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Brazeau County Council passes new Off Highway Vehicle Bylaw

Drayton Valley, Alberta, January 23, 2015 — Brazeau County Council gave second and third reading to Off Highway Vehicle Bylaw 841-14, authorizing the operation of Off Highway vehicles on highways, right-of-ways and municipal property in Brazeau County. This new by-law replaces Off Highway Vehicle Bylaw 693-09.

The most significant change to the by-law allows the operations of Off Highway vehicles (OHV), Snowmobiles or All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) in the ditches of County right-of-ways, specifically, on Township and Range Roads, between the hours of 8am and 10pm. Drivers are only permitted to operate an OHV on the extreme right hand side of the roadway or in the ditch; shall travel single file at all times; and shall travel in the same direction as vehicles travelling on that side of the roadway closest to the Off-Highway Vehicle.

Other significant additions include age limits and stronger safety requirements. A person who is less than 14 years old shall not drive an Off-Highway Vehicle on a highway and can only drive an Off-Highway Vehicle on public property with supervision by a person who is occupying the passenger seat on the OHV or on a vehicle that is travelling in close proximity and is 18 years old or older. All OHVs must be properly insured and registered and all riders must have a

Department of Transportation (DOT) approved helmet. Violators can be fined and/or have their OHV seized.

Reeve Shirley Mahan states, “the new OHV by-law positions us positively with our surrounding Counties and puts in place something that was wanted by the majority of residents who provided us feedback”.

To view the complete Off Highway Vehicle Bylaw 841-14, visit the Brazeau County website at www.brazeau.ab.ca.