



March 10th, 2020

Wheatland County Council

The Calgary Region Airshed Zone Society (CRAZ) would like the Council to consider returning to be a member of CRAZ. The County had been a member until 2019 when membership wasn't renewed.

CRAZ is the Air Quality organization in the region. CRAZ has 52 member organizations (provincial government departments, municipalities, industries, environmental non-government organizations, and private citizens) that work together using consensus-based decision-making to ensure the region has the best air quality it can.

CRAZ operates 3 permanent Ambient Air Quality Stations in Calgary on behalf of the Provincial government and a portable lab. The Portable Air Monitoring Lab (PAML) is currently deployed in 4 regions, each region collecting data for a 6-month span of time. The lab will be in each region twice in the 4-year time period, collecting data for each season. The PAML has been in Cochrane, Aldersyde and Canmore so far. It is scheduled to be sited in the east area (Chestermere/Strathmore/Wheatland area) from Oct 2020 to March 2021, with a return in April to Sept 2022. However, with recent severe revenue cuts, the Board is looking at possible expenditure cuts. With no members east of Calgary, there is a possibility of the PAML not operating for those 2 periods.

CRAZ offers engagement events in the region the PAML is deployed for area citizens. For example, in Aldersyde we hosted a Clean Air Day event with schools and in Canmore, 'Let's Talk about Air Quality Forum' is being held with speakers that will focus on wildfire smoke impacts, prescribed burns and the data in the area. CRAZ works with the municipalities where the PAML is placed to develop the event that is best suited to the area. The PAML is able to generate the Air Quality Health Index while sited which provides the AQHI for the citizens.

CRAZ is developing a toolkit for municipalities to utilize as they focus on the South Saskatchewan Region Plan (SSRP) and its accompanying Air Quality Management Framework for Ozone (O3), Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM2.5) and Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2). The SSRP will impact development in the South Saskatchewan region. Having information on the impact of development on air quality which impacts human health will be very important.

CRAZ has held workshops that focused on dust control, transportation and land development in the last couple of years. The themes for these workshops were brought forward by our members. The next topic that was brought forward was odour management. CRAZ will begin to discuss what a workshop

would look like for this topic in the next few months. As a member, Wheatland County would be welcome to bring forward issues they would like discussed.

Membership fees for municipalities were set in 2010 by the municipalities at \$0.10/population. Wheatland County was at that table and agreed to this formula. For 2020, membership fee for Wheatland County would be \$878.80 which is based on 2016 census number of 8,788.

CRAZ would like to encourage Council to approve membership in CRAZ. We feel the benefits that the County would receive from the membership would be immense.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Bloor".

Jill Bloor, BA, MNA, RSW
Executive Director