

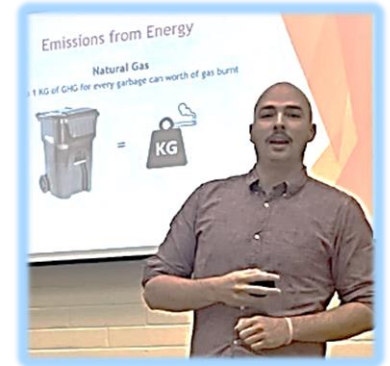
# Alberta SouthWest Bulletin April 2023

## Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA) Update

### ❖ Energy Management

**Tristan Walker** presented an overview of his work as Energy Manager for the Town and MD of Pincher Creek and proposed a regional approach to extending that service to other interested communities.

\*\*A federal grant is available to support such work, and we will be gathering information about municipal infrastructure in the region to determine the scope of work that could happen over the next 2 years, and enlisting letters of support. Deadline for application is April 28, 2023. Thank you for the letters of support!



### ❖ Southern Alberta Regional Solution for Housing Supply



The issue of accessible housing is common to all our communities. Attracting new workers and residents is not possible if housing is not available.

**Karin Finley and Eppo Van Weelerden** of AND Villages Ltd. Proposed an innovative approach to communities that are interested and ready to explore a collaborative approach to planning and development of accessible housing.

\*\* To explore the possibilities, communities are asked to first respond to 5 "self assessment" questions, which will help determine possible next steps. These questions will create a very high-level, regional view of 1) the need for affordable and/or entry-level market housing; 2) availability of serviced land for housing; 3) land use or zoning issues; 4) financing capacity and investment options; 5) possibilities for collaborating!

### ❖ Investment Opportunity Network (ION) Meetings

Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation (AAI) and Jobs, Economy, and Northern Development (JEND) will continue to join the regular AlbertaSW ION meetings, held the fourth Tuesday of each month. Geared to EDOs and CAOs, these on-line meetings, welcome attendance from chambers and community leaders. Next meeting: April 25, 9:30am

### ❖ Economic Developers Alberta (EDA) Conference

Another sold-out event with 400 in person attendees, plus about 150 on-line. All sessions were recorded, so will be able to share some picks and clicks and highlights when they are available!

Some very interesting insights into trends in agriculture, energy, transportation and logistics, and manufacturing and advantages and opportunities for Alberta!

### ❖ Connect4Commerce Update

AlbertaSW, in partnership with Community Futures, is implementing a business-to-business platform to list and promote investment opportunities in all our communities.

A series of training and orientation meetings with community contacts will serve to develop a system and collaborative process to compile and promote investment opportunities. More details to come!



### ❖ Summer flyer 2023

In the summers of 2017, 2018 and 2019 the communities of AlbertaSW compiled a list of summer events and experiences for the website. Thank you to all who are helping to update that information once again!

### Alberta SouthWest Regional Economic Development Alliance

International Economic Development Council (IEDC) Accredited Economic Development Organization (AEDO)

2018-2022 Green Destinations Top 100 Sustainable Global Destinations and 2020 Top 3 Best of the Americas

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