

## Village of Hay Lakes Municipal Sustainability Plan:

Within the Province of Alberta there are approximately 100 villages where the population is between 300 and 1000 residents. Growth and Survival of these villages has become a major concern at all levels of government. Regional plans need to be developed with good and logical long term plans to address core areas to enhance the rural way of life.

Villages like Hay Lakes need to set a plan in place to support the requirements of the residents and to influence and guide municipal governments. It is not possible for local government to understand and develop all the needs within the community. Hay Lakes is a hub for rural residents and within the plan you will see the strength of the rural community groups.

Throughout this process council members have seen the requirements to develop this plan to assess all the important key elements of the plan and to use resources within and without the region to provide for future generations. Small communities have deep roots to previous generations and events that shaped the Province of Alberta.

This plan will be the outline for current and future communities' leaders to audit the progress of the community development plan and shape the future meeting the needs of the rural and urban residents

### Outline:

- Overview of the Village: Features and Benefits
- Outline of Municipal Sustainability Plan (MSP)
- Schedules MSP:

Environment

Governance

Economy

Social

Culture

## The Village of Hay Lakes

Located in an easy drive to large centers like Camrose, Edmonton, Sherwood Park, Leduc, Nisku and Wetaskiwin the Village of Hay Lakes has a great and viable future. Without employment the growth of the Village seems unlikely. The nearness and the current programs in the village make this town an oasis from the urban congestion and sound. Quiet peacefully streets with the sounds of children playing at the playground, Skate Park, school, sports grounds or the skating rink. Safe streets for our children as a small community have the need to know their neighbors. In the Camrose County this small urban center is one of very few villages that is growing and that makes the opportunity even more appealing to life in a quiet community.

Like most small villages growth is not well planned, councils make decisions based on good intellect, experience, and financial resources. Today these decisions are much more difficult. Municipal Councilors need to develop long and short plans to meet or exceed the communities' requirements and then align these thoughts with the community groups and services. The Village of Hay Lakes has a very strong history of community involvement but in the past 5 years we have lost that community momentum. This plan will help us to move forward to provide current and new residents the programs and services it needs so we can maximize our current facilities.

## Municipal Planning Profile

Future councils can use this plan as the reference guide as they enter public service with little past knowledge of the Villages needs and direction. To develop this plan we had to involve all stakeholders including residents, rural residents and community leaders. Supported by Camrose County Sustainability Coordinator the Village held two public information sessions, following the first session these visions were created by the comments at the public sessions.

Vision 1: We support our growing local economy.

Vision 2: We live in a unified, inclusive community where all residents can recognize their full potential.

Vision 3: We respect and promote our natural environment.

Vision 4: We strive for sustainable population growth.

Vision 5: Strong dynamic leaders guide us into the future.

Vision 6: All of us contribute so we can reach our dreams together.

The Village of Hay Lakes MSP includes current assessments, short and long term plans to address the stakeholder's requirements. This workbook will help us to provide better financial plans, clear communications and a better future, a better sustainable future.