



## AGENDA ITEM

### Municipal Energy Champions Program

January 31, 2022

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#### **BACKGROUND**

The Municipal Energy Champions (MEC) program is put on by the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre. The MEC program supports staff from small municipalities in becoming Energy Champions, who will manage municipal energy use. Champions identify opportunities to reduce energy consumption and save money.

Participating in the program helps municipalities:

- Understand energy use and management
- Better track municipal energy consumption
- Move forward in the energy planning process
- Learn how to identify energy efficiency and renewable energy projects
- See financing options to offset the costs of energy projects
- Develop an approach for energy management initiatives

#### **ANALYSIS**

Lacombe County was one of six municipalities selected to participate in the 2022 MEC cohort. The Municipal Energy Champions commits 10-15 hours per month, for nine months, to complete the program steps, through webinars, workshops, phone calls, and networking events.

The program steps include:

- Baseline assessment
- Energy management basics learning activity
- Municipal energy information and collection
- Develop an energy profile and trend analysis
- Understand energy consumption in buildings
- Presentation on findings



- Implementation of planning and continuing success learning activity

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

The program is free of charge, but the Environmental Coordinator's time is required to complete the program.

### **LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Section 3 of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) states the purposes of a municipality are:

- a) to provide good government,
- b) to provide services, facilities or other things that, in the opinion of council, are necessary or desirable for all or part of the municipality, and
- c) to develop and maintain safe and viable communities

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive the Municipal Energy Champions program as information.

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**PREPARED BY: Jennifer Berry, Environmental Coordinator**

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**REVIEWED BY: Dion Burlock, Director of Community Services**

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**REVIEWED BY: Tim Timmons, County Manager**

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