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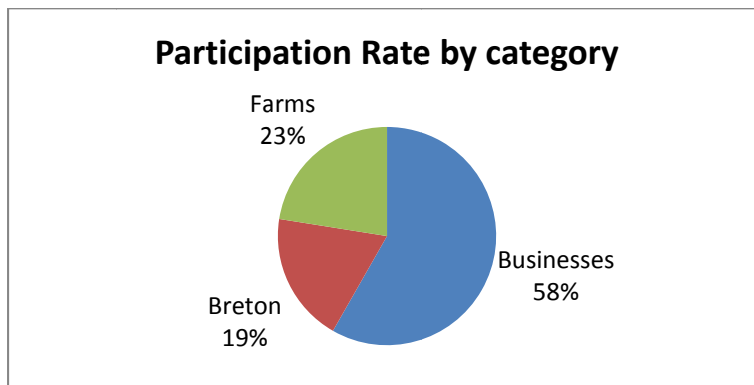
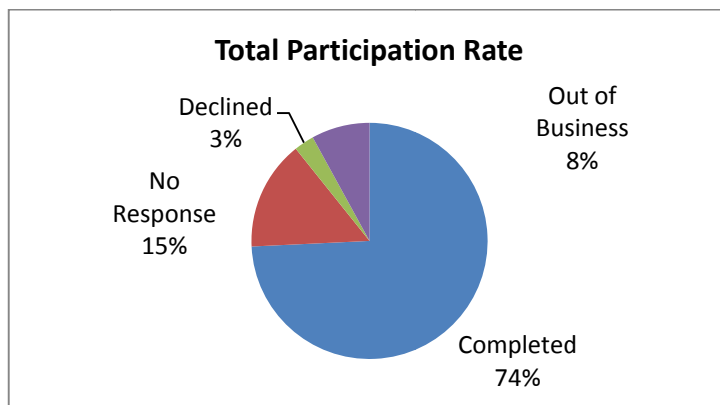
**Date:** June 1, 2011

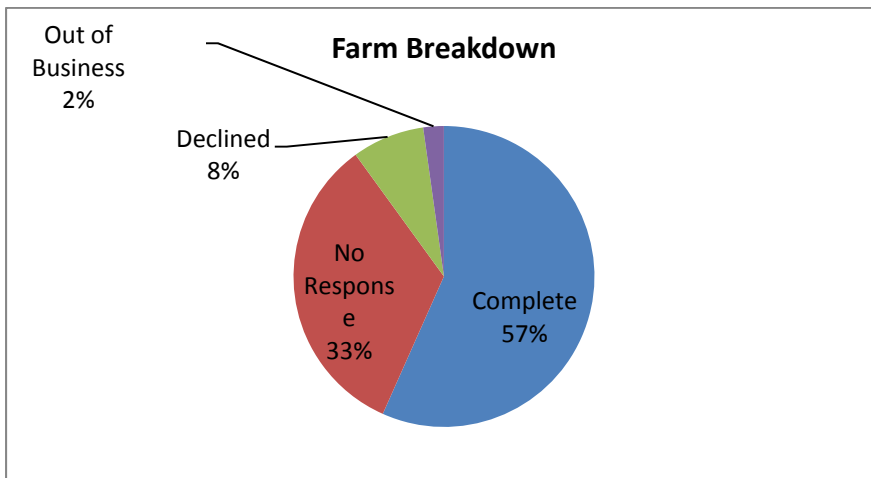
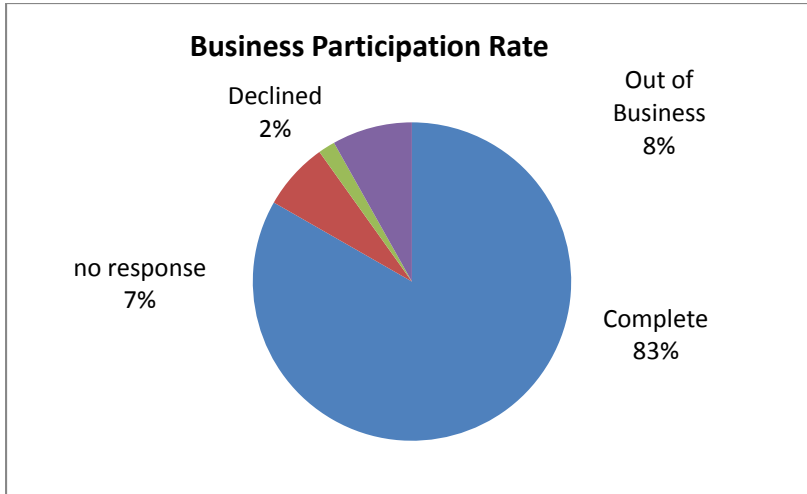
**To:** Council, CAO and Directors

**From:** Kelly Starling, Director of Economic Development

**Reference:** 2011 Brazeau Visitation Import Replacement Program Brazeau Specific Questions.

As of May 31, 2011 all surveys to Brazeau County Businesses, Farms and Village of Breton Businesses were completed. The project consisted of contact or attempted contact with 288 Brazeau Businesses, 86 to Village of Breton Businesses and 93 to Farms a total of 467 listed. The project was completed in two months with the services of 2 part time contractors, Angie and 89 forms were contacted by a company called Foundation Research. The following demonstrates our success rate within each of the categories.





Each Business and Farm was contacted a minimum of 4 times (leaving messages on machines when available) before we ran out of time.

The information from the surveys has now been submitted to MillierDickinsonBlais to be combined with the Town of Drayton Valley data, to be analyzed both as a region and as individual municipalities. The findings will be delivered in a report and will include recommendations as to what can be incorporated into Economic Development project planning.

**Brazeau Specific Questions**

All Brazeau County businesses and farms contacted with the exception of the 89 which were done by Foundation Research were asked the Brazeau Specific Questions that were approved for use by Brazeau County Council. Those findings were not send to MillierDickensonBlais for analysis, and were instead entered into a data base by the Director of Economic Development. Analysis and any resulting actions that are derived from

the information is the responsibility of the Brazeau County Council, and will not be enacted on by any staff unless so directed by Council.

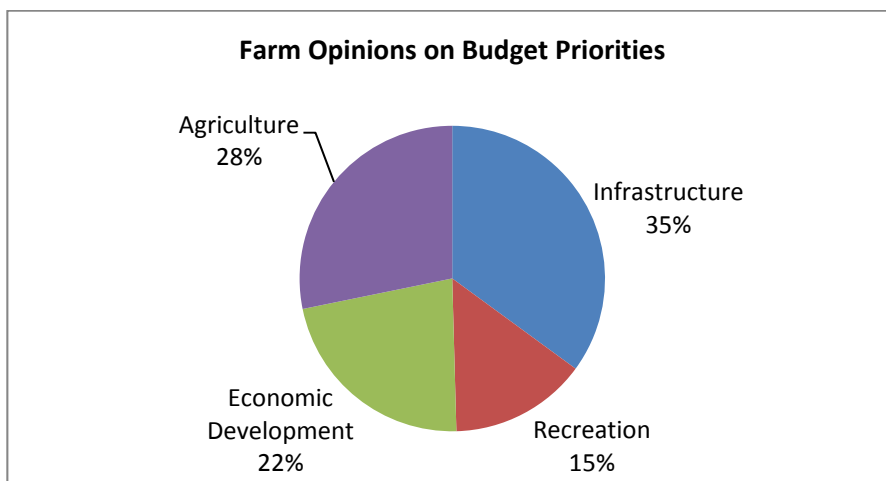
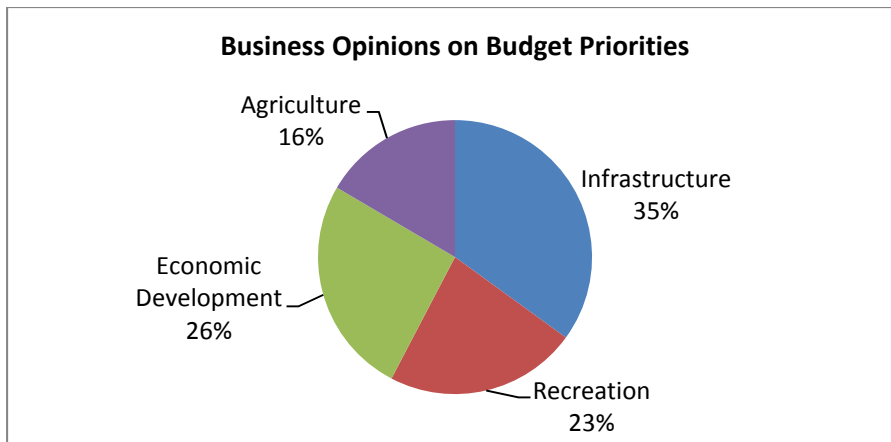
### Brazeau County Specific Questions Summary

The following is a summary of a combination of both Brazeau Businesses and Farms the total response was 151; 110 businesses and 41 farms. Some farms were also business owners and only chose to fill out one form. Some people chose not to fill out this part of the survey.

#### Question

1. In your opinion, as a business in Brazeau County what should the top 3 priorities be when Brazeau County deliberates the 2012 budget, please indicate using # 1 as being the most important and # 4 your fourth priority choice.

#### Response



## Specific Comments on Budget Priorities

Infrastructure
<b>Brazeau Business Responses</b>
6 Responded Roads & Road Maintenance
street lights - lack of is a safety concern, bigger culverts to handle water run off
Repair of existing roads ie: 75% Road Ban Roads.
A huge portion of revenue is derived from the oil industry - better roads to get to work would help
Keep focused on maintenance
sewage planning
Oil and gas need roads
Land Development 1 - 5 acres
Roads, traffic routing, approaches, road widening
Lodgepole has own wells - disadvantage to hamlet development
Rge Rd 75 north
this is county mandate
Would be great to have improved connector roads
More people, more houses more retail opportunities
Ongoing maintenance
Where is the future for commercial expansion? Poor roads in the present industrial area - in designing.,
Homes tied into Lodgepole sewer system
Should be as good as possible
RIng Road - so there are no bans - tough to go through town
Subsidize change over to septic holding
Perspective on roads and water not in keeping with the people that live here
<b>Farm Responses</b>
Already spent enough money
Roads/water
Gravel hauled roads should be paved, up to the the pit (county roads)
Maintenance

Recreation
<b>Brazeau Businesses Responses</b>
Attracting employees to community what is here for them and ability to keep them here in recreation services.
Blue Rapids/Eagle Point - Dump the motorcross I do not need additional traffic to get to work from
Attract families with Quality of Llife
Good work done on maintaining trails and parks
good sports
Eco system education on clean up after yourselves
To make community attractive and to attract others to the area
More tourism based businesses needed
Concentrate on bringing more customers/tourists IE: Staycations becoming more popular
To a point because it attracts customers but don't spend a lot of time on
Attract people through quality of life
An agriculture facility for equine and livestock shows with the Ag society for 3P Partnerships
More Trail systems
To build strong communities
Family recreation = community growth = stronger community
Upgrading playgrounds, more rec facilities, swimming pool
Attract kids -keep vandalism down
<b>Farm Responses</b>
Would like this to be rated 1 but doesn't benefit the overall community
Be more Family Friendly - improved quality of life

<b>Economic Development</b>
<b>Brazeau Business Responses</b>
Attraction and retention of employees
Labour attraction/business retention
2 responded business attraction and retention
Business Retention
Build more retail in County and DV
Bring in diversified businesses not related to oil and gas
quality of life issued to attract young professionals
To a point - don't want to be Edmonton
Business Attraction
Labour Attraction
business attraction - encourage growth
Business attraction and business retention
Ongoing support for the 100km Party Program
Business attraction
To support farming by looking at diversification and business attraction
Need to attract workforce
Diversify
nothing specific
Keep taxes down by investment attraction
<b>Farm Responses</b>
Budding up with the town (negative connotation)

## Agriculture

### Brazeau Business Responses

Community relations - educate land owners regarding oil and gas industry

Should always be the focus

Pump jacks are in counties

Weed control was never an issue and was a big issue when living in the country

Weed control

Courses and support

More programs for small sized farmers

Broader range of rental equipment & ongoing support for the 100Km program

Farmers need support

support farmers

Not subsidies - help with services and courses

nothing specific

Support for producers to save agriculture in an oil town

### Farm Responses

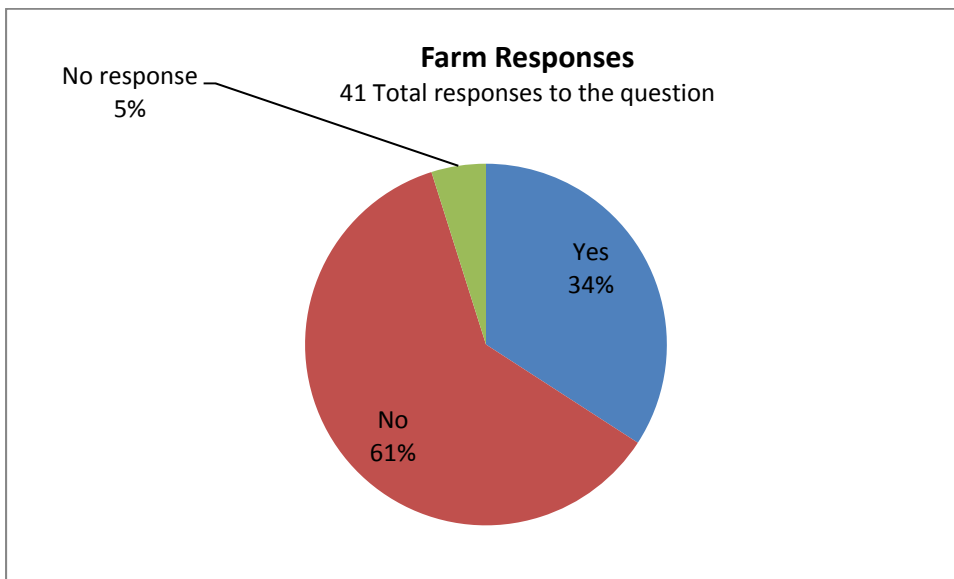
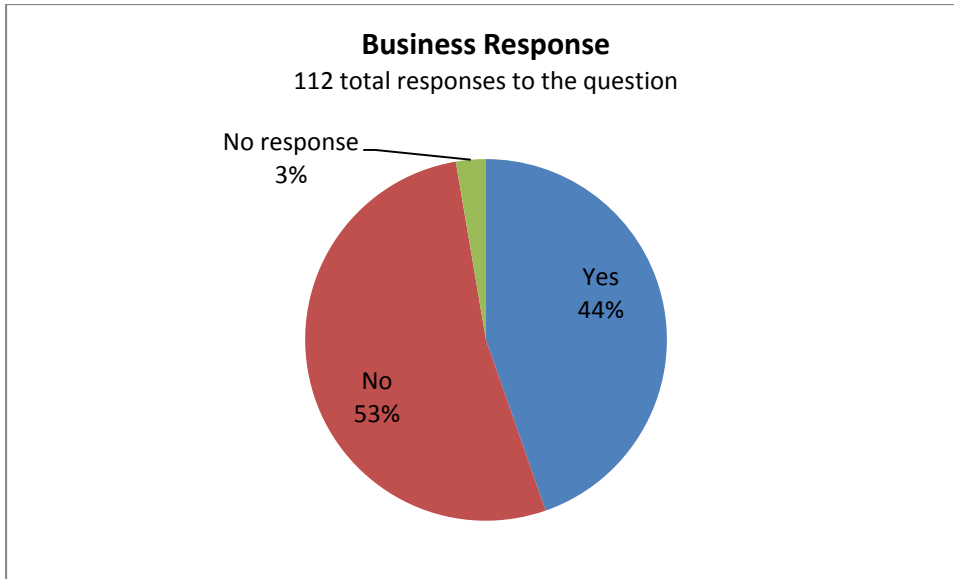
can't do much - not going to bring in feedlots and slaughter houses

Listen to farmers more

Economic Development and Agriculture should go hand in hand. Agriculture needs to be important and supported through economic development

Field service/brush back to fence line especially on corners

## Do you visit the Brazeau County Website?



If you don't visit the site, why not?
<b>Business Responses</b>
8 responses of - no time
23 responded no need or don't require it
7 responded not a computer person
1 Read newsletters, word of mouth, lack of time.
2 responded no computer/internet
1 Nothing to interest me
1 Not sure
1 Didn't know it existed
1 It should be managed as a service not a business.
1 Use only google
<b>Farm Responses</b>
6 responded no need or no reason too
Use agriculture specific site rather than ours
5 responded no computer
3 responded No time
Not often
Not much of a web surfer

If you do visit the site what areas do you visit?
Business Responses
Services side/public works/fire ban
Recreation areas
can't remember
9 Responded Road Ban info
Road bans/Road Restrictions/Fire bans
Homepage
Forms to download
Road ban info, involvement in county projects
Events calendar
canoing/paddling
Personal reasons, development
Road ban info, events/news
Camgrounds/brazeau Dam. Land for sale
campgrounds/brazeau dam
Business inventory section contact information
Locate maps of Rocky Rapids, Violet grove and Business park on west hill
Homepage, latest news
No reason to no need for it
nothing specific
only looked at the website design
Local business info, bylaws
By laws, land development, permits
General Info
General Council meetings etc.
Can't remember - bit here and there
specific to what I need at the moment

Browsing for any general info
Browsing for any general info - mention of hotel
Road Bans Fire info
Planning and development, business directory, councillor section
Business Directory - what's new
Main page
Road bans, mapping info
Business Directory
road bans, fire guardians, ag services, 100k,
General Overview
General Looking
General Info
coming events
Email addresses
Swimming pool, jobs, general offerings
<b>Farm Responses</b>
Contact info/council meeting links to community, halls, upcoming events for groups.
Recreation/business
Politics and ag services
Council minutes, go to 90% of mtgs.
Transfer station times, general info
Many
Council info, business directory
Browsing
nothing specific
Courses on Agriculture. Farm tour on site
Fire bans, browsing
nothing specific
Contact info, community, administration

**If you do visit the site what areas do you feel can be improved and how?**

**Business Responses**

It's a good site

Easy to navigate seemed fine

not sure

Yes

Not enough experience on it to say

not sure

Have to shift thru too much info to get to bylaws

5 responded nothing to improve

Fire bans should be on the first page rather than searching to find fireban info

Put in provincial website for jobs

navigation

Campground site, description is limiting

Better description of rural addresses, describing where people are located. ie: adjacent landowner letters - maybe include rural addresses in letters.

Found everything no problems

around recreation activities and contact info ie: horseback riding

**Farm Responses**

Make internet high speed more readily available to all residence

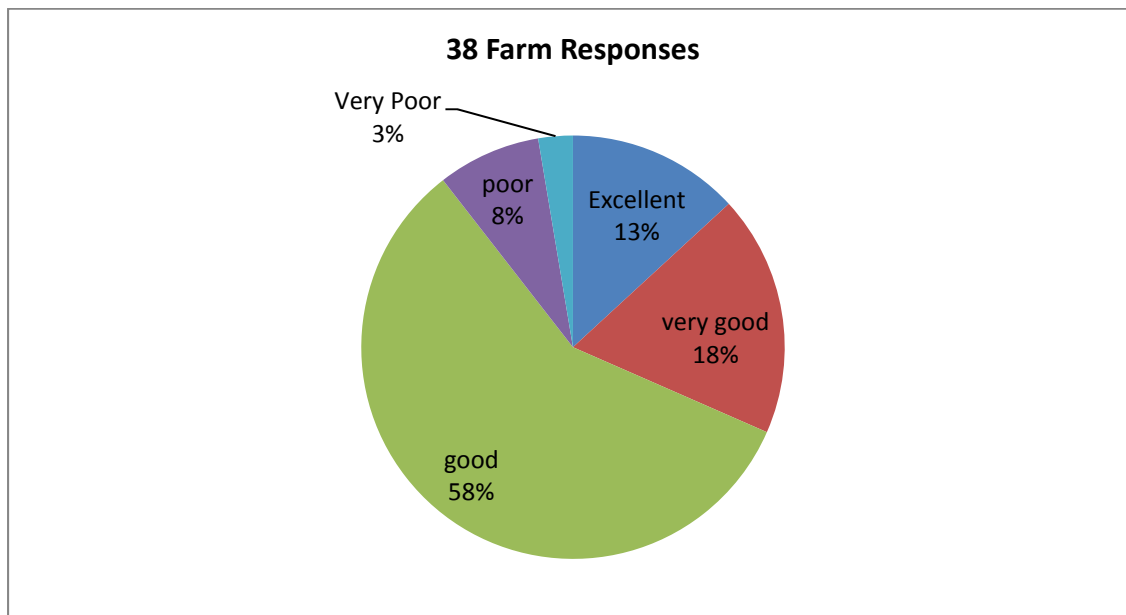
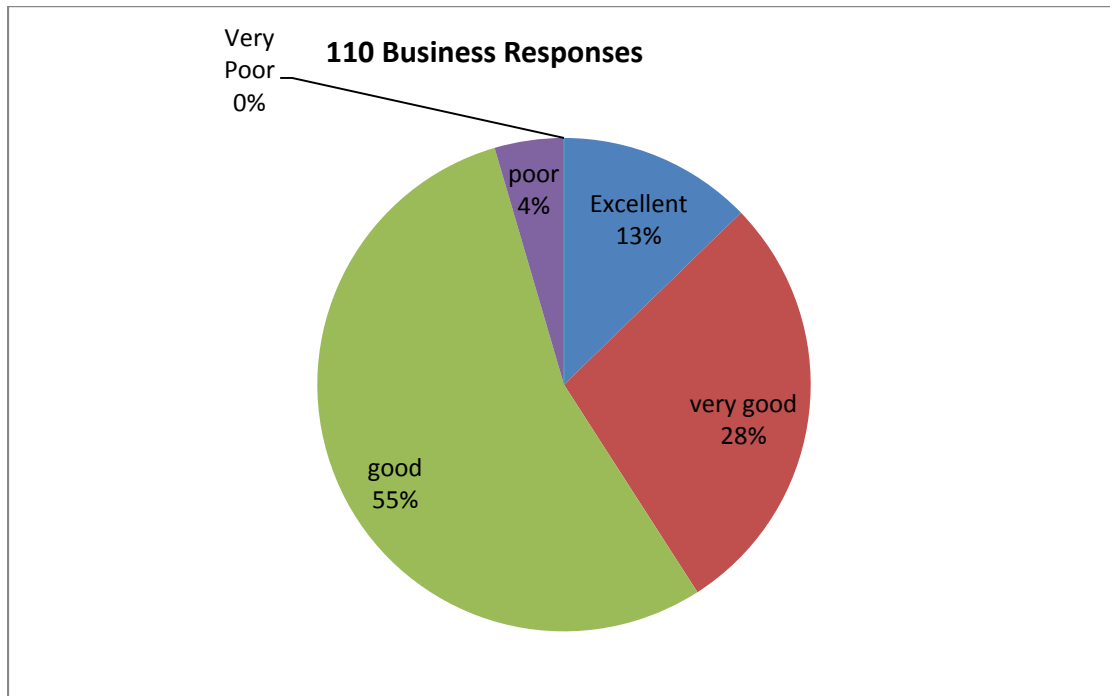
Not so easy to navigate

homepage

add the name of Councillors to the drop down box beside division and Reeve

not easy to navigate, a lot of clicking doesn't get you where you going

## How do you rate the overall services provided by the County?



**Please give us your comments (on the services provided).**

**Business Responses**

have a good working relationship - road bans, road use agreements

Awesome

Better weed control along the ditches - fairness for oil and gas vs residence. Oil company heavily regulated on weeds, landowners should be held to the same standards.

Not a lot of interaction at this point - though good thus far

62 Street very poor condition

Has good understanding of what is needed/going on etc in the oil and gas sectors

Lower property taxes - tough to get ahead with raising taxes. Pave my road- only resident in Cynthia without pavement.

Always had a positive experience when dealing with the County

As a future retiree, what is the community going to do to entice me to stay?

All levels of government spend more money than they need to

Only auto body in Brazeau - no patronage from county office

Close to town the roads are kept clear. Fair working with business

works well with the oilfield ie: roadbans

Have a lot of money and they spend it all - could be spent in better ways.

Replace old culverts in county

Replace old culverts in the County

Still the best county in the province

Overall service wise county is good, have a few minor hiccups

Road Maintenance is 2nd to none

We live in a great county - overall the MD is responsive and open to dialogue

Hard to say because I haven't heard of anything new happening.

Annexation fight with the town cost too much money in lawyers. Could have been handled better by County with Town

Building new soccer fields shouldn't take precedence over road repairs

Snow removal was excellent considering the amount of snow received.

Roads could be cleaned better. Staff is friendly. Hundreds of trucks going one way out of business park, creating traffic, roads are not wide enough

Couldn't the county consider opportunity for sharing infrastructure with the town?

Made a complaint or concern to the county office but never heard back

PW is very easy to deal with and very accommodating. PW deserves special commendation for the excellent job they did with snow removal in 2010 & 2011
Appreciates the business support
Haven't really build a relationship - no ones fault - just not thinking that way
The planning is poor. Who is the engineer? Drive through this industrial area (Bohnella) in a big truck.
Road and clearing, maintenance of roads is good
Shouldn't have to put up with complainers
Feels like he only get service when he complains. Some people at the county are good. Road not ploughed by the county except for once this winter, only come when he complained. He ploughed
Too much saying no. Liquor permit in Cynthia they say no. Road blocks go up too fast. Doesn't feel supported by the MD and government.
Not much experience, feels they have not had much support in renovation/running the ground we go for help - voice concerns - things don't get done/
<b>Farm Responses</b>
People who complain have never lived here without the services that we have now.
More information - detailed information - given not having to search it. Email blasts/letters. Don't use the Drayton Valley paper. Meeting in the East Part of the County rather than west. Show commitment to both sides of county.
Not getting value of services; keep increasing budgets but see no differences
Town relationship has improved, focused on tourism etc.
Road maintenance is better - our grader guy is not good. Called to call about road washout on RR 62 - don't add gravel - put in a bigger culvert. No one seems concerned
Tough job to be in administration/councillor
Happy with the County
Lives on the hwy doesn't feel she gets much service
Why is it costing him so much (\$15,000.00) to build up an approach/road near his property.
Excellent job on road ploughing
Always room for improvement
A little more attention on the east side of the river, FCSS should be clearly noted as available in Breton - the website doesn't make it clear
People who work there are good. Waste money

**We value your input as ratepayers in our County, please let us know your comments on anything that we may do to improve?**

<b>Business Responses</b>
annexation affecting wells (previously built in 50's should review more. Taxes
Road maintenance
Good county to belong too. New to the county but his impression is that the MD cares about the residents.
Allow rigs and other oilfield equipment to move more freely. But Brazeau is the best in the country with respect to rig movement as it is set up now.
traffic lights inconsistent.
Owns property on both sides but can't get pavement. Bring water from hall to campground
Lower property taxes. Pave my road
problem with postal code - non existant postal codes in poplar ridge industrial business park section - problem with delivery of goods.
No more big office buildings - lower taxes instead
If developing another business park - take into consideration size of trucks, equipment and loads
Likes the snowploughing signs and services provided to residents
Help Businesses more than hinder in land/development
RR 42 from 484 to Hwy 39 should not have a lot of money spent on it to 'improve' it - road widening. If the county wished to improve 1 or 2 areas of this section of road to improve sight lines I believe you could justify that. Why county plans to widen road 42 he will petition against it.
Road by her home is bad in all seasons.
More streetlights in business park - safety issue. Better week control in Business parks - improve beautification of business parks.
Enforcing of bylaws eg. property clean up in Violet Grove; put speed bumps in to slow people down.
No issues - talk to the reeve over coffee. Happy with everything.
Doesn't believe that the County should be in business of 'being in business', i.e. heavy equipment, construction business. i.e. county has a \$400,000.00 packer - not used more than 30 days - where's the justification.
Need to enforce people who don't "follow rules" or go thru proper channels ie: building a garage w/o permits; county to show/draw a harder line and be consistent with fines.
None
Sold our acreage in the county because of the Motor cross park issues and EPBR - now lives in town
Only deal with County for moving equipment IE: permits and they have been very good.
Continue to watch spending the County has done a great job
Speed bumps (trenched rather than raised) through Lindale or amber flashing lkights. 25+ kids live around the hamlet centre - traffic whistles through even with the posted 30km sign.
Keep tight control on spending, keep property taxes down

Change garbage system of cards, increase hours and days to dispose of garbage
High speed internet in rural Alberta
Surrounded by crown land - need to release land for further development of Lodgepole
Like to have faster internet and high speed, like to have a blue sign for tourism business
County shouldn't be wasting time doing surveys, should be concentrating on what County business is - infrastructure
Be nice to have more opportunity to have more commercial land development in County
Make it clearer the steps to build a home when property is purchased in the county, maybe a steps guide.
New county office building/fire truck (water truck were not in the local papers for tender - make them more visible for local businesses.
Roads ar poor (gravel) not maintained. Animals at large
Everything is fine
county to assess non profit organizations as a different tax rate
More land development
Poor winter road maintenance on 56 Ave - icy conditions this past winter. Feels there should/could be cost shared type of municipality
Not happy with the ATV Regulations & 80 km pave roads is a pain
Concern of pile of stuff near their business and was never reviewed. Behind S 18 - 49-7 W5 East of KPA
Availability of road use permits - telephone contact sometimes a problem with the road data
Very happy with road restrictions and working with service rigs
County office doesn't seem to support buying goods from Rocky Rapids Store
Doing the best they can
Unfortunately she has not taken much interest in County business. Thinks its 2 but does not feel inclined to be more involved.
Bad timing just got my tax assessment. Did the county need that size of building (NO) Do they need equipment like they have (NO) contract equipment more, contract equipment more, companies may move in then. They will pay taxes.
Actually quite happy with the MD
Should have a fundraiser or a raffle to raise money and keep taxes down. Raise capital without raising taxes.
Combination of County/town/AB Transport hwy road entrances are death traps especially for big trucks. No parking for big trucks cause traffic congestion etc.
Issues or complaints are addressed with the urgency they require. We live in a great County!
Priorities in wrong places. No need for new building and new equipment. If you are building or starting businesses that compete with ratepayers that is bad practice. Approaches done for \$1500.00 by County make it impossible for him to compete for that business. Machines are too big they are destroying gravel road.
Twin the highways through Drayton Valley on both sides of town - 4 lanes

Too much focus on frivolity - stop focusing on things that take away from MD. Food banks should be shut - church and community can take care of the hungry. Help getting imported labour - cost working with agencies is astronomical.
Consider putting a lagoon @ Cynthia and Lodgepole. Would help increase his productivity
Could use another County Mountie, only county doesn't recognize front end permits, road bans
Transfer stations should have walk through gate unlocked 24hrs. Garbage dumped in ditches back roads is escalating.
<b>Farm Responses</b>
Always keep in mind that council is for governance and administration is for carrying out the director on council operations.
Consider the full scope of ratepayer base. All have value make considerations from all.
Doesn't find county very open re: development of land. Tied up with too many rules and regulations to the development of land - too much fees!
Lower the mill rate because have wealth of farming in area
Do some things that still have to change - be more proactive than reactive always seem to be behind 2 years.
Nothing - grade my road
Want to know more what Brazeau County ag dept does
Acreages - 2 per request not 4 . Dogs - maximum # of dogs and keep them in your own yard.
Judicious use of money, keep as principle. Don't spray the road sides - then mow. It should not be sprayed - just mow. Don't charge for 'no spray' - I do the maintenance but pay you not too - doesn't make sense.
No-heard all my concerns before
Annexation with town - upset with agreement, totally unnecessary, what we was told last year is not happening. Short of income will possibly raise taxes.
Why does the County give \$5000.00 to the Town for the July 1st celebration and none to Breton area & the Village of Breton.
quit wasting county money?
None
Councillors could listen more
No complaints
Don't be complacent
Why they build up twp 494 - wasting money, county doesn't trust him
Too much land given to the town. Can the County work with the gravel pit companies to pave more of the county roads.
Stupid farmers market regulations
Lower taxes please
Maintain and plough roads quicker
No amalgamation with Drayton Valley. Maintain county identity, shared interested but MD could be far more active rather than writing a check to the town.

Celebrate your residents - those that are making a difference. Maureen Schwab just assigned to Farm Safety Council - recognition brings a community together.
Shouldn't have annexed so much land. Nothing can be done - just saying it shouldn't have happened