



November 22, 2007

## **County Commissioner receives R.W. Hay Award for Rural Administrative Excellence**

(Lacombe, Alberta) – Lacombe County Commissioner Terry Hager was recently honored as the recipient of the R.W. Hay Award for Rural Administrative Excellence at the Alberta Municipal Association of Districts and Counties (AAMDC) Fall Convention.

The award recipient is selected by the AAMDC Board of Directors in recognition of excellence in rural municipal administration. Individuals nominated are reviewed based on innovations or achievements on behalf of the municipality, examples of exemplary service, pursuit of education, training and provisional development, and areas of community involvement.

“Over the past 30 years, Terry has devoted his time and leadership to local government,” said Lacombe County Reeve Terry Engen. “Council felt that Terry was an ideal candidate for the award as he is both an innovative and visionary leader. With the increasing demands we have recently experienced, Terry has responded to these challenges with responsible leadership, grace under pressure, an eagerness to implement new initiatives, and the demonstration of a cooperative approach with neighbouring municipalities. We are very proud that he was selected as the recipient of this year’s award.”

Terry began his career in municipal government at the County of Paintearth in November 1977 as Assistant Secretary Treasurer. He then served as Secretary Treasurer from December 1977 to January 1982. In 1982, he became Assistant Secretary Treasurer for the County of Lacombe and was promoted to Secretary Treasurer in 1995. Following the School Board Regionalization, Terry became Assistant County Commissioner for the newly named Lacombe County. In January 2000, he became Acting County commissioner and was appointed as Chief Administrative Officer in March 2000.

During his career at Lacombe County, Terry has demonstrated strong leadership and a commitment to strengthening relationships with Lacombe County staff, with Lacombe County ratepayers, with Lacombe County Council and with neighbouring municipalities. Terry has demonstrated foresight and creativity in developing a new organizational structure for Lacombe County, and also in developing Lacombe County’s first strategic plan, which provides a clear vision for the future growth of the municipality. In addition, Terry has been very involved in a number of external service delivery groups through the establishment and operation of regional commissions and authorities, particularly regarding water / wastewater services, solid waste management and protective services.

“This award is definitely a highlight of my career and I feel honored to be recognized,” said Terry Hager. “I would like to thank Council and staff for the work they did in putting together the nomination package. I share this award with my family, with Council and with Lacombe County staff, as the achievements I was recognized for would not have been possible without their support.”

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