

# Red Deer River MUNICIPAL USERS GROUP

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## Activity Update January – March 2022



It's been a time of much reorganization for the Red Deer River Municipal Users Group. On the heels of the fall municipal elections, some new representatives were named to our group while others saw their involvement come to an end. We reestablished our list of representatives and held our Annual General Meeting in January. Following this meeting our Executive Committee of the

Membership was established, with John Ireland, Lacombe County remaining as rural Co-Chair, and Bill Windsor from the Town of Didsbury being elected as Urban Co-chair.

RDRMUG heard key updates from the MD of Acacia and Special Areas in late January and February. The area is working diligently with levels of Government and water consultants regarding a proposed new irrigation system on the Red Deer River Watershed, with the potential to irrigate some 100,000 acres of farmland in the region. Part of their due diligence in keeping RDRMUG updated includes sharing modelling on watershed capacity as it relates to the project.



At its March meeting, the membership received an overview from Alberta Environment regarding flow expectations for the upcoming season. Representatives talked about expected flows using existing modelling criteria, including the current snow pack in the mountain regions that feed our rivers. For those that was a more detailed look at these projections, copies of the Alberta Environment presentations have been distributed to your municipality along with this update.



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RDRMUG is looking at a few key projects for 2022/2023. We continue to discuss the benefits of applying for a Crown Reservation to effectively hold and protect a portion of the flow of the river in consideration of future growth in municipal use. We will continue to update member municipalities as these discussions progress. These updates could come in



the form of potential regional workshops. We see value in providing a greater deal of information on all topics related to the Red Deer River, in order to help provide member municipal councils with additional details regarding our work.



Thank you for your ongoing support of RDRMUG. If you have any questions or require any additional information, please visit our website or feel free to reach out directly to our Executive Director, Rudy Friesen. He would be pleased to arrange a time to present directly to your Council on the work of RDRMUG.