



# P O L I C Y

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Policy Title <b>Rural Crime Watch</b>	Date <b>October 12, 2023</b>	Resolution No. <b>C/448/23</b>

## **Policy Statement:**

Lacombe County recognizes that Rural Crime Watch can play an important role in keeping our community safe and therefore supports local Rural Crime Watch Groups and their ongoing efforts to reduce the incidents of crime in rural areas. To be eligible for support through this policy, the Rural Crime Watch Group, must be a registered society and carry membership with the Alberta Provincial Rural Crime Watch Association.

It is recognized that there may be additional organizations with a focus on crime prevention and education, ie. restorative justice programs, that operate within Lacombe County and therefore these programs are also eligible to apply for funding in relation to this policy. To be eligible for support through this policy, Crime Prevention Groups must be registered as a non-profit organization.

## **Guidelines/Procedure:**

### **Operating Grants**

1. Subject to budget allocations, Lacombe County will make available an annual operating grant in the amount of \$1,000 to Rural Crime Watch Groups & Crime Prevention Organizations that operate within Lacombe County and provide services to the residents of Lacombe County.
2. To be eligible for the annual operating grant the Rural Crime Watch Group or Crime Prevention Organization must provide an annual report of its activities and confirm that they will be operational and active for the upcoming year.

### **Special Projects Grant**

3. Subject to budget allocations, Lacombe County may be a funding partner with Rural Crime Watch & Crime Prevention Groups for special projects that emphasize education and extension relative to rural crime watch and crime prevention. In all cases, grant funding will not exceed more than 50% of the overall project cost.
4. The following information must be provided as part of a special projects grant request:
  - a. Total cost of the special project
  - b. Explanation of how the special project will promote the rural crime watch group or crime prevention organization and how the proposed project will contribute towards safer communities
  - c. Other funding partners and the contribution from the other funding partners
  - d. Description of the target audience

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## Capital Grants

5. Subject to budget allocations, requests for capital grants will be considered based on the merit of each request. In all cases, grant funding will not exceed more than 50% of the overall project cost.
6. The following information must be provided as part of a capital grant request:
  - a. Total cost of the capital initiative
  - b. Explanation as to how the capital initiative will be used to improve the safety of the community
  - c. Other funding partners and the contribution from the other funding partners
  - d. Life expectancy of the capital initiative
  - e. Estimate of ongoing operational costs related to the capital initiative

## Community Peace Officers

7. Subject to staffing resources being available, Lacombe County Community Peace Officers will act as a liaison between Rural Crime Watch Groups and Lacombe County.
8. Subject to staffing resources being available, Lacombe County Community Peace Officers may participate in coordinated joint venture activities with Rural Crime Watch Groups.

## Promotion and Dissemination of Information

9. Subject to the availability of space and resources, Rural Crime Watch & Crime Prevention Groups may, at no charge, advertise and/or publish articles relative to the promotion of safe communities in the County News and County web page.

## Policy Administration

10. The County Manager or designate is authorized to approve operational, capital, and special project grant applications made pursuant to this policy.

Approved: January 28, 2016  
Updated: February 25, 2021  
Updated: May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023  
Updated: October 12, 2023