



Town and County sign major agreement

December 7, 2010, Drayton Valley, Alberta.

Drayton Valley and Brazeau County are growing together. In a joint meeting today Drayton Valley Town Council and Brazeau County Council gave formal approval to an implementation plan which lays out the basic framework for an unprecedented level of co-operation between the two municipalities.

The Town and the County have agreed to work together in a number of areas in order to increase efficiency and better serve the residents of the entire community. Four areas have been identified as priorities for examination. Those are recreation, water and wastewater, land use and economic development. However, that is just the beginning. Both parties are keen to further expand the level of co-operation as they move forward together. Part of that process will involve the development of a Growth Management Plan and an Inter Municipal Co-operation Master Agreement.

“Working together with our closest neighbours just makes sense,” said Brazeau County Reeve Wes Tweedle. “We have so many common interests with the Town. I think there’s going to be a lot of benefits for all of us in this process.”

The Implementation Plan will continue to build on the momentum gained when Drayton Valley and Brazeau County came to an agreement over the Town’s annexation application last month. Rather than spend their resources in dispute, they have agreed to work together in the interests of the residents of both municipalities.

The move toward cooperation was also welcomed by the provincial government.

“I’m delighted to see the two municipalities working together,” said MLA Diana McQueen. “This level of cooperation can only be good for the residents of both the Town and the County.”

Under the Implementation Plan, administrative staff from the Town and the County will work together to develop a number of options for moving forward in the four key areas. The final decision on how to proceed will be made by the two councils.

The aim is for the Inter Municipal Co-operation Master Agreement to be adopted by both councils before the end of March with the Growth management Plan and the plans for Economic Development, Recreation, Water and Waste Water and Land Use adopted by the end of June.

“This is a tremendously exciting process,” said Drayton Valley Mayor Moe Hamdon. “I think I speak for everyone involved when I say how thrilled I am at the direction things are taking.”

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