garner@wheatlandcounty.ca>; Greg Cameron <gcameron@brazeau.ab.ca>; Greg Coon <greg@clearhillscounty.ab.ca>; Jacob Marfo

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Subject: FW: Rural Alberta Producer Survey for Distribution

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LAURA POILE, BSc Ag, ATT
Agricultural Services Specialist | Agricultural & Environmental Services

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From: Shelby Oracheski <soracheski@mdwainwright.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2026 9:22 AM
To: Laura Poile <lpoile@rockyview.ca>
Subject: Rural Alberta Producer Survey for Distribution

Good morning AAAF,

The M.D. of Wainwright kindly asks that you circulate this survey to your ASB and publicly if you are able to 😊 following the ASB Provincial Conference we sent a letter regarding the inclusion of veterinarians in the Canada Student Loan Forgiveness Program and have subsequently been tasked with collecting the producer perspective on the economic value of veterinary access to support advocacy efforts at the federal level. It is a short 10 questions survey, and it will remain open until June 30th. We hope to collect feedback from across Alberta, and your assistance in sharing it with producers would be greatly appreciated. A QR code is attached, and the survey link is below:

[Rural Alberta Producer Survey: Economic Value of Veterinary Access – Fill out form](#)

Thank you!

Shelby Oracheski

Agricultural Fieldman

780-842-4454

717 14 Ave Wainwright, AB T9W 1B3

mdwainwright.ca



Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61

...A Thriving Part of Rural Alberta

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From: [Andrew Goldberg](#)
To: [Elizabeth Naeth](#)
Subject: ASB INFO FW: AAAF Strychnine Survey
Date: 22 June 2026, 09:34:40
Attachments: [Outlook-e1rzmiyk.png](#)
[Outlook-zrskvgnn.png](#)
[Outlook-2nwvo0ek.png](#)
[Outlook-3vvz4bmn.png](#)
[Outlook-gl25ugd5.png](#)

Andrew Goldberg
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From: Laura Poile <lpoile@rockyview.ca>
Sent: May 25, 2026 12:18 PM
To: Aaron Van Beers <aaron@leduc-county.com>; Alanna Wowk <Alanna.wowk@laclabichcounty.com>; Albert Anderson <albert.anderson@wheatlandcounty.ca>; Amanda Kihn <amanda.k@lamontcounty.ca>; Amanda Ouellet <aouellet@countygp.ab.ca>; Anders Schoepp <Anders.schoepp@parklandcounty.com>; Andrew Goldberg <agoldberg@countygp.ab.ca>; Angela Veenstra <aveenstra@sturgeoncounty.ca>; Anne-Marie Bertagnolli <abertagnolli@clearwatercounty.ca>; Aren Skogstad <askogstad@LSAC.ca>; Ashley Garnham <agarnham@northernsunrise.net>; Ashley Stewart <AStewart@rockyview.ca>; Bailee Richardson <bailee.richardson@mdfairview.ab.ca>; Ben Senft <bsenft@countygp.ab.ca>; Bettina van Nieuwkerk <BvanN@clearwatercounty.ca>; Boyd Hum <boyd.hum@mdbighorn.ca>; Brady Kautz <bkautz@clearwatercounty.ca>; Braiden Bodin <braiden.bodin@cypress.ab.ca>; Brandon Galster <brandon.galster@starlandcounty.com>; Bree Webb <bree.webb@foothillscountyab.ca>; Brennan Scott <brennan.scott@laclabichcounty.com>; Brett Sauder <bsauder@saddlehills.ab.ca>; Briemann Eden <brieden@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>; Caleb Scott <caleb.scott@vulcancounty.ab.ca>; Cameron Schoff <CSchoff@beaver.ab.ca>; Carla Preachuk <carla@mdwillowcreek.com>; Carleigh Danyluk <cdanyluk@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>; Chad Ritter <Chad.ritter@parklandcounty.com>; Chad Verpy <cverpy@mvcounty.com>; Chelsea Jaeger <cjaeger@countybarrhead.ab.ca>; Chesley Krause <ckrause@rdcounty.ca>; Chris Chrenek <cchrenek@mvcounty.com>; Chris Elder <celder@county24.com>; Chris Schuh <cschuh@county.stpaul.ab.ca>; Clarence Dowhan <clarence.dowhan@thorhildcounty.com>; Corey Grover <Corey.Grover@mdgreenview.ab.ca>; Corey Stuber <cstuber@county.camrose.ab.ca>; Courtney Alstott <calstott@clearwatercounty.ca>; Danielle Ens <dens@clearwatercounty.ca>; Darrell Marynowich <Darrell.Marynowich@strathcona.ca>; Dawn Fortin <dawn.fortin@woodlands.ab.ca>; Dawnia McCann <DMcCann@brazeau.ab.ca>; Deanna Heather <deanna.heather@vulcancounty.ab.ca>; Delaney McNaughton <DMcNaughton@rockyview.ca>; Dennis Begg <dennis.begg@fortymile.ab.ca>; Derek Vance <Dvance@lethcounty.ca>; Devon Lloyd <devonlloyd@ponokacounty.com>; Don Hogan <don.hogan@specialareas.ab.ca>; Don Medcke <DMedcke@countybarrhead.ab.ca>; Elden Kozak <ekozak@thcounty.ab.ca>; Elise Graham <elise.graham@strathcona.ca>; Fallon Sherlock <Fallon.Sherlock@kneehillcounty.com>; Farrah Fischer <ffischer@stettlercounty.ca>; Gary Murray <gary.murray@mdwillowcreek.com>; Gary Secrist

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Cc: Blake Gaugler <gauglerb@countyofnorthernlights.com>

Subject: FW: AAF Strychnine Survey

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See Fallon's email below.

LAURA POILE, BSc AG, ATT
Agricultural Services Specialist | Agricultural & Environmental Services

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From: Fallon Sherlock <fallon.sherlock@kneehillcounty.com>
Sent: Monday, May 25, 2026 9:35 AM
To: Laura Poile <lpoile@rockyview.ca>
Subject: AAAF Strychnine Survey

Hi Laura, Could you please share this email with the whole Association.

Good Morning AAAF Members,

In light of the many questions circling on the Strychnine Program, the Executive Committee has decided to send out a survey to the members to gather information on the program specifics being proposed by each municipality.

Could one individual from each municipality please complete this survey:

<https://forms.gle/ftBKytEm2zwsJeS3A>

We recognize that some of these may not yet be set by your municipality, but if you have an idea of the direction currently being pursued, please include that in your answer.

If you could complete the survey before May 31, we will aim to share the results the week of the first of June.

We appreciate your participation as we all navigate this unusual program rollout and do the best we can for our municipalities.

Take Care,



Fallon Sherlock
Manager of Parks & Ag Services
Kneehill County



[403-443-5541](tel:403-443-5541)

fallon.sherlock@kneehillcounty.com

www.kneehillcounty.com

Box 400, Three Hills Alberta, T0M 2A0

June Package: 2026 Resolution Grading

Please find attached the 2026 Resolution Response Report and grading package for review by individual Agricultural Service Boards or regions. This package includes the responses received to date, ASBPC's initial grading, and comments intended to support local and regional discussion. The resolution process continues to demonstrate its value as a practical, grassroots mechanism for bringing forward issues that matter to producers, municipalities, and Alberta's agriculture industry. While not every response fully resolves the issue raised, the process is clearly influencing important conversations. Progress has been made on several files, including emergency access to 2% liquid strychnine through fall 2027, the pause on proposed livestock traceability changes, continued provincial advocacy on CFIA and PMRA reform, and active policy discussions on rural water connectivity, rat control modernization, and on-farm meat processing. These outcomes reflect the strength of the ASB system and the value of thoughtful, well-grounded engagement from across the province.

ASBs and regions are encouraged to use this package as a tool for strategic discussion. In addition to grading the responses, please consider what the responses mean for your region, whether further advocacy or information-gathering is needed, and what future resolutions may need to be developed. Completed grading sheets must remain in Excel format and be returned by **June 30** in order to be included in the **Report Card on the Resolutions**, which will be distributed by **September 1**.

For regions completing a collective regional grade, please note that your region can be selected at the bottom of the drop-down menu in the grading sheet. An attendance sheet identifying which municipalities participated in the regional grading discussion must also be submitted. Individual ASBs may still submit their own grading sheet if they wish to register a grade that differs from the collective regional grade.

Thank you for the time, care, and practical perspective you bring to this process. Your engagement helps ensure that ASB resolutions remain grounded in regional realities and continue to support informed, constructive conversations on behalf of Alberta's agriculture industry.

Linda Hunt, Pag.
ASBPC Executive Assistant

DEFINITION OF TERMS

The Provincial ASB Committee has chosen four indicators to grade resolution responses from government and non-government organizations.

Responded

The response addresses the request in the resolution. ASBs are encouraged to comment with their opinion about the response in the "comments" section of the grading sheet.

Responded in Part

The response addresses some of the resolution, but does not address the full request. ASBs are encouraged to comment about their opinion on the response in the "comments" section of the grading sheet.

Did Not Address the Resolution

The response does not address the request, and requires further engagement to clarify the request. Follow up is required to solicit information for the Provincial ASB Committee to make an informed decision on how to proceed.

No Response

The resolution did not receive a response

Resolution Table (ASBPC initial grades)

RESOLUTION	GRADE
RESOLUTION 1-26: EMERGENCY REGISTRATION OF 2% LIQUID STRYCHNINE FOR RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL (RGS) CONTROL	In Part
RESOLUTION 2-26: EXEMPTION OF AGRICULTURE EQUIPMENT FROM CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1999 EMISSION LIMITS	Responded
RESOLUTION 3-26: MARKED FUEL PROGRAM REVIEW	WITHDRAWN
RESOLUTION 4-26: RURAL WATER DISTRIBUTION AND CONNECTIVITY FUNDING	Responded
RESOLUTION PC1-26: MODERNIZING ALBERTA'S RAT CONTROL PROGRAM	In Part
RESOLUTION PC2-26: ON-FARM MEAT PROCESSING	Responded
RESOLUTION PC3-26: LEGAL ENTITY ALIGNED WITH ASBs	DEFEATED
RESOLUTION PC4-26: URGENT REFORMS TO CFIA AND PMRA	In Part
RESOLUTION E1-26: VACANT BIOLOGICAL CONTROL SCIENTIST POSITION	No Response
RESOLUTION E2-26: LIVESTOCK TRACEABILITY UPDATE CONCERNS	In Part

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RESOLUTION 1-26: EMERGENCY REGISTRATION OF 2% LIQUID STRYCHNINE FOR RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL (RGS) CONTROL

WHEREAS 2% liquid strychnine has proven the most effective tool in managing Richardson's ground squirrels in the prairie provinces since about 1928;

WHEREAS to help maintain a level of Richardson's ground squirrel infestation below economic threshold as part of an integrated pest management plan;

WHEREAS there is still no other product available that is as effective as 2% liquid strychnine; and

WHEREAS when handled and used according to label, the off-target impacts have been minimal.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and Health Canada, work with the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) and make 2% liquid strychnine available to farmers/ranchers for the 2026 season and beyond.

SPONSORED BY: Foothills County
STATUS: Provincial and Federal
DEPARTMENT: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada,
Health Canada,
Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation,
Pest Management Regulatory Agency

RESPONSES

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION:

On October 1, 2025, the governments of Alberta and Saskatchewan jointly submitted an Emergency Use Registration (EUR) request to the PMRA to approve the use of 2% liquid strychnine to control RGS. This request was [denied](#) by the PMRA, disappointing farmers and rural communities. Following this, on February 2, Minister Sigurdson and Minister Marit of Saskatchewan sent a joint letter advocating for the PMRA to reconsider this decision. This is further backed by Premier's Smith's February 12 joint letter with Saskatchewan Premier Moe advocating directly to Prime Minister Carney to grant an immediate 3-year exemption for the use of strychnine. An immediate decision is required to enable access to the product this spring to set our producers up for a successful 2026 growing season.

Alberta remains deeply concerned about the impact of RGS on the province’s agricultural sector and is committed to identifying effective management solutions. Alberta continues to advocate for the federal government to provide access to strychnine as an important part of integrated pest management control plans for this pest.

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA:

No response

PESTICIDE MANGEMENT REGULATORY AGENCY:

No response

RESPONSE HEALTH CANADA:

No response

SUMMARY

Overall Assessment: partially met

- Strong advocacy actions taken
Alberta clearly worked with Saskatchewan, submitted an Emergency Use Registrations (EUR), and escalated through ministers and premiers—this aligns well with the request to work with other governments and PMRA.
- Continued commitment and pressure
Ongoing advocacy and recognition of strychnine as part of IPM shows the issue remains a priority.
- Request for “available for 2026 and beyond”
Current access ends November 2027 with no firm commitment to make it available in the future. Political environment may not be as favorable in the future.
- No indication that regulators are working on making the process for EUR better.

Key Observations

The response shows Alberta is dependent on federal approval (PMRA/Health Canada/AAFC), with no confirmed resolution or access secured. Process remains arbitrary and political.

Bottom line:

Alberta made meaningful efforts and advocacy, but since availability has not yet been achieved, the resolution is only partially met (good effort, limited results so far).

INITIAL GRADE ASBPC

RESPONDED

ASBPC COMMENTS

The resolution was graded Responded in Part because Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation provided a substantial response and the requested emergency registration was achieved, but the federal bodies did not send formal responses and the long-term availability component of the request has not been met.

In short: the committee recognized the meaningful outcome and provincial effort, but because not all addressees responded and long-term availability is unresolved.

RESOLUTION 2-26: EXEMPTION OF AGRICULTURE EQUIPMENT FROM CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1999 EMISSION LIMITS

WHEREAS Concerns have been raised about the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of current Government of Canada emissions controls on diesel vehicles and machinery, specifically the use of Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF);

WHEREAS Producers in Alberta face expensive repairs and more costly down time dealing with Diesel Exhaust Fluid and cold temperatures;

WHEREAS Producers in Alberta need to stay competitive in the international markets; and

WHEREAS The net environmental benefit of DEF is negligible when considering the environmental impact of break downs, down time, and reduced longevity of equipment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Agriculture and Agri Food Canada, Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation, and Alberta Environment work with the Department of Environment and Climate Change Canada to exempt agricultural equipment and vehicles from emission limits for nitrogen oxides (NOx) so that the waste of maintaining diesel exhaust fluid and selective catalytic reduction systems can be eliminated.

SPONSORED BY: Foothills County

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Agriculture and Agri Food Canada, Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas

RESPONSES

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION:

Agriculture and Irrigation (AGI) has heard from producers and ASBs about Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) use in farm machinery – in particular, concerns related to:

- crystallization and freezing in cold conditions;
- contamination and product degradation;
- sensor and component failures leading to downtime; and
- storage and handling difficulties.

Producers report these complications can lead to significant repair bills – sometimes amounting to thousands or even tens of thousands of dollars – along with lost productivity during critical operating windows. These costs have a real impact on farm profitability.

The *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* (CEPA) is federal legislation focused on preventing pollution and protecting the environment and human health to support sustainable development.

- It enables regulations for on-road and off-road vehicles and emission standards for engines to reduce hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides (NO_x), particulate matter and other air pollutants listed in Schedule 1 of the Act.
- It enables regulating greenhouse gas emissions from passenger automobiles and light trucks, and from heavy-duty vehicles and engines.
- DEF enables diesel engines to comply with emission standards by converting NO_x into harmless nitrogen and water.
- Federal emission regulations may have unintended impacts on producer profitability, including operational challenges for producers.

As CEPA is federal legislation, provinces do not have authority to grant DEF exemptions. No Canadian province has received a DEF exemption to date.

Alberta is committed to bringing forward producer concerns in ongoing discussions with federal counterparts and looking at ways to conduct a thorough assessment of potential agricultural exemptions so that actions are supported by evidence and reflect the realities farmers face.

RESPONSE ECCC: (May 14)



Mr. Rob Siewert
Chair, Provincial Committee
Agricultural Service Boards Provincial Committee
c/o Ms. Dawn Fortin
Secretary
asbpc_ea@agriculturalserviceboards.com

Dear Mr. Siewert:

Thank you for your correspondence of February 13, 2026, enclosing Agricultural Service Boards' Resolution 2-26 that requests an exemption from emission requirements related to diesel exhaust fluid under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*. I regret the delay in responding.

As you know, off-road diesel engines installed in agricultural tractors are subject to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* and the *Off-road Compression-Ignition (Mobile and Stationary) and Large Spark-Ignition Engine Emission Regulations* (CI-LSI Regulations). The CI-LSI Regulations support Canada's commitment to improving air quality by reducing emissions associated with fuel combustion and evaporation, which can result in the formation of ground-level ozone and smog and contribute to adverse environmental and human health impacts.

Federal emissions regulations generally apply to products manufactured in Canada (prior to first retail sale) or imported into the country. Engines subject to the CI-LSI Regulations must, at the time of importation, meet the emission standards that applied at the time of their manufacture.

Current emission standards for compression-ignition (diesel) engines are aligned with those of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which reflect the Tier 4 final standards. The CI-LSI Regulations do not require the use of specific technology (such as the use of diesel exhaust fluid) to meet the prescribed emission standards. These emissions standards are performance-based, and manufacturers are responsible for selecting the necessary and feasible technology to ensure their products comply.

.../2

Only the Governor in Council may, by order, grant a time-limited exemption to a company for a specific product. The requirements to apply for an exemption are set out in section 52 of the CI-LSI Regulations. Exemptions apply only to specific engines from an individual regulated company and cannot be granted for a broad class of products or for a specific region of the country.

Regulation of emissions from vehicles and engines is a shared responsibility between federal and provincial/territorial governments. Requirements or restrictions related to the use or modification of vehicles or engines after first retail sale are generally addressed under provincial/territorial, Indigenous, or municipal jurisdiction.

If you would like more information on federal vehicle and engine emission standards or the exemption process, please contact Mr. Stéphane Couroux, Executive Director for Environment and Climate Change Canada's Transportation Division, at infovehiculeetmoteur-vehicleandengineinfo@ec.gc.ca. Additional technical data and case studies would be welcome to support further analysis.

I appreciate your taking the time to share the perspectives of the Agricultural Service Boards. Please accept my best regards.

Yours truly,



The Honourable Julie Dabrusin, P.C., M.P.

RESPONSE ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTED AREAS:

Resent request April 30, No Response

RESPONSE AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA:

No Response

SUMMARY

Overall Assessment: core request not supported

- Neither response commits to or enables an exemption from NOx emission limits for agricultural equipment. Both maintain the current regulatory framework.

Key Observations

- Jurisdictional limitation emphasized (AGI)
AGI clearly states that emissions standards fall under federal authority (CEPA) and provinces cannot grant exemptions, limiting Alberta's ability to fulfill the request.
- Issue acknowledged but no concrete action (AGI)
AGI recognizes producer concerns and cost impacts of DEF systems and commits only to ongoing discussions and assessment, not action or timelines.
- Federal response reinforces status quo (ECCC)
ECCC emphasizes that emission standards are required for environmental and health reasons, and regulations are performance-based, not tied to specific technologies like DEF.
- Exemption mechanism does not fit the request (ECCC)
Federal rules only allow case-by-case, time-limited exemptions for specific engines/companies, not a broad agricultural exemption, making the resolution's ask impractical under current legislation.
- No commitment to collaborate toward exemption
Neither response demonstrates meaningful progress toward intergovernmental work to secure a sector-wide exemption, which was central to the resolution.

Bottom line

While AGI acknowledges producer concerns and ECCC explains the regulatory framework, neither response advances or enables the requested exemption, and existing federal rules effectively preclude the outcome sought.

INITIAL GRADE ASBPC:

RESPONDED

ASBPC COMMENTS

The resolution was graded Responded because the ministries directly addressed the request, clearly explained the legal and jurisdictional constraints, and set out why the requested blanket agricultural exemption cannot be granted under current law, even though the committee is dissatisfied with the outcome.

RESOLUTION 4-26: RURAL WATER DISTRIBUTION AND CONNECTIVITY FUNDING

WHEREAS Alberta is experiencing prolonged drought conditions, leaving both agricultural producers and rural residents without reliable access to water;

WHEREAS Existing federal and provincial programs fund treatment plants and transmission mains but provide inadequate support for the distribution and service connections that directly reach farms and households;

WHEREAS This funding gap creates affordability barriers, leaves regional transmission systems underutilized, and undermines agricultural production, public health, and rural sustainability;

WHEREAS bridging the gap between funded transmission projects and user connections will maximize the value of federal and provincial investments, reduce long-term operating and maintenance costs, and reduce public health risks associated with private wells of uncertain quality; and

WHEREAS Other jurisdictions have implemented grant or cost share programs to assist property owners with service lateral costs and on lot infrastructure, resulting in improved uptake of centralized services and stronger outcomes for rural residents.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

The Government of Canada and the Government of Alberta expand water infrastructure funding to include distribution and service connections for farms, rural residences, and small communities through an equitable cost-sharing program.

SPONSORED BY: County of Stettler No. 6

DEPARTMENT: Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation
Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors
Alberta Affordability and Utilities
Alberta Infrastructure
Canada Housing and Infrastructure

RESPONSES

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION:

The Government of Alberta continues to support rural and regional water infrastructure through existing grant programs, including the Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership and the Water for Life program. These programs are

designed for smaller municipalities and regional water commissions serving populations under 45,000. The programs help ensure that rural communities have reliable drinking water and wastewater systems.

- Recently, AGI has been working closely with Transportation and Economic Corridors (TEC) to identify gaps in the current water-infrastructure programs and to support TEC's work on a potential integrated water program. To help shape this work, TEC surveyed municipalities and regional partners in August 2025 to gather perspectives on both the existing programs and what an integrated approach could look like. TEC is responsible for delivering the current water-infrastructure programs, and any future changes or announcements regarding an integrated water program would come from them.
- Water co-ops also play an essential role in providing reliable water services to farms and rural residences, particularly in areas that are not served by municipal systems. Affordability and Utilities supports the development, operation, governance, and long-term sustainability of rural water co-operatives across the province. The Rural Water Program also provides important support for water co-op systems that benefit rural communities.
- In addition to these municipal programs, AGI and the federal government support agricultural producers directly through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership Water Program. This program provides 50 per cent cost-share funding, up to \$10,000 per water-source development, and up to \$20,000 total for new water-source projects over the program term (April 2023-March 2028). Eligible projects include tie-ins to multi-user water pipelines, improving water security for farm operations.
- AGI is mandated with completing ongoing irrigation modernization commitments and exploring opportunities to further invest in irrigation expansion and water-storage infrastructure.
- Through the Irrigation Rehabilitation Program, AGI provides annual funding to irrigation districts to support upgrades and repairs to conveyance systems. These improvements help ensure efficient, reliable, and secure water delivery across irrigation districts – benefits that extend to rural communities and agricultural users alike.

FURTHER RESPONSE REQUESTED:

AGRIC Minister<AGRIC.Minister@gov.ab.ca>

ASBPC Executive

TEC Minister <Transportation.Minister@gov.ab.ca>

Tue 5/12/2026 10:30 AM

Dear Rob Siewert:

Thank you for your letter from the ASB Provincial Committee requesting clarification regarding the “Integrated Water Program.”

Transportation and Economic Corridors (TEC) is mandated with development of an integrated water program that facilitates increased water treatment and distribution for residential, industrial and agricultural water use across Alberta. Inquiries can be directed to Nikolai Thomas, Director of Grant Administration, at Nikolai.Thomas@gov.ab.ca.

Agriculture and Irrigation staff participate in TEC-led multi-departmental discussions about Government of Alberta programs that support various types of water users in the province. These discussions enhance collaboration and contribute to effective and efficient delivery of Alberta government programs.

Agriculture and Irrigation will continue to engage in discussions as requested and identify opportunities to further support agricultural water users.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Honourable RJ Sigurdson
Minister, Agriculture and Irrigation
AR89877

RESPONSE TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC CORRIDORS:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee regarding Resolution 4-26, passed at the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference on January 21, 2026. We appreciate you bringing forward the perspectives of agricultural municipalities and producers from across Alberta.

The Government of Alberta recognizes access to reliable and safe water is essential to the long-term sustainability of agriculture, rural residences, and small communities. We understand the intent of the resolution is to seek expanded provincial support for water distribution infrastructure and service connections through an equitable cost-sharing approach.

At present, provincial water infrastructure funding programs are designed primarily to support regional and municipal-scale systems which deliver broad public benefit, with eligibility criteria focused on core infrastructure rather than private service connections. These criteria help ensure funding is allocated in a manner which balances demonstrated need, fiscal responsibility, and consistency across the province.

We acknowledge the ongoing challenges faced by rural landowners and agricultural operations in securing affordable access to water infrastructure.

The Government of Alberta continues to work with municipalities, regional water commissions, and stakeholders to explore opportunities to improve regional collaboration, optimize existing systems, and consider future program design improvements where feasible.

We appreciate the Agriculture Service Board Provincial Committee’s advocacy on behalf of Alberta’s agricultural community and thank you for sharing this resolution. Your input helps inform ongoing discussions related to rural infrastructure needs and long-term water sustainability.

FURTHER RESPONSE REQUESTED APRIL 30:

NO RESPONSE

RESPONSE AFFORDABILITY AND UTILITIES:

Resent request April 30 - no response

RESPONSE ALBERTA INFRASTRUCTURE:

Resent request April 30 – no response

RESPONSE CANADA HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE:

No response

SUMMARY

Overall Assessment : Partially met (acknowledgement and incremental support, but no expansion to requested scope)

- Existing funding and programs confirmed (AGI)
- Recognition of rural needs and gaps (AGI & TEC)

Key Observations

- Work underway on future program design (AGI & TEC)
Government is exploring an “integrated water program” and reviewing existing programs to identify gaps and improve coordination.
- Ongoing interdepartmental collaboration (AGI follow up)
AGI confirms it is participating in cross-government discussions led by TEC to improve water program delivery.

- No commitment to expand funding to service connections
None of the responses commit to including distribution and on-farm/service connections—the core ask of the resolution.
- Programs still focused on municipal/regional infrastructure (TEC)
Current funding eligibility remains focused on large-scale systems, not farm-level or rural connection costs.
- No clear cost-sharing expansion or new funding announced
While some cost-share programs exist, there is no new equitable cost-sharing model addressing the specific gap identified.
- Future work is exploratory, not actionable
The integrated water program is still in development, with no defined timelines, scope, or confirmed outcomes tied to the resolution.

Bottom line

The responses acknowledge the issue and point to existing supports and ongoing planning, but do not deliver or commit to the requested expansion of funding to include distribution and service connections, resulting in a partially met outcome with limited tangible progress so far.

INITIAL GRADE ASBPC:

RESPONDED

ASBPC COMMENTS

The resolution was graded Responded because the ministries provided clear responses, acknowledged the gaps, and described ongoing program development and coordination, even though they did not commit to the specific expanded funding model requested.

RESOLUTION PC1-26: MODERNIZING ALBERTA'S RAT CONTROL PROGRAM

WHEREAS: the current Rat Program in Alberta was designed in the 1950s and may not fully address the realities of modern pest (rat) management, with emerging challenges both inside and outside the established rat control zone;

WHEREAS: recent years have seen increased rat activity in urban municipalities and regions outside the traditional control zone, with increased and new pathways for rat spread and heightened risk to agricultural and urban infrastructure;

WHEREAS: public awareness efforts, while improved through initiatives like the “Rat on Rat” campaign, require further expansion to ensure both rural and urban Albertans are informed and vigilant;

WHEREAS: an effective provincial strategy depends on the collaborative efforts of the Agricultural Service Boards (ASBs), Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA), Alberta Municipalities (AM), the Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC), the Government of Alberta (GOA), First Nations and Métis communities (FNM), and the support of surrounding jurisdictions;

WHEREAS: there are identified gaps in training for municipal and pest control staff, particularly regarding rat identification, management, and reporting;

WHEREAS: effective rat management requires current data, including accurate mapping and tracking of high-risk sites such as landfills, recycling facilities, and rail yards, which are currently lacking a comprehensive, province-wide inventory.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation perform a full strategic review and modernization of Alberta's Rat Program, ensuring its effectiveness and responsiveness to current and emerging pest management challenges throughout the province;

FURTHER BE IT

RESOLVED THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that the Province of Alberta include the creation of a working group composed of members from ASBs, Rural Municipalities of Alberta, AM, AISC, GOA ministries, FNM and adjacent jurisdictions to provide direction and recommendations to the GOA for the modernization of Alberta's Rat Program

SPONSORED BY: ASBPC

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Environment and Protected Areas,
Infrastructure, Transportation and Economic Corridors

RESPONSES

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION:

- A comprehensive review of the Rat Control Program is being considered for summer 2026 to identify modernization opportunities and ensure long-term program sustainability.
- Alberta has operated the Rat Control Program since 1950 with the goal of preventing rats from establishing resident populations within our borders. While rats do occasionally enter the province, “rat-free” means they are detected quickly and eradicated before they can reproduce. Under the *Agricultural Pests Act*, landowners are responsible for controlling rats on their property, while municipalities oversee eradication efforts locally. The province supports this work through coordination, technical expertise, and emergency response when infestations occur.
- A critical component of our prevention efforts is the 600-kilometre Rat Control Zone along Alberta’s eastern border. Municipal and provincial officers conduct routine inspections in this area and implement targeted control measures to ensure Alberta remains rat-free. Every reported sighting is investigated, and more than one rat is considered an infestation requiring immediate action. This coordinated system is recognized internationally and remains foundational to protecting farms, infrastructure, and stored feed supplies across Alberta.
- In 2023, the program was strengthened to address rising pressures on pest-prevention systems. Enhancements included increased funding for bait and equipment, the creation of the Assistant Rat and Pest Specialist position, and support for the Alberta Invasive Species Council’s “Rat on Rats!” public awareness campaign. Since June 2024, the Assistant Specialist proactively inspects recycling and waste-handling facilities – locations that can unintentionally transport rats into the province.
- Alberta’s rat-free status continues to protect rural communities from extensive property damage, contamination and economic losses that other jurisdictions experience as a result of established rat populations.
- Alberta’s success in staying rat-free is a shared success, achieved through the partnership between producers, municipalities and the province. Prompt reporting of sightings, cooperation with inspections and on-farm prevention measures remain vital to maintaining this unique advantage.
- Please continue to report any suspected rat sightings immediately so we can act quickly to protect our farms and communities.

RESPONSE EPA:

Resent request April 30 – no response

RESPONSE TEC:

Regarding PC1-26, Alberta's rat control program is not under the jurisdiction of Transportation and Economic Corridors. However, my colleague the Honourable R.J. Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, will be able to provide a response on this topic.

SUMMARY

Overall Assessment: Partially met (review planned, but key elements not fully addressed)

- Commitment to a program review (AGI)
Agriculture and Irrigation indicates a comprehensive review of the Rat Control Program is being considered for summer 2026, directly aligning with the request for modernization.
- Recognition of program importance and ongoing improvements (AGI)
The response highlights recent enhancements (funding, staffing, inspections, public awareness) and affirms continued commitment to maintaining Alberta's rat-free status.
- Acknowledgement of collaborative model (AGI)
The existing program already involves producers, municipalities, and the province, reflecting some level of multi-stakeholder coordination.

Key Observations

- No commitment to establish a formal working group
The response does not address or commit to creating the requested multi-stakeholder working group (ASBs, RMA, AM, AISC, FNM, etc.), which was a key element of the resolution.
- Review is proposed, not confirmed or scoped
The review is only "being considered", with no defined scope, timeline, or deliverables, limiting confidence in follow-through.
- No response to cross-ministry training/awareness ask
There is no mention of improving awareness among government staff (e.g., inspections, transportation, facilities), which was a specific additional request.

- TEC response does not contribute
Transportation and Economic Corridors indicates the issue falls outside its jurisdiction, providing no substantive input toward the resolution.

Bottom line

The responses partially address the resolution by signaling a potential program review and demonstrating ongoing program strength, but they do not commit to key structural changes (working group, cross-ministry approach, defined modernization plan). The outcome is progress in intent, but limited action on the full scope of the request.

INITIAL GRADE ASBPC

RESPONDED IN PART

ASBPC COMMENTS

The resolution was graded Responded in Part because Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation signaled intent to review the program and recognized its importance but did not commit to the formal collaborative structures or cross-ministry approach requested, and other ministries did not substantively engage with their potential roles.

Keeping the rat free status of Alberta saves every Albertan the added costs associated with rat control which in every other part of Canada is built into the cost of doing business. This is part of the Alberta advantage, and the data is showing that the current Rat Control Zone is effective for the movement of Norway rats from agricultural practices along the eastern border and that confirmed cases of Roof Rats in urban settings are on the rise. Clearly it is a cross ministry effort that is needed to keep the rat free status, and so the letters of request specifically asked that ministries work together to educate and increase awareness of the rat free status, where to report and how to identify rats with staff and the public they work with.

RESOLUTION PC2-26: ON-FARM MEAT PROCESSING

WHEREAS: the On-Farm Slaughter Operation (OFSO) program, introduced in 2020, provides critical opportunities for small-scale livestock producers in Alberta to enhance local food systems, and support economic diversification through direct-to-consumer sales and custom slaughter services for household use;

WHEREAS: regulatory changes implemented on July 2, 2025, including annual slaughter weight limits of approximately 5,000 lbs live weight and restrictions on co-ownership based on animal size, have introduced uncertainty and potential barriers that could reduce viability for small processors by up to 70% in revenue;

WHEREAS: the government's pause on the regulatory changes, following immediate stakeholder concerns about unintended consequences, highlights the program's vulnerability to abrupt policy shifts and the importance of responsive governance in supporting rural agriculture;

WHEREAS: the subsequent online survey and engagement process for OFSO holders and stakeholders, conducted from August 25 to September 22, 2025, aimed to gather input on reducing foodborne illness risks and assessing long-term impacts, but has yet to yield publicly announced outcomes as of December 2025, contributing to ongoing anxiety among small processors;

WHEREAS: the lack of timely updates following the consultation period underscores the need for more transparent and comprehensive evaluations to address persistent red tape, such as stringent licensing prerequisites (e.g., food safety modules, onsite assessments, water testing, zoning compliance, and quarterly reporting), which may disproportionately burden local small processors and hinder their ability to operate efficiently;

WHEREAS: a thorough economic evaluation is essential to quantify the financial impacts of existing barriers and regulatory uncertainties on small processors, including potential revenue losses, investment deterrence, and contributions to Alberta's rural economy, with the explicit goal of streamlining processes, reducing red tape, and fostering sustainable growth in the local meat production sector.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation initiates a comprehensive, transparent, and timely reviews of the On-Farm Slaughter Operation (OFSO) program—including all regulatory changes, licensing requirements, and enforcement measures—be conducted with meaningful stakeholder input, with the aim of minimizing administrative burdens and financial uncertainty for small-scale processors.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation reduce unnecessary red tape and ensure that regulatory policies do not disproportionately hinder small, rural operators and supports long-term viability, economic sustainability, and growth of Alberta's local meat production while simultaneously meeting traceability and safe food safety requirement.

SPONSORED BY: ASBPC

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation,

RESPONSE

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION:

- The OFSO program was introduced in July 2020 to increase access to local meat. All meat resulting from slaughter under an OFSO licence is uninspected. Therefore, this meat cannot be sold, gifted, bartered or otherwise transferred. It must be returned to the owner(s) of the animal for consumption by their households only.
- In 2024, AGI updated OFSO pre-licensing requirements to support operator compliance and increase consumer confidence. The updates require applicants to successfully complete testing requirements for food safety and water potability, as well as participate in a pre-licensing onsite assessment.
- Pre-licensing requirements are foundational food safety and risk-management practices. These requirements are streamlined, low-cost, and designed to prevent far more serious issues that would create real burdens for small producers. They also protect public health, reduce liability for operators and ensure the OFSO program remains credible and sustainable without adding unnecessary administrative steps.
- In July 2025, the Government of Alberta proposed an annual uninspected slaughter limit of 5,000 pounds for new OFSO licences.
- An annual uninspected slaughter limit was proposed in response to complaints that some OFSOs were slaughtering large numbers of animals, creating concerns about food safety, animal welfare and safe disposal of waste. Introducing limit to control growth in uninspected meat was intended to help minimize the risk of foodborne illness outbreaks and maintain Alberta's reputation as a safe source of high-quality meat.
- The implementation of proposed slaughter limits for new OFSO licences was paused to further engage with licence holders who expressed concern about business impacts. During consultation with OFSO licence holders, commodity groups and the Alberta Meat Facilities Association, AGI collected valuable input that will be used to consider potential improvements to the OFSO program.

- Proposed annual slaughter limits would apply only to uninspected on-farm slaughter and meat processing activities – not to meat products available for sale from local inspected slaughter and meat processing operations. Farmers can continue to sell unlimited amounts of local, inspected meat through their farm shops and various other retail locations throughout the province, provided they have the appropriate licence.
- Alberta has 117 provincially licensed and inspected small-scale abattoirs. The Government of Alberta maintains a [Directory of licensed slaughter operations](#) to help customers find a local abattoir that sources animals from Alberta producers.
- AGI is considering ongoing improvements to the OFSO program to support local food security and create opportunities for small farmers while enhancing the safety of Alberta’s meat supply.
- Alberta continually strives to reduce regulatory red tape.

SUMMARY

Overall Assessment: Partially met (engagement and adjustments underway, but no full review or clear red-tape reduction)

- Stakeholder engagement demonstrated
AGI paused proposed slaughter limits and engaged with licence holders and industry groups, indicating meaningful consultation is occurring.
- Ongoing program improvements considered
The ministry notes it is considering improvements to the OFSO program, suggesting openness to modernization.
- Recognition of balancing safety and viability
The response emphasizes maintaining food safety, public confidence, and program credibility, while also supporting local food security and small producers.

Key Observations

- No commitment to a comprehensive, transparent review
There is no clear commitment to a full, formal review of the OFSO program (scope, timeline, or process), which is the primary ask.
- Limited evidence of red tape reduction
While AGI states requirements are “streamlined” and claims ongoing efforts to reduce red tape, no concrete changes or reductions are identified.
- Regulatory approach largely maintained
The response defends current and proposed requirements (e.g., pre-licensing rules, slaughter limits) rather than clearly reducing administrative burden.

- Financial uncertainty concerns not directly addressed
Although consultation occurred, the response does not outline specific measures to reduce cost impacts or financial risk for small operators.

Bottom line

The response shows some responsiveness through consultation and willingness to adjust proposals but does not commit to the comprehensive review or meaningful regulatory relief requested, resulting in a partially met outcome with modest progress but limited structural change.

INITIAL GRADE ASBPC

RESPONDED

ASBPC COMMENTS

The resolution was graded Responded because the ministry directly addressed the issues raised, outlined current policy and consultation efforts, and explained its reasoning, despite not committing to the level of red tape reduction or structural change that some committee members would prefer.

RESOLUTION PC4-26: URGENT REFORMS TO CFIA AND PMRA

WHEREAS: during a meeting with the Alberta Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, it was noted that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) are not legally enabled to respond to feedback from Canadians, leading to a lack of accountability in their decision-making processes;

WHEREAS: provincial discussions are underway regarding the potential relocation of CFIA and PMRA from Health Canada back to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to better align with agricultural needs and improve responsiveness;

WHEREAS: verifiable case studies from Agricultural Service Boards (ASBs), including examples from poultry and cervid sectors, demonstrate how CFIA's delays in depopulation decisions cause significant business disruptions, increased anxiety among farmers and workers, and animal welfare concerns without consideration for practical on-farm impacts;

WHEREAS: the Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT) Working Group on Pesticides Management report explicitly states that PMRA is not legally able to respond to industry feedback, and there are recommendations under discussion at the FPT level for improving CFIA operations;

WHEREAS: in the beekeeper sector, independent peer reviews of CFIA risk assessments revealed biases that were disregarded as "out of scope," while paradoxical policies allow imports of diseased bees from jurisdictions like Italy, New Zealand, and Australia, but restrict disease-free imports from the United States, highlighting the need for mechanisms to address industry concerns and ensure practical, evidence-based mandates;

WHEREAS: a thorough economic evaluation is essential to quantify the financial impacts of existing barriers and regulatory uncertainties on small processors, including potential revenue losses, investment deterrence, and contributions to Alberta's rural economy, with the explicit goal of streamlining processes, reducing red tape, and fostering sustainable growth in the local meat production sector.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That the Government of Canada to urgently implement changes to the mandates, processes, and accountability structures of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), including enabling legal authority to meaningfully consider and respond to feedback from industry stakeholders and Canadians;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that the Government of Canada immediately move CFIA and PMRA from Health Canada back under Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to restore alignment with agriculture and improve responsiveness, and that both agencies be legally required to factor in practical on-farm realities, business disruptions, animal welfare, and scientific evidence when making decisions.

SPONSORED BY: ASBPC

STATUS: Provincial, Federal

DEPARTMENT: Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada,
Health Canada, Prime Minister's Office

RESPONSES

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION:

- The Government of Alberta will continue to advocate to the federal government for policy decisions and actions to consider the economic and regional impact to agriculture. Alberta's commitment to agriculture first does not stop at the provincial border.
- The province has long been advocating for improvements to processes and accountability structures of both the CFIA and the PMRA, including for the transfer of the CFIA and PMRA back under Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.
- Ensuring PMRA and CFIA regulatory decisions are transparent, responsive, and aligned with the needs of those they impact; for example, pushing PMRA to consider economic risk assessments when making decisions on the continuity of vital chemicals to the agricultural industry.
- This is an ongoing effort that we continue to push at meetings between the [Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers of Agriculture](#). As a result of Alberta's, and other provinces advocacy, the CFIA is currently under a [regulatory red tape reduction review](#) which is in progress.

RESPONSE AAFC:

No response

RESPONSE HEALTH CANADA:

No response

RESPONSE PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE:

No response

SUMMARY

Overall Assessment: Partially met (strong advocacy alignment, but no direct authority or confirmed outcomes)

- Active provincial advocacy to federal government
Alberta confirms it is actively advocating for changes to CFIA and PMRA mandates, processes, and accountability, aligning directly with the resolution's first clause.
- Support for structural change (agency alignment)
The province explicitly supports moving CFIA and PMRA back under Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, consistent with the resolution request.

Key Observations

- Push for more responsive, practical decision-making
Alberta is advocating for greater transparency, responsiveness, and inclusion of economic impacts and agricultural realities in regulatory decisions.
- Evidence of ongoing national-level engagement
The issue is being raised through federal–provincial–territorial minister meetings, and some progress is noted (e.g., CFIA red tape reduction review underway).
- No direct federal commitment or outcome achieved
The response reflects advocacy only—no confirmation that the federal government will implement the requested reforms.
- Limited detail on stakeholder accountability mechanisms
While broader improvements are supported, there is no clear commitment to legal or structural changes ensuring stakeholder input is formally required.
- No timeline or defined reform process
Actions remain ongoing and undefined, with no clear roadmap for achieving the requested changes.

Bottom line

The response shows strong alignment in intent and advocacy, including support for major structural changes and improved regulatory responsiveness. However, because authority rests with the federal government and no concrete reforms are confirmed, the resolution is partially met—good alignment, but limited tangible results to date.

INITIAL GRADE ASBPC

RESPONDED IN PART

ASBPC COMMENTS

The resolution was graded Responded in Part because Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation showed strong alignment and active advocacy on the requested reforms, but the federal decision-makers did not respond directly and no concrete federal commitments or implemented reforms matching the resolution's full scope were confirmed.

RESOLUTION E1-26: VACANT BIOLOGICAL CONTROL SCIENTIST POSITION

WHEREAS: In 2008 the Canadian Food Inspection Agency estimates the economic cost of invasive plant species in Canada is \$2.2 billion annually.¹

WHEREAS: In 2022 the Alberta Invasive Species Council updated estimated the cost of invasive species to Albertans at \$2.1billion annually.²

WHEREAS: Biological control is a critical tool for managing established invasive plants, particularly in natural landscapes or where chemical and mechanical controls are impractical, cost-prohibitive, or ineffective.

WHEREAS: The Lethbridge Research and Development Centre houses a state-of-the-art quarantine facility specifically designed for rearing and evaluating biocontrol agents.

WHEREAS: The recent retirement of the Weed Biological Control Entomologist Research Scientist, working at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Lethbridge Research and Development Centre has left this pivotal position vacant, halting Canada's capacity to evaluate and approve new weed biological control agents.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

That Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to immediately fill the vacant Research Scientist - Weed Biological Control position at the AAFC Lethbridge Research and Development Centre, to restore Canada's critical capacity for biocontrol research and protect producers and land managers from the impacts of invasive species.

SPONSORED BY: Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66

STATUS: Provincial

DEPARTMENT: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

RESPONSE

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA:

No response

SUMMARY

- Coordinate a letter writing campaign to MPs and Federal/provincial government about this concern. Letters to the staffing decision makers as well.

INITIAL GRADE ASBPC

NO RESPONSE

ASBPC COMMENTS

The resolution was graded No Response because no written reply was received from the responsible federal body, and the committee does not yet have any official information on the status of the position. Further discussion on who to engage with further given the current work being done and the recommendations from the Standing Committee on Agriculture to halt and reverse the planned shutdowns, recognizing that many of the research staff have opted to leave the centres so there maybe an opportunity to fill a position.

RESOLUTION E2-26: LIVESTOCK TRACEABILITY UPDATE CONCERNS

WHEREAS: the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has proposed amendments to Part XV of the Health of Animals Regulations (Identification and Traceability) to expand species coverage, require enhanced movement reporting, premises identification, and digitized record-keeping;

WHEREAS: the stated objective of these amendments is improved disease control and outbreak response, yet significant concerns remain regarding increased workload, cost, and on-farm practicality, particularly in the absence of a clearly defined gap in the existing system;

WHEREAS: Canada's 59 beef trading partners, including the United States, have not raised concerns regarding Canada's traceability system that would threaten market access;

WHEREAS: CFIA engagement on traceability has occurred intermittently since 2013, but formal public input was limited to a 90-day consultation in 2023, generating only 778 submissions nationwide, and the finalization of the regulations has since been paused (as of January 10, 2026) to address stakeholder concerns;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

THAT THE ALBERTA AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARDS REQUEST:

The Government of Canada, specifically the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, and the Government of Alberta suspend the implementation of additional mandatory livestock traceability regulations under Part XV for a minimum three years, and until a comprehensive risk assessment is completed that fully evaluates the impacts on small-scale and mixed farming operations, as well as the broader downstream effects on rural communities.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED

THAT THE ALBERTA AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARDS REQUEST:

The Government of Canada, specifically the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, and the Government of Alberta maintain the pause on the proposed Part XV amendments until regionally representative consultations are completed and producer feedback is incorporated into any revised regulatory framework.

SPONSORED BY: County of Stettler No. 6

DEPARTMENTS: Alberta Agriculture & Irrigation; Alberta Public Safety & Emergency Services, Alberta Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction, AAFC, CFIA, Prairies Economic Development Canada, and Public Health Agency of Canada.

RESPONSES

RESPONSE ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION:

Resolution E2-26: Livestock Traceability Update Concerns

- Due to the deep concerns shared with me by livestock producers and the overall industry, I felt it was necessary to request an immediate pause to the current suite of changes. On January 9, 2026, I also released a [statement](#) asking the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to take the necessary steps to engage the industry and ensure the changes will not continue to set the industry up for failure and further erode the ability for the Alberta beef industry to compete on the global stage.
- On January 10, 2026, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) confirmed it will pause the publication of traceability regulations to better hear and consider producer concerns.
- While the Government of Alberta supports the importance of maintaining strong export markets and a trusted traceability system, it is essential that federal regulatory changes are practical and supports producers' competitiveness.
- Alberta government remains committed to enhancing traceability outcomes without imposing an undue administrative burden on producers. We will continue to work constructively with our federal partners and industry leaders to find practical solutions that support the long-term success and competitiveness of Alberta's beef industry.
- Agriculture and Irrigation will continue working with industry groups and representative organizations to understand the diverse perspectives of producers.

RESPONSE ALBERTA PUBLIC SAFETY & EMERGENCY SERVICES:

No response

RESPONSE SERVICE ALBERTA AND RED TAPE REDUCTION:

No response

RESPONSE AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA:

No response

RESPONSE CANDIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY:

No response

RESPONSE PRAIRIES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CANADA:

No response

RESPONSE PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA:

No response

FURTHER RESPONSE REQUESTED TO ABP AND CCA:

The ASB Provincial Committee reached out to the Canadian Cattle Association and the Alberta Beef Producers to inquire what actions that they taken and any responses they may have received to their similar resolutions.

ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS RESPONSE:

From Mark Lyseng <MarkL@AlbertaBeef.org>

Date Tue 5/5/2026 9:46 AM

To ASBPC Executive <ASBPC_EA@agriculturalserviceboards.com>

Hi Linda,

Hope all is well.

Through our recent producer meetings, we received a range of resolutions related to traceability. These reflected a variety of perspectives, with differing levels of alignment and detail.

The delegate body determined that these would benefit from further review, and as such, they have been referred to a working group to assess and help inform a path forward. That group is currently being established.

I'll keep you updated as things progress.

Here is the resolution:

Whereas the CFIA has proposed several new regulations and amendments to Animal Traceability in Canada.

Whereas statements have come forward with concerns which included but were not limited to issues around the new regulations, concerns over CFIA, its mandate, enforcement and overreach

Whereas Alberta Beef Producer's mandate is to represent all Alberta beef producers, from smaller or ""lifestyle"" producers who pay-check off to multi-million dollar operations.

Whereas Alberta Beef Producers has an existing policy (Section 24) regarding traceability.

Be it Resolved

Alberta Beef Producers defer all passed resolutions regarding traceability to the Board so that a working committee can be created to better understand producers concerns around the new regulations, investigate the value of animal movement traceability and clarify the CFIA's role and past actions to ensure that ABP policy aligns with the majority of Alberta producers' desired outcomes.

That Alberta Beef Producers requests that CFIA pause implementing or publishing any new regulations until the outcomes of the working group have been presented to the ABP board and communicated through its national partners.

Regards,
Mark Lyseng
Government Relations & Policy, Lead
www.albertabeef.org

CANADIAN CATTLE ASSOCIATION:

NO RESPONSE

SUMMARY

Overall assessment: Partially met (pause achieved, but limited on timelines, analysis, and formal consultation framework)

- **Pause on regulatory implementation achieved (AGI)**
Alberta requested a pause, and CFIA confirmed it would pause publication of the traceability regulations—directly aligning with the core ask to halt implementation.
- **Advocacy for producer concerns and consultation (AGI & ABP)**
Both AGI and ABP emphasize the need to hear producer concerns and engage stakeholders before moving forward.
- **Recognition of impacts on producers**
AGI acknowledges the importance of ensuring regulations are practical and do not undermine competitiveness, while ABP highlights diverse producer concerns requiring further review.
- **Industry-led review process initiated (ABP)**
ABP is forming a working group to assess traceability concerns, which supports the resolution’s intent for further analysis and stakeholder input.
- **Alignment on maintaining pause until further work is done (ABP)**
ABP explicitly supports pausing new regulations until their review is complete, reinforcing the resolution’s second clause.

Key Observations

- **No commitment to a defined 3-year suspension (AGI)**
While a pause exists, there is no commitment to a minimum three-year suspension, which was explicitly requested.

- No comprehensive risk assessment framework identified
Neither response commits to a formal, comprehensive risk assessment evaluating impacts on small or mixed operations and rural communities.
- Consultation process not clearly defined or guaranteed
Engagement is mentioned, but there is no structured, regionally representative consultation plan or assurance that feedback will be formally incorporated.
- Unclear long-term regulatory direction
AGI signals continued work with federal and industry partners but does not define what a revised framework will look like or how concerns will change outcomes.

Bottom line

The responses successfully achieved a pause and demonstrate alignment on the need for consultation and further review, particularly with ABP initiating an internal working group. However, they do not fully meet the resolution’s key requirements—specifically a guaranteed multi-year suspension, a formal risk assessment, and a clearly defined consultation and revision process—resulting in a partially met outcome with meaningful progress but incomplete follow-through.

INITIAL GRADE ASBPC

RESPONDED IN PART

ASBPC COMMENTS

The resolution was graded Responded in Part because Alberta and industry organizations have acknowledged concerns, achieved a pause in implementation, and initiated further work, but there has been no federal response confirming the longer-term suspension, risk assessment, or specific revised framework requested in the resolution.

Alberta Beef Producers committed to keeping the ASBPC in the loop on the actions they are taking, and there was a decision to reach out to the other commodities that are impacted by the traceability discussion (sheep and goats) for a more comprehensive understanding of the situation.

May 29, 2026

ASBPC 2026 Strategic Planning Survey Open June 1-15

The Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee is beginning a strategic planning process in 2026 and is seeking input from ASB members, municipal councillors, Agricultural Fieldmen/AAAF members, GOA ASB Program staff, RMA, and related stakeholders.

The survey is intended to gather individual perspectives on the role of ASBs, the role of ASBPC, ASB and municipal council alignment, communication, and opportunities to strengthen collaboration across Alberta's ASB system.

The survey is not a vote and is not intended to create formal municipal or ASB positions. Results will be summarized for ASBPC by June 30 and will help inform an in-person strategic planning session planned for July or August 2026.

Survey link: [ASBPC 2026 Strategic Planning Survey – Fill out form](#)



On behalf of the Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Hunt".

Linda Hunt, PAg.

Resolution grading

How to Use:

1. Use dropdown menu to insert name of municipality in Box A24 (green) - Regions are at the bottom o
2. Use dropdown menu in column D to grade each resolution
3. Use the dropdown menu in column E if you would like to suggest a specific action be taken
3. Add comments that can assist the Committee in assigning final grade can be added to Column F
4. Submit completed **EXCEL spreadsheet** by **June 30** to Linda Hunt, Executive Assistant to the ASB Provi

Definitions:

Responded

The response addresses the request in the resolution. ASBs are encouraged to comment with their opin

Responded in Part

The response addressess some of the resolution, but does not address the full request. ASBs are encour

Did Not Address the Resolution

The response does not address the request, and requires further engagement to clarify the request.
Follow up is required to solicit information for the Provincial ASB Committee to make an inform

No Response

Municipality	Region	Resolution Number	Resolution Name
		1-26	EMERGENCY REGISTRATION OF 2% LIQUID STRYCHNINE FOR RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL (RGS) CONTROL
		2-26	EXEMPTION OF AGRICULTURE EQUIPMENT FROM CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1999 EMISSION LIMITS
		4-26	RURAL WATER DISTRIBUTION AND CONNECTIVITY FUNDING
		PC1-26	MODERNIZING ALBERTA'S RAT CONTROL PROGRAM
		PC2-26	ON-FARM MEAT PROCESSING
		PC4-26	URGENT REFORMS TO CFIA AND PMRA
		E1-26	VACANT BIOLOGICAL CONTROL SCIENTIST POSITION
		E2-26	LIVESTOCK TRACEABILITY UPDATE CONCERNS