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| <b>Department:</b><br><b>Agricultural Services</b> | <b>Section:</b><br><b>AP – Agricultural Program Services</b> |
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## AP-05 Sustainable Agriculture

### Policy Statement

Leduc County Agricultural Services shall participate in agreements with the province of Alberta's Environmental Funding Stream of the Agricultural Service Board Grant Program and the County of Wetaskiwin to provide a full-time program manager shared between Leduc County and County of Wetaskiwin. The program manager shall provide information and program support to Leduc County agricultural producers through programs approved by the Environmental Funding Stream of the Agricultural Service Board Grant Program.

### Definitions

- Environmental Funding Stream means that portion of the Agricultural Service Board Grant that supports environmental activities conducted by a municipality.
- Sustainable agriculture promotes the adoption of environmentally beneficial management practices.
- Agricultural producers are individuals actively engaged in the business of agricultural enterprise, including primary producers, processors, and other agri-business service providers.

### Policy Authority

Sustainable Agriculture programs will be operated and maintained through the annually approved Agricultural Services departmental budget.

### Sustainable Agriculture Standards

- Leduc County shall present workshops and information sessions on a range of topics including, but not limited to: manure and nutrient management, riparian assessments and management strategies, integrated crop management, alternative energy sources, grazing and winter feeding management, and water well management and decommissioning.
- Leduc County will provide information to Leduc County agricultural producers about available programs under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership and other provincial programs and assist those agricultural producers who are applying for program funding.
- Leduc County will facilitate Environmental Farm Plan workshops and assist residents with completion of their Environmental Farm Plan.
- Leduc County will provide the Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) program opportunity to the active farming community within Leduc County.

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### **Policy Responsibilities**

#### **1. Council responsibilities**

Council shall:

- Approve the Sustainable Agriculture Policy.
- Review and approve the continuation of the Environmental Funding Stream of the Agricultural Service Board Program agreement for Sustainable Agriculture between County of Wetaskiwin and Leduc County upon expiration of the terms of the agreement at two year intervals.

#### **2. Administration responsibilities**

Department director and managers shall:

- Review this policy annually to ensure that the policy complies with all current, relevant legislation and municipal policies.
- Annually budget for additional program support to be approved by Leduc County Council.

The Sustainable Agriculture Program Manager shall:

- Produce a seasonal Agricultural Service Board News and Views newsletter publication for distribution to county residents.
- Respond to Leduc County resident inquiries on various issues relating to topics including, but not limited to: manure and nutrient management, riparian assessments and management strategies, integrated crop management, alternative energy sources, grazing and winter feeding management, and water well management and decommissioning.
- Provide support to Leduc County agricultural producers in relation to applications for programs under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership and other provincial programs.
- Provide support to Leduc County residents in relation to the Environmental Farm Plan.
- Administer all aspects of the Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) program according to the yearly memorandum of understanding with ALUS Canada and the terms of reference of the community's Partnership Advisory Committee.
- Provide coordination/facilitation of information sessions and workshops on topics relating to Sustainable Agriculture.

### **Monitoring & Updating**

This policy will be reviewed annually.

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