



## FOOTHILLS COUNTY

309 Macleod Trail, Box 5605  
High River, Alberta T1V 1M7  
Tel: 403-652-2341 Fax: 403-652-7880  
[www.mdfoothills.com](http://www.mdfoothills.com)

November 9, 2021

«AddressBlock»

«ATSLEGAL» «ATSPBL»

Dear Land Owner,

### **RE: Phase I - Lower Highwood Flood Risk Mitigation Program**

We would like to take an opportunity to update the affected landowners of the progress on the Phase I Lower Highwood Flood Risk Mitigation Program. Phase I of the program contemplates offering buyouts at market value to landowners along the Highwood River with residences that are predicted to be negatively impacted by the mitigation constructed to protect the Town of High River. Eleven properties were identified and ranked according to the amount of impact that is predicted due to the mitigation in the Town.

We received what was framed as a first instalment of funding from the Government of Alberta in spring of 2019. With those funds we were able to complete the purchase of the two properties that were ranked highest on the list of affected properties. Remediation of both properties is underway and will be finalized by year end.

In December 2020 Foothills County made a second application for the anticipated next round of funding for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. As with our previous application for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, our request was denied due to provincial budget constraints. As before, we were encouraged to continue working with staff from AEP along with our municipal partners to explore opportunities to leverage existing funding to its most effective use and to utilize all alternative funding streams as well as surplus from other grants.

Consultation with AEP and our municipal partners has highlighted an opportunity in the form of a possible surplus from other local grants. The amount of the possible surplus can not be quantified at this time, but we are optimistic that it will enable us to complete a significant portion of the remainder of Phase I. Confirmation and release of the surplus value would likely not be made for some time due to unresolved issues with the projects to which the funds were originally dedicated. We will notify all landowners within Phase I of any developments as they unfold.

The funding of this program remains a high a priority for Foothills County and we are hopeful that this new opportunity will come to fruition. In the meantime, we will continue to apply for funding with AEP to ensure that it also remains a priority for the Province.

The County website [www.mdfoothills.com](http://www.mdfoothills.com) has a page dedicated to this program. It can be found under the services tab and is called: Flood Mitigation Program for the Lower Highwood. On this page you will find a link to a detailed chronology which provides a very good overview of the work done to date on this project.

Should you have any questions regarding this update please direct them to Donna Fowler at [Donna.Fowler@FoothillsCountyAB.ca](mailto:Donna.Fowler@FoothillsCountyAB.ca).



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Yours truly,

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