



MEDIA RELEASE – For Immediate Release December 8, 2009

Interim Budget Promises Accomplishments and Savings

Council approved the Interim Budget for 2010 at their regular council meeting on December 8, 2009. The Interim Budget total is \$83,703,408; divided between capital expenditures of \$39,846,315, operating expenditure of \$24,645,486, and school and senior requisitions of \$19,211,607.

“I think this budget reflects the local economy and is a good example of us reducing costs,” said Mayor Gerald Soroka. “This budget lays out our plan for the next year, where we hope to achieve many successes.”

The interim budget is based on the tax rate from 2009, when council was able to reduce the tax rate by 20 per cent for both residential and non-residential. The 2010 Interim Budget is approximately 8 per cent less than the 2009 budget, but will continue to accomplish the goals of council.

Many major projects are planned for 2010, including roadworks, utilities and buildings. Road re-surfacing will be completed in Peers following the completion of the new Peers Water System in November 2009. Evansburg and Wildwood will also see re-surfacing of roads, curb, gutter and sidewalks in addition to the paving of the Evansburg trail system. Construction will be completed on the new Wildwood Municipal Services Centre. The Fire Department will also be replacing some of the aging rescue units at certain fire stations throughout the county.

The final budget is approved by council in April 2010, after assessments, school and senior requisitions are completed. Due to these factors, there will be changes from the interim budget to the final budget. Administration, through discussions with the assessment company, expects the non-residential and linear assessments to remain similar to their 2009 numbers. The school requisition is determined by the province, while the Evergreens Foundation determines the senior’s requisition.

Yellowhead County Council believes that this budget is a representation of their commitment to building a better community for present and future generations.

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