

M.D. Not Looking to Place Dam on Sheep River

Written by Dan Bascombe

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An M.D. of Foothills councillor is hoping to quell rumours about building a dam on the Sheep River.

Suzanne Oel and other councillors took part in an excursion west of Okotoks in June.

She says many residents have asked her if her the excursion was to look at prospective areas for a dam.

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"It was an investigation of opportunities," she says.

"It's not something where we see a nice spot and say "Oh let's put it here". We can't do that because it creates fear and worry and concerns."

Oel explains that there is a huge infrastructure in the west of Calgary supplying the city with water but saying a dam will be put up on the Sheep River is an "unwise statement."

"A number of [councillors] are on a lot of different water committees so its not something we are going to jump into quickly or lightly. We have our own water studies going on right now which are really important and the impact of those studies are vital for finding opportunities," says Oel.

Oel adds that building a dam would not be something the M.D. would jump into without a public inquiry and study.