

## County hires Economic Development Officer

*Doug Erdman brings experience, agricultural background to Mountain View County*

Mountain View County is pleased to announce the addition of Doug Erdman as our first Economic Development Officer.

Erdman comes to the County with over 20 years of experience in the field of economic development, with much of that taking place in rural environments in Alberta and Manitoba. He has developed numerous "not-for-profit" organizations, business plans and strategic management systems for rural municipalities, organizations and individuals. His latest rural development project was a four year stint at the County of Newell in south-eastern Alberta, for whom Erdman developed a "best practices state-of-the-art" department of economic development.

"Doug brings with him valuable experience in working in a rural environment in Alberta, and coming from a rural background himself, he is able to relate to the unique challenges facing the agricultural and business sectors in Mountain View County," says Tony Martens, Director of Legislative and Community Services.

Doug will be based at the County office, with his first official day at the County to be August 3. "This is a great opportunity in a growing and attractive region that presents many exciting challenges for me," says Erdman. "I look forward to meeting and working with the people of Mountain View County."

Born and raised on a grain farm in Lethbridge County, Erdman is still active in agriculture, and currently owns and operates a grain farm in the Barons area, northwest of Lethbridge.

Doug holds a B. Comm. from the University of Alberta and an MBA from the University of Toronto, and is also in the final stages of completing a MSc. in ag economics and rural development at the University of Alberta.

One of his favourite sayings is that "it is better to have one integrative solution to an issue that everyone can live with than ten compromise solutions that ultimately please no one." If you attend a planning seminar facilitated by Doug, you are sure to hear it.

Doug is married to Donna who recently took early retirement from a career teaching home economics.

## Straight Talk

Greening the fleet



In the 2009 Strategic Directions Plan a strategy was included by Council "[t]o preserve the natural environment within Mountain View County"

As part of that strategy Council also set the following goal: "Reduce fuel consumption by the County vehicle and maintenance fleet"

This goal is being achieved in a number of ways. Each piece of equipment purchased is reviewed for its fuel consumption in relation to work it has to carry out. In some cases equipment has been downsized, and in some instances it may be better to purchase a larger piece of equipment to replace a number of smaller pieces of equipment, if the overall fuel consumption is lower.

When the County contracts out work it currently does not apply any fleet environmental standards to those contracts.

Another option is to avoid the purchase of equipment through having staff use their own vehicles. This is possible for normal highway travel, but not where off-road travel is required or environmental hazards may exist. The advantage of this approach is that the overall environmental cost (including manufacturing, maintenance, and fuel) of vehicles is reduced.

In 2009 the County paid a rate of \$0.48 per kilometer to its employees, a rate that was lower than the provincial and federal government rates. The current level of travel expenses paid to staff (it was \$61,222 in 2009, plus \$9,532 relating to training) will increase as we move further into these changes. These increases will be more than offset by the reduction in capital, maintenance, and fuel costs for the equipment fleet.

To check out more news and information on our Straight Talk blog please visit [www.mvcab.ca/blog](http://www.mvcab.ca/blog).

### Public Presentation by Meyers, Norris, Penny LLP Review of Issues Raised by Petitioners

Olds College - James Murray Building  
July 14, 2010 @ 7 p.m.

Consultants from Meyers, Norris, Penny LLP will make a presentation to the public focussed on those issues raised by petitioners during the period from September 2009 to the date of the presentation of the petition to the Minister of Municipal Affairs on December 16, 2009.

Presentation will include:

- A summary of the input received from the Directors of the Rural Roots Association; the public; the Reeve and Councillors of Mountain View County, and Mountain View County staff
- A review of the Mountain View County administrative, planning and governance processes in place; reporting if administration, planning, Council and / or operations has acted illegally or inappropriately
- The results of the community consultation through a telephone survey
- An evaluation of the municipality's strengths and identification of the potentials for improvement

Please note: In order to ensure the independence of the Consultant's review process, no draft of the Presentation, Executive Summary, or Written Report will be submitted to Mountain View County, or any other party, prior to the July 14 presentation.

### Municipal Elections are Monday, October 18, 2010

In preparation for this day, Mountain View County is searching for Returning Officers (paid) for the following divisions:

- Division 1** – One Returning Officer
- Division 2** – Two Returning Officers
- Division 3** – One Returning Officer
- Division 5** – Two Returning Officers
- Division 7** – One Returning Officer

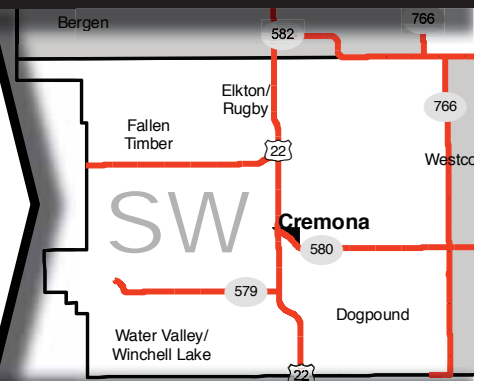


Please contact Joyce King at [joyce.king@mountainviewcounty.com](mailto:joyce.king@mountainviewcounty.com) or 403-335-3311 ext. 151 for more information.

### Road Watch - - - - - July 2010

#### Southwest Quadrant

- Road maintenance-surface grading
- Ditching, Sign maintenance
- Culvert repairs
- Patching (cold mix)
- Calcium applications, Re-graveling
- Chip seal coating (County or contractor)
- Site line brushing
- Grass mowing - Collector Roads only



ATTENTION: Watch for roads with year - round weight restrictions.

### Riparian Fencing Funding Available

Mountain View County has funds available from the Alberta Conservation Association to go towards a permanent riparian fence. Eligible projects are ones that are going to be completed by December 31, 2010



Building Rural Better

Contact Amber Hines for application forms or visit [www.mvcab.ca/riparian](http://www.mvcab.ca/riparian)

Deadline for Applications is July 8, 2010

