

# Town of Bassano Newsletter

The Best in the West by a Dam Site!

## 2021 Recreation Grant Fund

Applications open March 31, deadline to submit is April 30, 2021.

The grant is contributed to equally by the Town of Bassano and the County of Newell to fund recreation and culture user groups with operating expenses, programs, and events.

More information can be found at [www.bassano.ca](http://www.bassano.ca) and [www.countyofnewell.ab.ca](http://www.countyofnewell.ab.ca) or call 403-641-3788.

## Marketing and Promotion

The Town created the "Build Bassano YouTube Channel" to engage with residents and provide project updates, program information, and more. To kick off this initiative, councilors share "Bassano Budget Bites" about current project and budget allocations in simple informative videos. Visit: [Build Bassano - Town of Bassano - YouTube](#) to learn more.

## Town Office

Effective March 2, 2021 the Town Office is open without an appointment. All individuals entering the building will be screened by municipal employees. Please refrain from entering the Town Office if you are experiencing any Covid-19 related symptoms or have travelled outside Canada within the past 14-days.

## 2021 Municipal Election

As a reminder, 2021 is an election year. If you are interested in running for office, there are five (5) positions available in Bassano. The mayoral position is appointed internally by the council each year at the organization meeting. The term of office is 4-years.

There is lots of important information listed on the website ([www.bassano.ca](http://www.bassano.ca)) under the 2021 Municipal Election tab that will help prepare you to run for office. In addition to the legislative overview, we have included a list of key plans and policies that are being implemented based on public feedback and consultation.

If you have questions about the life of an elected official, contact any member of your current council. If you have questions about the election process, contact the Town Office.

### Nomination

A person may be nominated as a candidate in any election under the Local Authorities Election Act if on nomination day the person:

- Is eligible to vote in that election,
- Has been a resident of the Town of Bassano
- for the 6 consecutive months immediately preceding nomination day,
- Is not otherwise ineligible or disqualified.

## Land Use Bylaw Modernization

Council approved the Land Use Bylaw Modernization plan and appointed a sub-committee that includes Deputy Mayor Morey, and councilors Slomp and Jones to the project.

The Town's current Land Use Bylaw (LUB) was adopted in 2013. The bylaw does not reflect today's development needs and the modernization process will better reflect the needs of the community, and development standards set by council. Over the next six-months we will be engaging the community and seeking your feedback on the proposed amendments.

A workplan has been established that will focus on seven (7) key topic areas:

1. Accessory buildings (i.e. accessory dwelling units, number of accessory buildings permitted on each lot, height requirements)
2. Large lot residential (i.e. creation of a new land use district to accommodate large residential lots in specific areas in line with the Municipal Development Plan)
3. Supporting downtown development (i.e. lot line setbacks, building design and facades)
4. Business innovation and home-based businesses (i.e. creation of a new land use district to achieve aims of the Business Innovation District, expand opportunities for home based businesses)
5. Urban farming (i.e. green houses, chickens)
6. Clarifying standards and development (i.e. parking and storage, fencing heights, landscaping)
7. Streamlining the development process.

### Project consultant:

Madeleine Baldwin, Oldman River Regional Services Commission

### Project cost:

\$20,000

### Project funding:

the project is fully funded by the Town's Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) Operating Grant.

## Community Supports

Municipal governments across Alberta were provided with emergency relief funds through the Municipal Operating Support Transfer (MOST) program by the Government of Alberta to help offset increased operating costs or lost revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding was provided as part of the Safe Restart Agreement between Alberta and Canada. Bassano's allocation was \$127,118. Council chose to allocate a portion of these funds to help offset the losses/increased operating expenses experienced by recreation and culture groups as well as the business community.

Funcational Category	Description	Total
(26) Bylaw and Enforcement	Relief - 2020 Local Business License Refund (x 93)	\$ 6,510
(72) Recreation & Culture	Relief - Bassano Arena Management Board	\$ 25,000
(72) Recreation & Culture	Relief - Bassano Curling Club	\$ 25,000
(72) Recreation & Culture	Relief - Bassano Bowling Club	\$ 5,000
(72) Recreation & Culture	Relief - Bassano Golf Club	\$ 10,000
(72) Recreation & Culture	Relief - Bassano Memorial Library	\$ 10,000
(72) Recreation & Culture	Relief - Bassano Drop-in Centre	\$ 3,000
<i>Subtotal</i>		\$ 84,510

## Tax Forfeiture

Council chose to take ownership of two properties through tax forfeiture that did not sell at the auction in 2020. Once the title transfer is complete, the Town will list the properties for sale. 225 – 3rd Street



216 – 3rd Street



## Council Meeting

The next council meeting is March 8 at 6:00 p.m. and will be held virtually. KMPG will be presenting the 2020 financial audit. Everyone welcome.

## Beautification and Bylaw Enforcement

The Bylaw Enforcement team will continue to work with property owners to ensure all properties in Bassano have a civic address posted to the front and rear of the property as per Fire Services Bylaw 885-19.

We seek the continued support of our residents and business owners to help ensure properties are maintained in accordance with the BBI and Community Standards Bylaw #878/18. You can expect a greater presence of the Bylaw Enforcement division in the Year 2 (continuing from 2020) and Year 3 priority areas, taking photos, and engaging with property owners/tenants. Formal clean-up orders will be issued to property owners where necessary, with clean-up deadlines, and potential fines for non-compliance.

The BBI and Community Standards Bylaw can be found online at [www.bassano.ca](http://www.bassano.ca). Please contact Sydney Smith at the Town Office for more information at 403-641-3788 or [assistant@bassano.ca](mailto:assistant@bassano.ca).

**The 9th Avenue Naturalization project** is a go this year. To date, \$13,000 has been received through grants and donations. Over 350 trees and shrubs have been purchased and planting is scheduled for the first week of June. Reach out to Mirjam Janzen, Sydney Smith, Jody Seidel, or Amanda Davis for more info.



## FCSS February Highlights

February was Random Acts of Kindness month and the FCSS board was bust spreading kindness throughout the community.

Here are some program highlights:

- Gift baskets were delivered to residents at the Dr. Scott apartments. The baskets were filled with isolation prevention items (activity books, cards, etc.) and other care package related items a senior might need to stay safe during COVID.
- To celebrate Random Acts of Kindness, we a "scavenger hunt" was held to highlight all of the kindness already in our community.
- Craft Kits were delivered on February 12th to 30 youths in the community.
- On February 14th, 28 Valentine's Day candygrams were delivered in the community. We were able to make a generous donation to Cantera Safe House of \$350.
- The FCSS Board met to bake items for goodies trays that went out on February 17th. Trays were delivered to local businesses and each tray that was delivered was accompanied by workplace kindness information and printouts on how we can create, and why it is important to create inclusive and kind workplaces.
- Residents were asked to make nominations to Caught in the Act! Local people were nominated who were inspirational with their acts of kindness and compassion to the world. Nominees received a small token of appreciation and a surprise thank you for spreading cheer within the community.

Random acts of kindness can be carried out all year. We can all make a difference in someone's life through kindness.

**The FCSS Board is always looking for new members; reach out to Tammie Hauck or Victoria Muhlbeier for more information.**

# Town of Bassano Public Notice

March 3, 2021

## For immediate release

**Subject:** Town of Bassano Wastewater Treatment Upgrades Project

The Town of Bassano is pleased to announce that the Wastewater Treatment Upgrades project is now underway having received final approval from Infrastructure Canada's (INFC) Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. Upgrades are required to bring the system into compliance with current provincial standards. This is welcoming news for our community, as we have been working to bring this project together for many years.

This project will improve the Town's Wastewater Treatment System and provide a sustainable outlet for the discharge of treated effluent. The project includes upgrades to the existing lagoon anaerobic and facultative cells, construction of a new seven-month storage cell, and treated effluent irrigation system. The irrigation system includes a pump station at the storage cell, a treated effluent pipeline from the storage cell to the treated effluent irrigation site, and a central irrigation pivot. A quarter section of land will be purchased by the Town to irrigate the treated effluent. A site plan for the project is shown on the included Figure 1. The project should be highlighted for its sustainability, its environmental, and agricultural benefits including waste re-utilization and water conservation through the re-use of treated effluent.

The lands at the lagoon and irrigation site will be owned by the Town. All crossing agreements are in place with Alberta Transportation, the County of Newell, and landowners for the pipeline segment of the project. The pipeline will be bored under the TransCanada Highway #1.

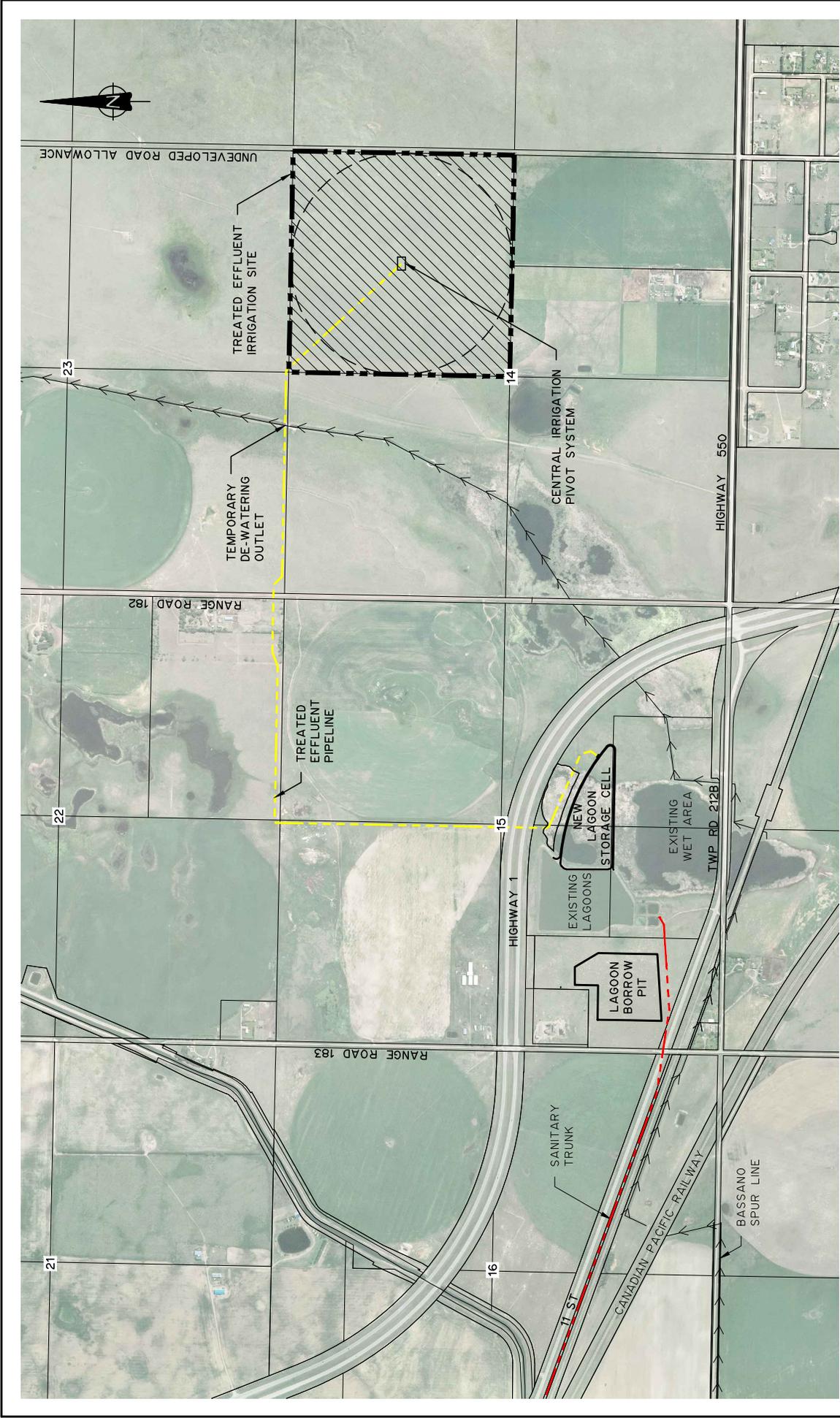
An environmental assessment was completed for the lagoon site, pipeline route, and irrigation site to identify biophysical attributes within the area and provided mitigation strategies for any identified concerns. Site assessments were conducted in the fall of 2019 and the fall of 2020. Mitigation strategies include completion of construction activities outside of sensitive periods, additional wildlife sweeps prior to construction by a competent wildlife professional, and avoidance of areas with sensitive wildlife.

The new lagoon storage cell will be constructed in a wet area adjacent to the existing active lagoon as approved by Alberta Environment and Parks. To minimize the impact to wildlife in the area, the Town has begun removing vegetation in the wet area as recommended by our environmental consultant. The wet area must be dewatered to complete construction of the storage cell. The Town is working with the Eastern Irrigation District and downstream landowners to secure a temporary dewatering outlet for the water from the surface and ground water from the footprint of the new storage cell. Dewatering of the wet area and other site preparations for the lagoon storage cell should begin by mid-April 2021. Construction is expected to be complete by late 2021 with the potential for some remedial work to finish in early 2022.

The total project cost is estimated at \$7,020,000 and is funded in partnership with the federal government, provincial government, and the Town. The Town's portion is funded from a capital reserve dedicated for the lagoon project, and our Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) capital allocation.

The Tender closes on March 23, 2021 and it is expected that Council will award the project by March 26, 2021.

Information will continue to be shared on the Town's website, Facebook and in the bi-monthly newsletters.



  
**MPE**  
**Engineering Ltd.**

TOWN OF BASSANO  
 WASTEWATER TREATMENT UPGRADES  
 OVERALL SITE PLAN

SCALE: 1:20 000

DATE: MARCH 2021

JOB: 1446-007-00

FIGURE: 1

