

My Okotoks

Future Growth Update

In September 2012, after extensive public consultation, Okotoks Town Council made a decision to move to a continued growth model. Over the past year, we have been working on both our annexation plans as well as pursuing the water that is required to accommodate this growth.

A comprehensive annexation study to determine population projections and the resultant land that is required to address long term growth needs has been underway. The study reviewed growth requirements that would retain a compact, connected and integrated community. The review includes infrastructure required to support growth, such as roads, water, sewer and transit in areas that are logical extensions of the community.

Additional water for future growth is also required. Work on both short and long term water solutions has occurred. Several proposals for additional water licenses have been sought out and received and are in various stages of the review and approvals process. The long term water supply solution has been thoroughly analyzed and the conceptual water study identified that a Bow River based water supply is the most sustainable long term solution to meet Okotoks growth needs. Extensive discussions with the Provincial Government have occurred to request expedient solutions and assistance for a long term sub-regional water supply for Okotoks and the foothills communities.

As residents in and around Okotoks we all share ownership over the future of this community. We invite residents to attend the September 23, 2013 regular meeting of Council to see the unveiling of the annexation plan. For those of you that are unable to attend, we will post the plan on the Town's website. Future consultation with affected parties will also occur, including the MD of Foothills and those landowners identified in the annexation plan.

We will continue to provide opportunities for input into a new and exciting plan for the long term future of our community for generations to come. Our desire is to focus on developing a clear, bold community vision that ensures we can compete globally and continue to be a prosperous, creative community that maintains our community values and continues to offer a vibrant quality of life.

Town Council

