

ALUS PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA



Date: Thursday, February 25, 2021

Time: will commence after the Agricultural Services Board Meeting

Location: <https://www.rockyview.ca/>

Pages

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

B. UPDATES/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. November 25, 2020 ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee Minutes 2

D. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. All Divisions - ALUS Canada Update 4

File: N/A

2. All Divisions - Coordinator Update 5

File: N/A

3. All Divisions - 2020 Approved Projects Update 9

File: N/A

4. All Divisions - 2019 Project Overview 11

File: N/A

E. NEXT MEETING

March 31, 2020

F. ADJOURN THE MEETING

Rocky View County

ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee
November 25, 2020 Meeting Minutes



ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
Cultivating Communities



Present: Greg Boehlke (Chair)
Kim McKylor
Samanntha Wright
Leisa Gallelli
Ludwig Reicheneder
Travis Eklund (Vice Chair)
Tricia Fehr

Division 6 Councillor
Division 2 Councillor
Division 8 Councillor
Farm Member
Farm Member
Farm Member
Farm Member

Also Present: Jeff Fleischer
Delaney McNaughton
Michelle Mitton
Christine Campbell
Karen Snethun

Manager, Agriculture and Environment
Agricultural Services Officer
Legislative Coordinator
ALUS Canada Regional Manager for Alberta
ALUS Canada Associate Hub Manager

Call Meeting to Order

The Chair called the November 25, 2020 ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee meeting to order at 10:26 a.m.

Election of ALUS Chair and Vice Chair

MOVED by Travis Eklund that the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Agricultural Service Board be appointed as the Chair and Vice Chair of ALUS.

Carried

Approval of Meeting Minutes for October 22, 2020

MOVED by Leisa Gallelli that the October 22, 2020 ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee meeting minutes be approved as presented.

Carried

ALUS Canada Orientation

Delaney McNaughton provided a general overview of the ALUS program and Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC) responsibilities.

MOVED by Tricia Fehr that the ALUS Canada Orientation be received as information.

Carried

ALUS Canada Update

Christine Campbell the ALUS Canada regional manager provided an update on the organizations matters.

MOVED by Travis Eklund that the ALUS Canada Update be received as information.

Carried

2020 Approved Projects Update

Delaney McNaughton provided an update on the ALUS projects that were approved in April & October 2020.

MOVED by Councillor Wright that the 2020 Approved Project Updates be received as information.
Carried

Review of Additional Proposed 2020 Projects

Delaney McNaughton provided a review of an additional project proposed for 2020 ALUS funding.

MOVED by Councillor McKylor that the 2020 additional proposed project be approved for implementation.
Carried

Addition of a “High Value Payment” Category for Annual Payments

Delaney McNaughton provided a report on adjusting annual payment to include a “High Value Payment” for projects which are 3 acres or less.

MOVED by Travis Eklund that the addition of a “High Value Payment” category for annual payments be approved for implementation.
Carried

Next Regular Meeting

The next ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee meeting is February 3, 2021.

Adjourn the Meeting

MOVED by Councillor McKylor that the November 25, 2020 ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 11:39 a.m.
Carried

CHAIR

MUNICIPAL CLERK



AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TO: ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee
DATE: February 25, 2021 **DIVISION:** All
FILE: N/A
SUBJECT: ALUS Canada Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides updates from ALUS Canada since the last update provided on November 25, 2020.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends that the ALUS Canada Update be received as information in accordance with Option #1.

BACKGROUND:

ALUS Canada is a national charitable organization that supports the delivery of the ALUS program across the country. ALUS was originally an acronym for “**Alternative Land Use Services**,” reflecting the concept that farmers and ranchers can use their land in an alternative way to produce ecosystem services that benefit Canadians. Today, the program has evolved into a truly national and bilingual organization named “ALUS Canada” in both official languages. The Rocky View ALUS Coordinator works closely with ALUS Canada members to implement the program in the Rocky View region.

DISCUSSION:

ALUS Canada Regional Manager for Alberta will discuss updates within the ALUS Canada organization.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

No budget implications.

OPTIONS:

- Option #1 THAT the ALUS Canada Update be received as information.
Option #2 THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

“Delaney McNaughton”

“Jeff Fleischer”

Agricultural Services Officer

Manager Agricultural and Environmental Services

Administration Resources

Delaney McNaughton, Agricultural and Environmental Services



AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TO: ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee
DATE: February 25, 2021 **DIVISION:** All
FILE: N/A
SUBJECT: Coordinator Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides updates from the ALUS Program Coordinator since the last update provided on October 22, 2020.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends that the Coordinator Update Report be received as information in accordance with Option #1.

BACKGROUND:

The Alternative Land Use Services program (ALUS) is a community developed, farmer delivered program that gives Canadians the opportunity to play an active role in building a healthier environment by providing support to farmers and ranchers to enhance and maintain ecosystem services. ALUS has a simple goal: create a healthy working landscape that sustains agriculture, wildlife and natural spaces for all Canadians.

The ALUS Program Coordinator coordinates implementation of the ALUS Program in Rocky View County. The Program Coordinator is responsible for the delivery and extensions of the ALUS program for conservation on private agricultural lands; developing and maintaining a good working relationship with Rocky View County's agricultural community; providing administrative support to the project and the Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC); and continuing ALUS communications initiatives.

DISCUSSION:

1. Review of the 2020 ALUS Year-end Reporting
 - A review of this reporting will be provided to the PAC along with an overview of what was accomplished by the ALUS Rocky View program in 2020.
2. Upcoming Steps for the 2021 ALUS Program
 - Review the yearly to do list for the 2021 ALUS program. There will also be discussions on program outreach, project applications and PAC goals.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

No budget implications.

Administration Resources

Delaney McNaughton, Agricultural and Environmental Services



OPTIONS:

- Option #1 THAT the Coordinator Update Report be received as information.
Option #2 THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

“Delaney McNaughton”

“Jeff Fleischer”

Agricultural Services Officer

Manager Agricultural and Environmental Services

Attachment ‘A’ – ALUS 2021 To Do List

2021 ALUS To Do's

January

- ALUS Meeting Prep
- AGR-1 Forms for 2020 Annual Payments
- Update Website to Accept Applications Year Round – Specify for now that we are looking for projects we can start to implement in Spring 2021
- January 26 - ALUS 101 Webinar

February

- February 25 – ALUS PAC Meeting
- More Outreach and Searching for Good Applications
- Coordinate Prescreening for Good ALUS Applications
- Sign ALUS Canada MOU

March

- Push advertisements for Spring 2021 Project Applications
- Another ALUS 101 Webinar if Necessary
- Site Visit for Good Applications
- Select Applications According to Funding Allocated
- ALUS Meeting Prep
- March 31 – ALUS PAC Meeting

April/May

- Continued Outreach
- Letter of Intent to Participants
- Prep for Outreach Event/Film
- Finalize Project Details
- Project Establishment?
- May 19 – ALUS PAC Meeting

June

- Letter of Intent to Participants
- Finalize Project Details
- Prep for Outreach Event/Film
- Project Establishment?
- Cows and Fish Riparian Assessments if Necessary
- Database Entry/Updating for Established Projects

July

- Interim Reporting
- Launch Event with AgTour (Highlight a Current ALUS Project)
- Project Establishment?
- Establishment Cost Payments?

August/September

- Acre and Project Verification
- Prepare Producer Contracts
- Project Verification Reporting to ALUS Canada
- Project Establishment?
- Establishment Cost Payments?
- September 22 – ALUS PAC Meeting

October

- ALUS Canada National Conference
- Contract Signing
- Acre and Project Verification
- Project Establishment?
- Establishment Cost Payments?

November

- Acre and Project Verification
- Contract Signing
- Annual Payments (End of November)
- Project Establishment?
- Establishment Cost Payments?
- Target Projections for 2022
- November 17 – ALUS PAC Meeting

December

- Year End Reporting
- Financial Summary of 2021 Payments Completed for Finance Department



AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TO: ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee
DATE: February 25, 2021 **DIVISION:** All
FILE: N/A
SUBJECT: 2020 Approved Projects Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an overview of the projects that were approved by the PAC in 2020.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends that the 2020 Approved Projects Update be received as information in accordance with Option #1.

BACKGROUND:

The Alternative Land Use Services program (ALUS) is a community developed, farmer delivered program that gives Canadians the opportunity to play an active role in building a healthier environment by providing support to farmers and ranchers to enhance and maintain ecosystem services. ALUS has a simple goal: create a healthy working landscape that sustains agriculture, wildlife and natural spaces for all Canadians.

Farmers and ranchers can submit applications for projects which enhance or conserve ecosystem services on their farm or ranch. The Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC) reviews these applications and a select few are implemented in the corresponding year.

DISCUSSION:

The majority of the projects approved by the PAC in 2020 were completed and implemented. One exception was a tree planting project that was in partnership with AWES (Agroforestry and Woodlot Extension Society of Alberta). AWES withdrew the contract for this project due to funding difficulties; they will reassess for the future if the ALUS PAC decides to move forward in the future. A final update on all these projects will be provided.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

No budget implications.

OPTIONS:

- Option #1 THAT the 2020 Approved Projects Update be received as information.
Option #2 THAT alternative direction be provided.

Administration Resources

Delaney McNaughton, Agricultural and Environmental Services



ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

Respectfully submitted,

“Delaney McNaughton”

Agricultural Services Officer

Concurrence,

“Jeff Fleischer”

Manager Agricultural and Environmental Services



AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TO: ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee
DATE: February 25, 2021 **DIVISION:** All
FILE: N/A
SUBJECT: 2019 Project Overview

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At the November 25, 2019, PAC meeting, Administration was asked to provide an overview of the ALUS projects approved in 2019. This report provides an overview of the projects that were funded by the ALUS program in 2019.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends that the 2019 Project Overview be received as information in accordance with Option #1.

BACKGROUND:

The Alternative Land Use Services program (ALUS) is a community developed, farmer delivered program that gives Canadians the opportunity to play an active role in building a healthier environment by providing support to farmers and ranchers to enhance and maintain ecosystem services. ALUS has a simple goal: create a healthy working landscape that sustains agriculture, wildlife and natural spaces for all Canadians.

Farmers and ranchers can submit applications for projects which enhance or conserve ecosystem services on their farm or ranch. The Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC) reviews these applications and a select few are implemented in the corresponding year.

DISCUSSION:

Two projects were approved by the PAC and funded in 2019.

1. The producer has 4 project areas on 3 quarters that are normally cropped. The project areas are often dry enough to crop, however once every 3 or 4 years the area becomes too saturated with water to crop through. The producer enrolled these acres with ALUS and has excluded them from being cropped. Our PAC requested that the area be defined with fence posts for future verification.
2. The area enrolled for the second project is a wetland that was often grazed by horses which was contaminating the water and destroying the wetland vegetation. The 13 acre wetland was fenced off to completely restrict the area from grazing.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

No budget implications.



OPTIONS:

Option #1 THAT the 2019 Project Overview Report be received as information.

Option #2 THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

“Delaney McNaughton”

“Jeff Fleischer”

Agricultural Services Officer

Manager Agricultural and Environmental Services