



On The Cowboy Trail

News from Councillor Barb Castell

Division 3 - M.D of Foothills No. 31

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Happy New Year

I am very sorry this is late. I missed the deadline for the Track Watch in January.

Some of you may know that a special person retired from Public Works. I am sure all of you who know him wish to join in thanking Al Orum for all the years of service to the MD of Foothills. I tried to convince him to stay on as our grader operator, but after 35 years he says he deserves a rest. We will miss his friendly wave as he ploughed the roads around Division 3. Al was my neighbour when I lived on the south 80 of his parent's home quarter in the late 70's and early 80's. A real gentleman – salt of the earth. We will miss you.

Welcome to our new grader operator, Will Galloway.

In November, Council attended the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC) in Edmonton, www.aamdc.com. We met with two new ministers regarding Municipal Sustainability Initiative funding. We also met with the Minister of Transportation as well as staff from the new ministry of Environment and Water.

We were comforted that the new minister of Municipal Affairs, Doug Griffiths, would continue our funding. He was also interested in hearing our point of view on various issues in the MD of Foothills. Doug has many new ideas he shared with us and you can go to his website for more information: www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca

Be sure to respond to the MD's Growth Management study which is on our website, www.mdfoothills.com. If you do not have access to high speed internet and wish to view the video, please contact the MD office. I also have DVD copies of it. Your feedback is critical to decisions council must make in the very near future. Where will growth go in the MD of Foothills in the next 30 to 50 years? Have your say.

Also, if you did not get your MD of Foothills news, please let me know. Some people threw it out thinking it was junk mail as it came wrapped in a plastic cover and survey cards to protect it. There is a lot of useful information in there – worth saving to refer to.

I hope that you are all staying warm and keeping active... Spring is just around the corner!

Barb

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