



ALBERTA

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Edmonton-South West*

AR100068

May 19, 2020

Reeve Amber Link
Wheatland County
242006 RR243, Highway 1, RR 1
Strathmore AB T1P 1J6

Dear Reeve Link,

Over the past few months, our government has taken strong measures to protect Albertans and to support our communities through these extraordinarily difficult times. This includes passing Budget 2020, which builds on our government's commitment to support Alberta municipalities and Metis Settlements. It also includes numerous other measures to support Albertans and respond to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of the commitment to our local government partners, I am pleased to confirm that \$993 million will be allocated to local governments in 2020 under the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI).

For Wheatland County:

- The **2020 MSI capital allocation is \$3,411,070**. This includes \$2,810,488 in MSI capital funding and \$600,582 in Basic Municipal Transportation Grant funding.
- The **2020 MSI operating allocation \$136,775**.

In light of the current public health and economic crisis, communities are facing unprecedented financial pressures and our government understands this. To help you in addressing these pressures, we are allowing local governments to use MSI operating for any local government expenditure in the 2020 program year and expediting payment of 2020 MSI operating allocations to qualifying local governments.

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We are also making an administrative change to the MSI Capital program to ensure you will receive your payment when you truly need it. Capital funding will be available for those projects that are ready to proceed, which will support economic activity and increase employment across Alberta. You will have received information on these changes recently via email.

To help municipalities and Metis Settlements with capital planning, we have updated the 2021 MSI allocation estimates. Like the estimates provided in November 2019, these amounts are based on the 2021 MSI funding target of \$927.2 million; however, they incorporate more current formula data. In 2022 and beyond, grant funding amounts will be determined by the *Local Government Fiscal Framework Act*.

Links to the 2020 MSI funding amounts for all municipalities and Metis Settlements, the 2021 MSI capital allocation estimates, and the program guidelines are available on the program website. Funding amounts under the federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) will be confirmed after Infrastructure Canada confirms the total GTF funding amount allocated to the Province in 2020.

I am proud of the work you and your staff are doing to protect our communities in these challenging times, and Municipal Affairs will continue working with you to ensure Alberta's recovery.

Yours very truly,



Kaycee Madu, QC
Minister

cc: Brian Henderson, Chief Administrative Officer, Wheatland County