



Diana McQueen, MLA
Drayton Valley – Calmar
Parliamentary Assistant to the Environment
620 Legislature Annex
9718 – 107 Street
Edmonton, AB, T5K 1E4



County of Wetaskiwin No. 10

Box 6960
Wetaskiwin, AB, T9A 2G5

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

May 13, 2009

Provincial Grant Funding Approved for the Pigeon Lake Regional Wastewater System Pre-design

County of Wetaskiwin Reeve Garry Dearing is pleased to advise that the “Pigeon Lake Wastewater Planning Committee will receive cost-shared grant funding from the Province under the Water for Life Strategy for the Pigeon Lake Regional Wastewater System Pre-design.”

A recent announcement from The Honorable Luke Ouellette, Minister of Transportation, advises that grant funding in the amount of \$287,280 has been authorized as part of the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership. This is 90% of the \$319,203 funds required for the pre-design and the remaining 10% will be provided by the planning committee.

The Honorable Luke Ouellette said, “The Committee can now start preparing the necessary design of the recommended solution to collect and treat the wastewater generated around the lake thereby reducing the environmental risk to this natural resource”.

Diana McQueen, MLA for Drayton Valley - Calmar commented on this announcement: “I am happy that the Minister of Transportation, the Honorable Luke Ouellette, has provided the funding for the preliminary engineering for the Pigeon Lake Regional Wastewater System Pre-Design. This is indeed a very important project for the constituency of Drayton Valley – Calmar, and I look forward to this project moving forward.”

“The Pigeon Lake Regional Wastewater Planning Committee, consisting of the Counties of Leduc and Wetaskiwin, Summer Villages of Crystal Springs, Norris Beach, Poplar Bay, Ma-Me-O Beach, Sundance Beach and Grandview and the North East Pigeon Lake Regional Services Commission, has been working diligently over the past several years to identify a solution to the wastewater environmental concerns around Pigeon Lake” states Roger MacEachern, Chair of the Pigeon Lake Regional Wastewater Planning Committee.

For further information contact Adam Tittlemore with the County of Wetaskiwin at 780-352-3321 or atittlemore@county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca, or Roger MacEachern, Chair, Pigeon Lake Regional Wastewater Planning Committee at (780) 586-2423.

Background

The funding to conduct an Engineering Pre-Design is based on Option one of the previously commissioned Wastewater Study. The initial study, conducted by Associated Engineering was titled *The Pigeon Lake Wastewater Strategy and Master Plan Study*. That document analyzed all possible options for a regional wastewater system around Pigeon Lake, taking into account current flow rates, and included public consultations. The result of the study was the recommendation to move forward with “Option One” of the study, which calls for a two part regional line discharging into the existing Mulhurst Lagoon. The first part of the line goes north from the lagoon, servicing the Summer Village of Sundance as well as subdivisions surrounding the lake in Leduc County. The other part of the line runs south of the lagoon, servicing all of the south-side Summer Villages, County of Wetaskiwin subdivisions and Hamlets surrounding the lake, and the Pigeon Lake Provincial Park.

Following the completion of the Request for Proposals process, Associated Engineering has been contracted to conduct the Engineering Pre-Design, to be completed by the fall of 2009.

The next steps will be to complete the pre-design project, which will then lead into a detailed system design, followed by construction. All remaining aspects of the project are subject to Alberta Transportation funding approval. Timelines are not clear for the completion of this project, but it can be expected to be at least three years until the fruition of the plan.