



## 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

ADDRESS

Dear Land Owner,

**RE: Phase 2 - Lower Highwood Flood Risk Mitigation Program**

Foothills County would like to take an opportunity to update landowners on the current state of the Lower Highwood Grant Program.

After the major flood event of 2013, extensive mitigation measures were constructed in the vicinity of the Town of High River to protect the Town from future flood events. This mitigation, while needed, has created a negative impact on landowners in Foothills County downstream from the Town along the Highwood River.

As your property is situated along the Highwood River downstream of High River it is one of many that are affected by the mitigation works.

After several years of working with staff from Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP), Foothills County submitted a proposal for Phase 1 of the Lower Highwood Flood Mitigation Program to AEP in January of 2018. Phase 1 of the program contemplates buyouts of properties on the Highwood with residences predicted to be impacted by mitigation constructed to protect the Town. Phase 2, which will be submitted subsequent to the completion of Phase 1, will address mitigation or compensation for non-residential parcels and bare land that are predicted to be impacted. Your property is potentially part of the proposed Phase 2 Program.

Phase 1 was approved by AEP in 2018 and we received an initial installment of \$2,000,000. To date, due to Provincial budgeting constraints, we have not received any further installments of funds required to complete Phase 1 of the Program. With direction and support from AEP, the County is working with its municipal partners to leverage existing funds from current grants to help ease the shortfall until Provincial funds become available. As these funds would only become accessible at the completion of other approved projects, we do not currently have a timeline for their release.

The funding of both phases 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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