



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:  
Wanda Compton  
Economic Development & Communications Manager  
Brazeau County  
780-542-7777  
780-542-7770  
[wcompton@brazeau.ab.ca](mailto:wcompton@brazeau.ab.ca)  
[www.brazeau.ab.ca](http://www.brazeau.ab.ca)

### **Brazeau County Declares a State of Natural Disaster**

Brazeau County, Alberta, September 8, 2017 – During the September 5th Brazeau County Council meeting, Council unanimously voted to declare the area affected by the July 13<sup>th</sup> tornado to be a disaster.

“The County is working with residents and the provincial government to facilitate the application process for Disaster Recovery Program funding,” says Reeve Bart Guyon. “By declaring this disaster, we want to focus the Province’s attention on helping these affected residents.”

The tornado touched down near Breton on July 13<sup>th</sup>, with wind speeds between 135 km/h and 175 km/h. It damaged homes and outbuildings, killed livestock, and destroyed many trees and fencing. Council also approved funding for aerial reconnaissance of the damaged areas, which will be used in the application process, and will be conducted in the next few weeks.

Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) representatives will answer questions and conduct individual site assessments for those affected residents that provide permission for their contact information to be released.

Residents that were affected by the tornado are asked to contact Director of Emergency Management Merlin Klassen at 780-542-7777 for further information on the Disaster Recovery Program and/or if they require assistance with the application process. Information is also available on the County website at [www.brazeau.ab.ca](http://www.brazeau.ab.ca). Follow the link for ‘Resident Damage from July 13 Tornado.’ Residents are urged to complete their applications before the provincial DRP deadline of October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017.