

Eric Lowther Rockyview (Bears paw) Councillor Report.

“Science has never drummed up quite as effective tranquilizing agent as a sunny spring day” W. Earl Hall

We had a large turnout again at the community update on Saturday morning May 6. Congratulations to the Bears paw Lions Club for the excellent job on the newly renovated Bears paw Lions Community Hall. Everyone at the meeting was impressed with the updated facility. Many thanks to those who helped including Mrs. Anita Carey for providing the food, Alan Bishop and the Lions Club for setting up the facility, the guest speakers and to everyone who helped put away chairs and cleanup when we were done. One of the outcomes from these meetings is that people are beginning to connect and share information. Working together and sharing ideas and solutions is really helping to drive positive outcomes in our community. I hope to be able to continue to help facilitate this positive engagement.



Figure 1 Community Update meeting May 6th at the newly renovated Bears paw Lions Hall

As mentioned previously, and at the meeting on May 6, the Bearspaw Historical Society is leading the way. The Community Heritage celebration on Saturday, June 25, hosted by the Society, will be a great coming together of people and groups active in our community. It will be a day for family fun, food, community information, dignitaries, music and much more. See the details in this edition of the Bearspaw Beat.

One of the items presented at the May 6 community update meeting was the Glenbow Ranch Area Structure Plan (ASP). A public hearing on the ASP was completed on April 27. In response to residents I requested that Council consider substantially lowering the possible densities for residential housing in two areas of the plan that fall within our division. Council unanimously agreed. Reports on these lower density options are scheduled to be presented at the June 27 Council meeting. Final decisions may be made that day.

This spring high amounts of surface water continue to be a challenge across the county. I'm very grateful to the many people who've worked together in our division to save people's property. The county, working together with local residents, Rocky view water co-op, church ranches homeowners association and others, have successfully taken action this spring to save people's homes. This work has bought us some time this season. Work on the longer-term solution must now continue.

Finally, as I mentioned at the May meeting, Council and County administration are working to improve the level of customer service the county provides. There are areas that need improvement. I'm happy to report they have been identified and are being worked on. One recent example is service provided over the telephone. For road issues, missing traffic signs, flooding, problems with County-managed water or wastewater, bylaw enforcement, or infrastructure concerns etc. The county provides a 24 hour service number. The people who answer this number are skilled at directing your concern to the best people to address it. You can call 24 hours a day: 403.520.6378. You will likely get faster service rather than through me in many cases.

For more, check out my website www.ericlowther.ca

Remember this is Canada's 150th. Don't miss our Community Heritage Celebration day June 25!

Eric Lowther

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