

Feb. 2013 News & Information Message

From M.D. of Foothills Councillor Suzanne Oel, Feb. 10, 2013

Dear Residents,

This newsletter is intended to give you an update on current issues or projects I am working on, which are supported on my website <http://suzanneoel.com/> with links to documents or information:

- **Road Safety Meeting:** In December, I set up and facilitated a meeting which represented road users, enforcement and our neighbouring municipalities. The idea was to discuss the pressures on the roads to accommodate many users, events and the subsequent safety issues. The resulting dialogue was worth the effort. Please see a [summary of my notes](#) (on my website) for the ideas which came forward.
- Check out the first annual **Alberta Economic Summit**, held Feb. 9, 2013. See my website for the link or go to AB Gov. website and click on the Participant Guide, videos, etc.
- New **511** serves Alberta starting Feb. 2013 – phone and website gives road condition & weather reports. See link on website.
- Our lobbying has resulted in Gov. AB plans to legislate **Cell Phone Fees to support 911 Call Centres**. See link on website.
- We continue to work on regional water solutions and will be participating in the provincial **Water Conversation: Our Water, Our Future**. See link and numerous related documents.
- Notice of: **High Country Rural Crime Watch Association** AGM on Feb. 26, 7pm at Millarville Racetrack Hall.
- **Food for Thought** – a video production highlighting our Natural Capital & agriculture potential will be presented at Action for Agriculture's AGM on Friday, Feb. 15, 1pm at Cochrane RanchoHouse, with media and landowner discussion. See link.
- **Property Rights Advocate Office** opens in Lethbridge to support landowners with concerns, Feb. 2013. See link.
- **NW Recreation** update – We have secured land for our recreation site to serve Divisions 3, 4 and 5. The land is located next to the Millarville Racing & Ag Society. With input from our Rec. board and community, our next step is to plan the site and begin work on the outdoor fields.
- **Fish Creek Ranch Water** update – FCR Truck Fill is now up and running. We have supported this operation to provide the Foothills NW with a water source for existing residences where water is a challenge due to quality or quantity, as well as a source for Fire-fighting water recharge in case of emergency.
- News from Alberta Transportation AAMDC meeting – the **Priddis Bridge file** was to be designed as of Dec. 2012. We have prioritized this project in our requests from AT.
- **At the Intersection:** The Case for Sustained and Strategic Public Infrastructure Investment – check out this report by the Canada West Foundation, Feb. 2013. See link.
- **Calgary Ring Road** – in recent conversations with Alberta Transportation (November) and Premier Redford (Feb. 1), I understand that they are pleased with progress and are working well with the new Chief from Tsuu Tina Nation. No specific details at this time.
- **Calgary Regional Partnership** update – Premier Redford made comments (Feb. 1 during a meeting with Foothills Council) that she sees other possibilities alternative to forcing Foothills into the Calgary Metropolitan Plan, that an agreeable solution will be found. See link.
- **Foothills Mediation Society** is up and running. Should you need assistance on challenging matters, for more information please call: 403.982.1400
- **Wildfire Season** is upon us, starting in March. Please see links which remind us why we need to be safe with fire.
- Status of our Foothills **Land Use Bylaws** – our review is currently in process. Our next step will be to bring a draft version out to you (public consultation) for your input, probably in the Fall of 2013.

- Status of our Foothills **Growth Management Strategy: Our Foothills Our Future** – Building on our past, a vision forward draft plan is in process. The draft will now go out to you (public consultation) for your input, within the next few months.

- **Chipseal Road Program** proposed surface repairs for the NW for 2013 – Should all go as planned, we will be working on the west end of Plummers Road, Priddis Valley Road (224th Street W.) north from Hwy 22X, 240 Street W (north from Plummers Road) and Parkins Road (off Hwy 762).

Please see my website for further topics and links as mentioned: <http://suzanneoel.com/>

Best Regards,

Suzanne Oel
Councillor Div. 4
M.D. of Foothills