

Dear Residents,

Seeking Re-Election

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that I intend to seek re-election as your Division 4 representative for the M.D. of Foothills in the upcoming October 2017 Municipal Election. Over the past 7 years, I have enjoyed getting to know many of you as we have worked together to find solutions to challenges and worked on opportunities to make our community a great place to live. With the knowledge I have gained and in partnership with you, I would like to continue working hard for you on the many projects currently underway and the new ones that will emerge.

Priorities

I hope to serve you in the next term and work with you on these projects, initiatives and ideas:

- Have on-going interaction (work, support, meetings) with residents, community associations, businesses, school divisions, provincial & federal departments & representatives.
- Make planning decisions on developing our area in knowledge of resources, sustainability, cost to tax payers, considering groundwater - surface water - air, wildlife corridors, dark skies, recognizing the cumulative effects of all our activities on the landscape, respecting and including resident input and direction given through our Growth Management Strategy, Municipal Development Plan and provincial South Saskatchewan Regional Plan.
- Continue fighting for our rural perspective to be heard and included by all levels of government, to create rural strategies and opportunities.
- Build our community vision of recreation facilities and playing field projects; Dive into details with you on the Priddis Community Association and NW Foothills Rec building plans and other community ideas.
- Continue lobbying for the best possible service to residents for 911 call answer, EMS & Fire dispatch coordination; Please visit: FixRural911.com
- Represent our municipality well and build regional relationships for the best outcome in the new Growth Management Board mandated by the province; Collaborate on developing planning frameworks with all our neighbours, planning regional services, establishing a development plan and determining the influence of operations of the board and impact to our municipality.
- Continue to research, create relationships and bring in options to residents for improving rural internet service; Partake in federal/provincial grant opportunities and strategies when they roll out.
- Work on next steps with our Foothills Regional Water and Wastewater Collaborative and Highwood Management Plan Advisory Committee to create a Source Water Protection Plan for all our sub-regional communities in the Foothills watersheds, including the Bow, Sheep and Highwood river tributaries in our backyards.
- Continue to investigate feasibility of piped potable water to our NW communities; Look at efficiencies of combining Hwy 762 area and Hwy 22 concepts and find grant opportunities if there is enough interest to move forward.
- Investigate secondary suites; Have a dialogue with you and institute this if you support it.
- Continue to support our residents to receive flood protection as recommended by our studies; Continue with flood intelligent development from lessons learned.
- Work with our Ag Services, emergency planning staff, partner agencies, municipal neighbours and province to assess regional strategies and emergency planning related to flooding or other disasters; Support the initiative to devise an animal strategy for the M.D. of Foothills and communicate with residents on this.

- Continue working on road safety issues related to speed, events, cycling, increasing traffic, lobbying for needed infrastructure upgrades, etc.
- Work together in our region to create an Inland Port Strategy; Bring in fiber, servicing and strategies to attract commercial and industrial development to our Hwy 2A Industrial corridor to enhance services, create jobs and trade opportunities, and hopefully lead to a reduction in residential taxes.
- Continue awareness, communication and education on: crime prevention, hunting issues, wildlife conflict management, agriculture and rural landowner issues, including organizing animal safety, water well and wastewater workshops.
- Work on a “Dark Sky Country” awareness campaign to draw attention to the effects of light pollution and to protect the operation of the Rothney Astrophysical Observatory, the Cross Conservation Area Dark Sky Preserve, and viewing the stars at night as part of the enjoyment of country living.
- Continue Beaver Management Techniques with the goal to find solutions to reduce conflicts, save money on infrastructure repair and maintenance, and look at creative alternatives and damage prevention strategies.
- Audit and improve energy efficiencies in municipal operations, prepare for landowners and businesses who want to bring alternative energy and emerging technologies into practice, including strategies for grey water (once provincial policy is developed), wastewater, waste diversion of recyclables and compost materials to reduce waste going to our landfill, etc.
- Research and support developing a Horse Industry Strategy for the M.D of Foothills.
- Continue serving on numerous Boards and Committees – more details available on my website.

Staying in touch

As we face a changing world, I hope to continue working together with you to find creative solutions and support our community to enhance and protect our beautiful home in the Foothills. I welcome continued interaction with you on the topics which matter to you. You can receive my update communications in the High Country News or by email. To contact me, to read previous newsletters, or obtain more information, please visit my website: <http://www.suzanneoel.com/>

All the Best, ☺ Suzanne