

May 22, 2020

Wheatland County
Reeve and Councillors
242006 Rg. Rd. 243
Highway 1 RR 1
Strathmore, AB
T1P 1J6

Dear Reeve Link and Councillors,

I wanted to take the opportunity to reach out to you at a time when we are all grappling with the effects and consequences of COVID-19 within the communities we both serve. I hope that this letter finds your organization continuing to respond resiliently to the challenges presented by this unprecedented situation and congratulate you on your business continuity work, which has made this possible to date.

In order to respond to the economic consequences of the COVID-19 situation, senior levels of the provincial government have requested organizations with significant shovel-ready capital infrastructure projects to submit them for consideration. The Western Irrigation District (WID) has identified 6 projects that would collectively provide economic benefits to the local economy, including:

- 116 million dollars' worth of economic spin-off benefits in the local economy;
- Full-time employment of 135 people during construction;
- Creation of 15-20 permanent FTE in additional production and value-added processing.

The majority of these projects are located entirely within Wheatland County. These projects will greatly benefit the county as has over 141 million dollars invested by WID in infrastructure since 2007. As discussed during our meeting earlier this year, joint initiatives between the WID and Wheatland County would have mutual benefits. For example, the Eagle Lake project would enhance outdoor recreation, aquatic habitat, and water quality and storage. I have attached a summary describing each of the projects for your reference.

The WID has been advised that a letter of support recognizing the local benefits of these projects would assist the government in assessing priorities. We kindly seek Wheatland County's support of these projects for our mutual benefit.

Yours Sincerely,



Dan Shute
Board Chair