

Community Garden Policy and Procedure

- Council approved the County's amended Community Garden Policy and Procedure.
- The County's Community Garden is located at Alexander Hamilton Park in Lac La Biche. The current site consists of 40 plots open free of charge to County residents and community groups, as well as a water tank, composting bins and waste receptacles for gardeners' use.
- The major update to the Community Garden Policy allows for gardeners from previous years to retain the same plot year after year if they prefer.

Control of Clubroot Disease Policy and Procedure

- Council approved the County's amended Control of Clubroot Disease Policy and Procedure.
- Clubroot is a soil-borne disease of canola, mustard and other crops in the cabbage family that can significantly reduce crop yield and quality and can even destroy a crop if infestation levels are high.
- Clubroot is spread by farm machinery and vehicles, seed contamination and wind and water erosion and has the potential to spread quickly.
- The Alberta Clubroot Management Plan was developed by the Government of Alberta and requires that Clubroot control is implemented and enforced by individual municipalities.
- The County's Control of Clubroot Disease Policy and Procedure was developed to reflect the requirements of the Alberta Clubroot Management Plan. The policy and procedure were scheduled for review and revision and Administration presented the updated documents for Council's review.
- Some updates include:
 - Inspections will take place annually in August.
 - Boot covers will be changed, or disinfectant applied to footwear upon entry at every new field.
 - The County will notify the producer immediately if Clubroot is detected and make every effort to work with the producer to mitigate the infestation.
 - Fields that are tested and shown to have a low incidence of Clubroot disease (i.e. one positive test out of 10 samples taken in the field) will be prohibited from hosting canola or other susceptible crops for three subsequent years and will be required to plant a Clubroot-resistant variety in the fourth year.
 - Fields that are tested and shown to have a moderate to high incidence of Clubroot disease (two or more positive tests out of 10 samples) will be prohibited from hosting canola or other susceptible crops for five subsequent years and must plant a Clubroot resistant variety in the sixth year.

Regular Council Meeting
May 26, 2015

- If the producer does not follow the policy and procedure after notification has been given, a notice will be issued through the Government of Alberta and the Alberta Pest Act and the crop will be destroyed.
- The County's Agricultural Services staff surveyed fields in every township in the municipality with canola or other Clubroot-susceptible crops and have found no evidence of Clubroot thus far.

Constituent/Councillor Meetings

- Councillor Olson expressed the desire to hold an open house in his ward to meet with constituents to hear their input on County issues, programs and services.
- Council as a whole agreed that periodic open houses would be useful for all wards.
- Council directed Administration to bring forward a draft Policy and budget amendment for these proposed open house meetings to a future Council meeting.

Lac La Biche County Libraries Change in Grant Amount

- Council approved an increase of \$6,667 in funding for the Lac La Biche County Library board to allow for a 2.57 per cent cost of living wage increase for all employees below management level.

Summer Recess

- Council approved a summer recess for the month of August. The Regular Council, Policy and Priorities Committee and Public Works Committee meetings from August 1 to August 31, 2015 have been cancelled.
- Council will reconvene on September 1, 2015.