

Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting
A G E N D A

for Monday, February 12th, 2024 at 1:00 P.M. to be held virtually:

Telus Business Connect Video Meeting link:

<https://video.businessconnect.telus.com/join/641297501>

Meeting ID: 641297501

and/or physically in County Council Chambers, 4612 McDougall Drive, Smoky Lake.

1. Meeting:

1.1 Call to Order.

2. Agenda:

Acceptance of Agenda:
as presented or
subject to additions or deletions.

3. Minutes:

3.1 Adopt minutes of **December 12th, 2023** – Agricultural Service Board Meeting. ©
Recommendation: Motion to Adopt.

4. Request for Decision:

4.1 Lakeland Agricultural Research Association 2024 Contract. ©

5. Issues for Information:

6. Correspondence:

6.1 Event Information Poster ‘A thriving food industry local and beyond’, received from Perry Phillips, Co-founder, Connect for Food, received January 26th, 2024. ©
Recommendation: File for Information.

7. Delegation(s):

7.1 Alyssa Krawchuk, Director, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association @ 1:15p.m

8. Executive Session:

9. Date and time of Next Meeting(s):
Adjournment



Minutes of Smoky Lake County's **Agricultural Service Board Organizational and Regular Meeting** held on Tuesday, **December 12, 2023**, at 9:00 A.M. held in Smoky Lake County Council Chambers and virtually online through Electronic Communication Technology.

The meeting was called to Order by the County's Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Lydia Cielin, in the presence of the following persons:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u> <u>Tues. Dec. 12, 2023</u>
Committee Member	Dan Gawalko	Present in Chambers
Committee Member	Jered Serben	Present in Chambers
Alt. Committee Member	Dominique Cere	Present in Chambers
Alt. Committee Member	Lorne Halisky	Absent
Producer-at-Large Member	Tori Ponich	Present in Chambers
Producer-at-Large Member	Curtis Boychuk	Present in Chambers
Producer-at-Large Member	Tamara Flondra	Present in Chambers
Alt. Producer-at-Large Member	Kurt Melnyk	Absent
Alt. Producer-at-Large Member	Brett Rurka	Absent
County Interim CAO	Lydia Cielin	Present in Chambers
Ag. Fieldman	Carleigh Danyluk	Present in Chambers
Assistant Ag. Fieldman	Amanda Khin	Present in Chambers
County Executive Services/R.S.	Patti Priest	Present in Chambers
Communication Officer	Evonne Zukowski	Virtually Present

No Members of the Media were Present.
No Members of the Public were Present.

Delegation: Alyssa Krawchuk, Executive Director, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), was virtually present.

1. Election of Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson:

Election of Chairperson

The Interim Chief Administrative Officer called a first (1) time for nominations for Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board.

ASB01-23: Ponich

That Councillor Dan Gawalko be nominated as the Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board.

The Interim Chief Administrative Officer called a second (2) time for nominations for Chairperson.

The Interim Chief Administrative Officer called a third (3) time for nominations for Chairperson.

HEARING NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS.

The Interim Chief Administrative Officer declared nominations for the Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, ceased.

Mr. Dan Gawalko was declared elected by acclamation by the Chief Administrative Officer as the Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, for the ensuing year and assumed the Chair.

Election of Vice-Chairperson

As per Bylaw No. 1441-23: Agricultural Service Board, Section 5.2, the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson must be a Member of Council from Smoky Lake County, and Mr. Jered Serben was declared elected by acclamation by the Chairperson as the Vice-Chairperson of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board for the ensuing year.

2. Agenda:

ASB02-23: Flondra That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, December 12, 2023, be adopted as amended:

Addition:

1. Chairperson's Report attachments:
 - a. Letter of support and response to the letter
2. Provincial Agricultural Service Board Year-2024 Resolutions.
3. Alberta Agriculture & Irrigation - Insect Survey Results 2023.
4. Letter from Leduc County, dated December 1, 2023, Re: 2023 AgriRecovery Program for livestock and Canada-Alberta Drought Livestock Assistance.

Carried Unanimously.

3. Minutes:

ASB03-23: Flondra That the Minutes of Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on October 13, 2023, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

4. Request for Decision:

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) – Funding Request

Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board held discussion in respect to Smoky Lake County either: funding, not funding, increasing, or decreasing, the municipal contribution towards Lakeland Agricultural Research Association's (LARA's) Year-2024 operating budget, based information collected by the Board Members from consulting with local producers.

7. Delegation:

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)

Virtually present before the Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board from 9:19 a.m. to 9:23 a.m., was Alyssa Krawchuk, Executive Director, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), to provide a verbal report of LARA's activities, mentioning their events and workshops held in November and December as well as the upcoming events:

- January 31, 2024, Webinar on Livestock Water Management Series: A Whole Year Approach.
- February 7, 2024, Workshop on Overcoming Challenges in Weed Management in Regenerative Agriculture in Vilna.
- February 9, 2024, Farmer Appreciation Night in Glendon.
- February 13, 2024, Sheep and Goat Forum in Elk Point.
- March 6, 2024, LARA Annual General Meeting.

4. Request for Decision:

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) – Municipal Contribution

ASB04-23: Flondra
DEFEATED That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board provide a recommendation to Smoky Lake County Council, based on information collected by the Board Members from consulting with local producers, and discussions held on December 12, 2023, to approve funding a municipal contribution in the amount of \$30,000.00 towards Lakeland Agricultural Research Association's (LARA's) Year-2024 operating budget.

DEFEATED.

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) – Producer Membership Funding

ASB05-23: Ponich That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board provide a recommendation to Smoky Lake County Council, based on information collected by the Board Members from consulting with local producers, and discussions held on December 12, 2023, to: fund individual LARA Memberships upon request, in the amount of \$200.00 per producer's Premise ID Number and/or Farm Fuel Benefit Number, for the Year-2024, up to a total County-wide maximum membership funding in the amount of \$30,000.00 to Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), in lieu of any municipal contribution towards LARA's Year-2024 operating budget; and have Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Department Staff provide in-house extension event(s) as required.

Carried.

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) - Delegation

ASB06-23: Flondra That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board acknowledge receipt of the verbal information provided by the December 12, 2023, Delegation: Alyssa Krawchuk, Executive Director, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA).

Carried.

Dominique Cere, Smoky Lake County Councillor, left Council Chambers, time 9:45 a.m.

Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-12-03: Clubroot

ASB07-23: Boychuk That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board recommend Smoky Lake County's Policy Statement No. 62-12-03: Clubroot, be brought to Council as Policy Statement No. 62-12-04: Clubroot, with the following changes incorporated:


SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Title: Clubroot	Policy No.: 12-03
Section: 62	Code: P-8
	Page No.: 1 of 9

Legislation Reference: Alberta Provincial Statutes

Purpose: To recognize that Clubroot is a serious problem and Smoky Lake County supports the agricultural community to help minimize the spread of Clubroot which is a pest under the *Agricultural Pest Act*.

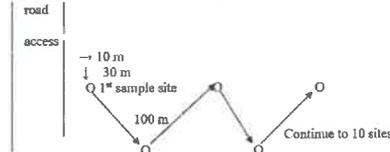
Policy Statement and Guidelines:

- DEFINITION:**
 - "Clubroot" is a disease of canola, mustard and other crops in the cabbage family (*Cruciferae*), caused by a parasite of plants (*Plasmodiophora brassicae*) that lives in the soil and characterized by knobby or club-shaped swellings on the roots and premature wilting, yellowing, and stunted growth of aboveground parts.
- BACKGROUND:**
 - Clubroot can spread through spores in the soil or in cruciferous plant material containing galls such as Canola, Mustard, Flixweed, Shepherd's purse, Stinkweed. Resting spores are extremely long lived, surviving in soil for up to 20 years; and are most likely to spread via contaminated soil carried from field to field by equipment. Tillage equipment represents the greatest risk of spreading the disease as soil is frequently carried on shovels and discs from field to field.
- OBJECTIVE:**
 - To minimize the spread and build-up of Clubroot in canola fields through education and awareness.
 - To prevent economic loss by employing a Clubroot Management Agreement between agricultural producers who have confirmed Clubroot fields within Smoky Lake County.
- STATEMENT:**
 - The Agricultural Service Board, under the authority of the *Agricultural Pest Act*, will undertake the following measures to assist in the minimization of Clubroot in canola.
 - 1.1 Perform random testing of susceptible crops and confirm suspected infestations through laboratory testing (PCR).

Title: Clubroot	Policy No.: 12-03
Section: 62	Code: P-S
	Page No.: 2 of 9

Policy Statement and Guidelines:

- 4.1.2 Advertise Public Awareness of County's random testing program.
- 4.1.3 Implement a Clubroot Management Agreement with agricultural producers based on the Canola Council of Canada Clubroot management recommendations and research.
- 5. SURVEY PROCEDURE:
 - 5.1 Clubroot disease development is favored by wet and acidic soil conditions and is mainly spread by movement of soil and infected plant material, as well as run-off water carrying soil.
 - 5.2 Symptoms: The spores infect the roots of susceptible hosts, causing the formation of club-shaped galls or swellings that restrict the uptake of water and nutrients by the plant. Above-ground symptoms include yellowing, stunting, premature, ripening and wilting of plants.
 - 5.3 Equipment and Materials needed: Clipboard, record sheets, hand towel, garden shears, Ziploc bags, 5% bleach solution, Plastic tray or pail, disposable boot covers, GPS Unit.
 - 5.4 Clubroot field inspections will be conducted randomly by the appointed agricultural pest inspectors.
 - 5.5 Agricultural Services Department Clubroot survey methods, reporting form and calculation of disease incidence will follow standard protocols as recommended by the Alberta Clubroot Management, as per **Schedule "A": Clubroot Survey Form**. The standard survey method is as follows: Scout for Clubroot by visually inspecting canola/mustard/cole crop roots for galls. As symptoms may take 6-8 weeks to develop, they are most detectable later in the summer (late July or August). Do not drive into field or access, but park on the road whenever possible.
 - 5.5.1 Put on new disposable boot covers. Survey the field in a "W" pattern, sampling 10 plants at each of 10 equally spaced sites along the arms of the W. Begin 30 m to the right of the field access. 10 m from field edge and allow 100 m between sampling points.



Title: Clubroot	Policy No.: 12-03
Section: 62	Code: P-S
	Page No.: 3 of 9

Policy Statement and Guidelines:

- 5.5.2 At each sample site, dig up roots from 10 plants and shake off excess soil. Examine roots for presence of galls. Record sample site location and findings on Clubroot survey form. Fields where infection is found or suspected, collect 5 - 10 root specimens, by cutting off stems and placing roots in a Ziploc bag labeled with field location and date surveyed. Retain sample for submission to lab for confirmation.
- 5.5.3 Prior to leaving potentially infested field, discard disposable boot covers into garbage bag and incinerate later. Disinfect sampling tools with bleach solution.
- 6. NOTIFICATION PROCESS:
 - 6.1 When land is verified positive for Clubroot, the landowner will be notified via phone and in writing, as per **Schedule "B": Notification To Landowner Of Clubroot** if an agricultural producer is found not adhering to their Clubroot Management Agreement, Checklist a legal notice in accordance with the **Province of Alberta Agricultural Pest Act, as per Schedule "C": Legal Notice To Control Pests** may be issued. Agricultural producers will be required to meet with the Agricultural Fieldman within 60 days of receiving the letter and complete **Schedule "D" Clubroot Management Agreement Checklist** and have it signed and returned within 60 days.
 - 6.2 If a host crop is sown on land that has Clubroot and a notice has been issued on this property restricting the growth of host crops, the host crop shall be destroyed.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	June 11, 2009	# 556-10 - Page # 8996
Amended	November 6, 2014	# 118-14 - Page #11462
Amended	February 19, 2019	# 388-19 - Page #13475

Section 62

Policy 12-03

SCHEDULE "A"



AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD CLUBROOT SURVEY FORM

Surveyor name: _____
 Municipality: Smoky Lake County
 Field location: (Legal Property): _____
Section Quarter Township range Section
 Name of producer farming that field: _____
 Date surveyed: _____
 Crop Cultivar: _____
 Previous crops: _____

Article 1. Survey results
 Strictly according to protocol (sample 10 plants at each of 10 sites using W pattern).

Clubroot Found
 Yes
 No

N

of positive sites / 10: _____
 Lab Test Confirmation: _____
 Additional Comments: _____

Draw map of field and landmarks with sampling points

Inspector: _____ Date: _____

Section 62

Policy 12-03

SCHEDULE "B"



NOTIFICATION TO LANDOWNER OF CLUBROOT

Date: _____

Dear Agricultural Producer,

RE: Random Clubroot Survey Results

During Smoky Lake County's annual Clubroot surveying program, we have identified Clubroot on the Legal Land Descriptions. Please note Clubroot is a serious disease affecting canola, if the disease is not managed properly it will continue to spread and overtime severely decrease yield in future canola crops. Smoky Lake County holds the right to issue a Clubroot Notice restricting the growth of canola, but we much prefer to work with producers first. Attached to this letter is a Clubroot Management Plan of Alberta, along with the 20-20 seed lab report confirming the presence of Clubroot, and a Clubroot Management Agreement Checklist that **MUST** be returned to Smoky Lake County's Office within 60 days of this letter being issued. This Clubroot Management Agreement Checklist must be reviewed and signed off by the Agricultural Extension Certified Crop Advisor and/or Agronomist. A list of these professionals in your area are attached.

Please understand we want to work with agricultural producers first and foremost, as we are here to provide support to the Agricultural Community as a whole. Please **you are required to** notify any renter or lease holders of this property if you are not currently farming the property yourself.

If you have any questions with any of the attached information or forms, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Fieldman

Section 62

Policy 12-83

SCHEDULE "C"

LEGAL NOTICE TO CONTROL PESTS

**Agricultural Pests Act
Section 6(1) - Form 2
PEST AND NUISANCE CONTROL REGULATION**

To: Name: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____
Box City or Town Postal Code

You are hereby notified that the _____ quarter of section _____ township _____ range _____ west of the 4th meridian, Alberta, as indicated on the diagram below, contains Clubroot, which has been declared a pest by the *Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation* made under the *Agricultural Pests Act*, and you are directed to take the following measures:

- Do not plant canola on _____
Legal Property
 until _____
Year
- Keep _____
Legal Property
 free of volunteer canola, wild mustard and shepherds purse or any other host vegetation.
- Use direct seeding and any soil conservation practices to minimize soil movement.
- Clean soil and crop debris from field equipment before entering or leaving all fields.
- Avoid the use of straw, hay, greenfeed, silage or manure from the _____
Legal Property

NW	NE
SW	SE

IMMEDIATE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY: _____

All of the above measures must be completed within _____ years from the date of issue of this notice, failing this action may be taken in accordance with the legislation referred to above.

This notice is issued under Section 12(1) of the *Agricultural Pests Act*. An appeal against this notice may be served on the municipal secretary, accompanied by a deposit of \$100.00, before the expiry of the time stated above or the period of 10 days from service of the notice, whichever expiry date occurs first and otherwise made in accordance with the *Agricultural Pests Act*.

Date of Issue: _____ Inspector - Smoky Lake County
 Telephone Number: 780-658-3730

c.c. Rentar/Leasee (if different from the Landowner)

Section 62

Policy 12-83

SCHEDULE "D"

Clubroot Management Agreement Checklist

This Clubroot Management Agreement is for developing a proactive management plan with the help of a Certified-Crop-Advisor or Agronomist to reduce or keep spore levels low and to minimize yield loss due to Clubroot.

For each section below, please fill out all required information for all management strategies. The strategies listed as **Required-Recommended** are the minimum requirements that Smoky Lake County suggests **must** be included. Additional strategies can be included wherever feasible and possible. For in depth information on Clubroot management strategies, please refer to the Alberta Clubroot Management Plan, the Alberta **Canola Council** or your professional advisor.

Agricultural Producer Information

Date: _____

Landowner or Lease Holder Name: _____

Certified-Crop-Advisor: _____

Field location: (Legal Property): _____
Section Quarter Township Range Meridian

Field location: (Legal Property): _____
Section Quarter Township Range Meridian

Part 1: Crop Rotation

Crop Rotation has proven to lower spore loads in the soil with a minimum of a three year rotation. Longer rotations are encouraged in fields with high disease severity. Indicate which crop rotation interval will be followed:

Three-year rotation (two year break) - **Required-Recommended**

Four-year rotation (three year break)

Perennial forage crop for more than two years

Other- please indicate _____

Section 62

Policy 12-03

Part 2: Variety Selection

Select all strategies that will be used:

- Only Clubroot-resistant varieties in Clubroot confirmed fields will be grown - **Required-Recommended**
- Use of Clubroot-resistant varieties in all canola fields
- Rotating Clubroot varieties with multi-genetics varieties
- Seeding Canola earlier

Part 3: Weed Management

Select all weed management strategies that will be used:

- Control of volunteer crops including: Canola, Camelina, Mustard or other Clubroot susceptible hosts - **Required-Recommended**
- Control of cruciferous weeds throughout all rotations - **Required-Recommended**
- Rotating herbicide programs within Canola varieties ex. Liberty, Roundup, Clearfield

Part 4: Small Clubroot Patch Management

- Hand pulling and safely disposing of all Clubroot-infected plants
- Liming of soil in Clubroot-infected patches to increase pH 7.3
- Soil testing to monitor Clubroot spore levels
- Seeding known Clubroot patches last

Part 5: Reducing Soil Movement

Please indicate all the ways that soil movement will be minimized:

- Seed grass in the field entry way to reduce spore or as an area for cleaning equipment
- Create separate entrance and exits away from existing field entrances
- Remove large clumps of soil from equipment
- Wash and sanitize with bleach when possible
- Visit Clubroot infected fields last
- Require others (industry) to implement a biosecurity protocol
- Use of soil conservation practices, such as zero till or minimum tillage - **Required-Recommended**

- Minimize traffic in fields, especially during wet conditions
- Discourage recreational vehicles from crossing land with signage, fencing and gates

Section 62

Policy 12-03

Part 6: Disclosure of Clubroot Infestation and Biosecurity

- Notification of all occupants, renter and easement holders who have access to land - **Required**
- Notification and disclosure to contracted services and or other parties accessing the land - **Required**
- Disclosure that Clubroot is present to when the land is sold or rented to other parties

Part 7: Clubroot Scouting and Monitoring

- Continued monitoring of spore levels in soil and scouting for visible symptoms on plants in fields that have confirmed clubroot
- Continued scouting in other fields rented or owned

Part 8: Declaration

I declare that I have answered the above to the best of my ability and will adhere to the required clubroot management strategies, as a minimum, to keep Clubroot spore levels low.

Landowner/Renters Signature: _____ Date: _____

Certified Crop Advisor: _____ Date: _____

Agricultural Fieldman Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this agreement to the Smoky Lake County office within 60 days of receiving your Clubroot notification letter. For further information regarding this matter please contact the Agricultural Services Department at (780) 656-3730.

Physical Address: #612 McDougall Drive
 Smoky Lake, AB

Mailing Address: Box 310
 Smoky Lake, AB
 T0A 3C0

Carried.

Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-10-08: ASB Business Plan

ASB08-23: Ponich That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board recommend Smoky Lake County's Policy Statement No. 62-10-08: Agricultural Service Board Business Plan, be amended to align with changes made to Policy Statement No. 62-28-06: Mowing Program, and the fulltime Animal Control Technician.

Carried.

5. Issues for Information:

ASB Chairperson's Report

Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Chairperson, Dan Gawalko, provided the following written report:

Dan Gawalko ASB Chair report
December 2023

October 4 attended the ASB regional resolution review committee held virtually with our Ag Fieldman Carleigh, reviewed 3 resolutions, agriculture in the classroom, Alberta transportation vegetation management, bee package imports and control of Varroa mites, these will be brought forward to the NE regional conference on October 20th in Smoky Lake County October 13 attended the ASB meeting with Jared Serben and 3 new producer reps and 2 alternates from the county, we did an orientation on the ASB bylaws and policy, Doug Macaulay ASB program manager gave the board a very good orientation and presentation on ASB boards in Alberta, discussed the report card on the resolutions 2023 from Linda Hunt executive assistant of ASB provincial committee, Alyssa Krawchuk gave an update on LARA and how they are moving forward in 2024 with new staff coming onboard in January and also the upcoming extension events, next ASB meeting December 12, 9:00 am.

October 16 attended the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association LARA meeting, the small plot sprayer has arrived total price was 31,800 with shipping, Alyssa is the new agriculture director on the LICA board, will be selling the old 2006 Chev truck and will start looking to purchase

a better condn used truck, no FamRITE report at this time, executive director report was given by Alyssa, finished combining faba beans on oct 10, majority of the RVT trials had a passing mark, met with Lakeland college to start collaborating on some projects will meet again in January, met with MLA Scott Cyr he would like to have the Ag Minister and other MLA's come out to see what LARA is doing and raise awareness of agriculture in NE Alberta, had a meeting with living labs and attended several ASB meetings in the region, Dustin is now certified to do EVP's, LFA report heifers came out of the pasture Oct 1, dugouts are full, working with Lakeland college on increasing utilization on brush pastures and GPS ear tags, starting January 2024 2 free feed tests for member producers till the feed test budget runs out of funds, went over the clubroot policy, March 6 will be the AGM in Glendon or Goodridge, other upcoming events November 13-14 drone training clinic, November 16 working well webinar, November 28 strategic weed management seminar, November 30 young farmers appreciation night, December 1 Finding fairness in farm transitions with Elaine Froese, next meeting November 20 @ 10:00 am.

October 20 attended and chaired the 2023 Northeast Regional Agricultural service board conference at Metis Crossing with all of the new ASB board in attendance Jared Serben councillor, producer reps Curtis Boychuk, Tamara Flondra, and Tori Ponich, along with our Ag fieldman Carleigh and Assistant fieldman Amanda, Reeve Lome Halsky councillor Dominique Cere, our interim CAD Lydia Cielin and our legislative clerk Patti Priest who was also our recording secretary, I welcomed MLA's Scott Cyr from Bonnyville - Cold Lake and Garth Rowswell from Vermilion- Lloydminster- Wainwright, Doug Macaulay Director of crop assurance program section gave a program update followed by Momna Farzand a cropping agrologist who talked about LARA and the research and extension programs they do in NE Alberta, Maureen Vadias-Sloan from AFCS gave an update on, insurance programs available to producers in Alberta, Don Christenson gave a very interesting presentation on diversifying your agriculture operation, Cole Ambrock talked about effectiveness of agritourism and raising awareness of primary ag production for millennial urbanites and Linda Hunt talked about AgKnow Alberta farm mental health network and the programs they offer to producers, we did a resolution session and concluded with the MD. Of Provost inviting us to attend the 2024 NE Regional ASB Conference in their municipality next year.

November 6 wrote a letter of support for the AgriRecovery program as producers in Smoky Lake County were not eligible for the program sent to the Minister of Agriculture RJ Sigurdson and AFCS office in St. Paul.

November 20 attended the LARA meeting in Ashmont talked about replacing the truck options on leasing or buying were discussed, in 2024 LARA will be giving 2 free feed tests for producers per provided PID number, we will be purchasing another feed sample probe no chair or Famrite reports at this time, Momna gave a cropping report and Alyssa presented the finances and the proposed 2024 budget she also gave the executive director report she attended the LICA Oct 19 board meeting, the living labs organizing workshop, working on policies and Canada summer job applications, she will be purchasing some new computers for the office staff also discussed some ideas for next years events and presented a letter from ROAR about funding for fiscal year 2023-2024 for 330,000 dollars for each research association in Alberta, reviewed all appointments from each municipality organizational meetings, upcoming events November 28 strategic weed webinar, November 30 young farmers social, December 1 Finding fairness in farm transitions with Elaine O Froese

March 6, 2024 LARA AGM @ Goodridge hall and a farmer appreciation event in Glendon in early 2024 next meeting is on December 18 at noon in Ashmont

Minister of Agriculture & Irrigation – AgriRecovery Program for Livestock Producers

ASB09-23: Serben That the correspondence received by the Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, in support of the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation's AgriRecovery Program, be tabled to a future ASB Meeting to allow time to contemplate and bring back ideas for recommendations to the Minister on how to roll out the AgriRecovery Program for Livestock Producers.

Carried.

ASB Chairperson's Report

ASB10-23: Serben That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Chairperson's Report be accepted for information, including the two letters sent by the Chairperson to the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation: dated August 29, 2023, in favour of the Special Areas Board's request for additional supports in working with the Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC); and, dated December 12, 2023, advocating for a AgriRecovery Program for Livestock Producers; **and** acknowledge receipt of the response letter received from the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, dated November 29, 2023, announcing the Federal Government has agreed to partner with the Provincial Government on the delivery of the 2023 Canada-Alberta Drought Livestock Assistance Program.

Carried.

7. Correspondence:

Big Lakes County - Support for U of C Faculty Veterinary Medicine Program

ASB11-23: Flondra That the correspondence received by Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, from Tyler Airth, Agricultural Service Board Chair, Big Lakes County received October 16, 2023, in respect to support for University of Calgary Faculty Veterinary Medicine Programs, be filed for information.

Carried.

Big Lakes County - Integrity of our Pesticide Regulatory System

ASB12-23: Flondra That the correspondence received by Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, from Tyler Airth, Agricultural Service Board Chair, Big Lakes County, dated October 16, 2023, in respect to maintaining the integrity of our Pesticide Regulatory System, be filed for information.

Carried.

Warner County - Appreciation for the Increase of Funding for ASBs

ASB13-23: Boychuk That the correspondence received by Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, from Shawn Rodgers, Agricultural Service Board Chairman, Warner County, dated October 16, 2023, in appreciation for the Increase of Funding for Agricultural Service Boards, be filed for information.

Carried.

Lac Ste Anne County - AgriRecovery Program for Livestock Producers

ASB14-23: Flondra That the correspondence received by Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, from Joe Blakeman, Reeve, Lac Ste Anne County, dated November 8, 2023, in respect to the AgriRecovery Program for Livestock Producers, be filed for information.

Carried.

Smoky Lake County - AgriRecovery Program for Livestock Producers

ASB15-23: Ponich That the Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board, acknowledge receipt of the copied letter advocating for a AgriRecovery Program for Livestock Producers, received from Jered Serben, Reeve, Smoky Lake County, dated November 6, 2023, to the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation.

Carried.

Alberta Invasive Species Council - Sponsorship

ASB16-23: Ponich That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board recommend Smoky Lake County Council approve to sponsor a bronze membership in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the Alberta Invasive Species Council, in response to the letter received from Megan Evans, Executive Director, Alberta Invasive Species Council, received November 23, 2023.

Carried.

Provincial Agricultural Service Board Resolution Package

ASB17-23: Boychuk That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Members who are attending the Provincial ASB Conference, scheduled for January 23, 2024, in Lethbridge, Alberta, vote **in favour** of the following Year-2024 ASB Resolutions, as presented within the Provincial ASB Resolution Session Agenda Package, dated December 1, 2023:

Number	Resolution
1-24	Agricultural Equipment Highway Signs
2-24	Compensating Producers for Ecosystem Services
3-24	Creation Of Livestock Production Insurance
4-24	Supporting A Compensation Multiplier
5-24	Wild Boar and The Alberta Agricultural Pest Act
6-24	Improving The Sustainability of Canadian Apiculture Through Bee Package Imports and the Control of Varroa Mites
7-24	Re-Registration Of 2% Liquid Strychnine for Certified Applicators

Carried

Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation - Insect Survey Results 2023

ASB18-23: Ponich That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board acknowledge receipt of the Alberta Insect Pest Monitoring Network's Smoky Lake County Insect Survey Results for Year-2023, based monitoring information collected and submitted by Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Department Staff, and distributed by Shelley Barkley, Insect Technologist, Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation.

Carried.

Leduc County - 2023 AgriRecovery Program Exemption

ASB19-23: Flondra That the correspondence received by Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board from Glenn Belozzer, ASB Chair, Leduc County, date stamped December 11, 2023, in respect to concerns over Leduc County's exemption to the Year-2023 AgriRecovery Program for Livestock and Canada-Alberta Drought Livestock Assistance (CADLA) Program, be filed for information.

Carried.

8. Executive Session:

No Executive Session.

9. Date and time of Next Meeting(s):

Next Agricultural Service Board Meeting

ASB20-23: Flondra The next Smoky Lake County **Agricultural Service Board Meeting** be scheduled for **Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.**, to be held virtually, through Electronic Communication Technology as per Bylaw 1376-20 **and/or** physically in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

ASB21-23: Ponich That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Meeting of December 12, 2023, be adjourned, time 10:55 a.m.

Carried.

CHAIRPERSON

S E A L

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting Date: Monday, February 12, 2024

Agenda Item: #4.1

Topic: Lakeland Agricultural Research Association Partnership

Presented By: Agricultural Department

Recommendation:

Boards Recommendation.

Background:

For the last 9 years Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board has partnered with the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) to provide unbiased environmental and extension programming to Smoky Lake County's agricultural community. Smoky Lake County has contributed \$55,000.00 of ASB operational funds to LARA annually, since 2015.

November 6, 2014 Smoky Lake County first entered into a contract with LARA.

- That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board partner with Lakeland Applied Research Association to provide environmental and extension programming for Smoky Lake County residents and increase the 2015 ASB budget by \$55,000; and the Environmental Streamline Program grant funding of \$25,000.00 remain in-house. **Motion #112-14**

Budget amount has remained the same for LARA since the initial contract.

- December 16, 2019 That Smoky Lake County not enter into a contract with the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) for the Year-2020 Extension Programming, as Smoky Lake County has provided a municipal contribution in the amount of \$55,000.00 each year from Year-2015 to Year-2019, and LARA is not willing to accept Smoky Lake County's reduced Year-2020 municipal contribution offer as per the November 6, 2019 Council Motion #1221-19 in the amount of \$25,000.00 towards the LARA program. **Motion # 294-19**

Following the December 16, 2019 meeting LARA had sent out a newsletter to producers in Smoky Lake County notifying them that Smoky Lake County would no longer be contributing to LARA.

February 24, 2020, 20 Members of the Public entered Council Chambers to attend the meeting and express their concerns about LARA no longer being funded by Smoky Lake County.

February 24, 2020

- That Smoky Lake County Council's December 16, 2019 Motion # 294-19: "That Smoky Lake County not enter into a contract with the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) for the Year-2020 Extension Programming, as Smoky Lake County has provided a municipal



Request for Decision (RFD)

contribution in the amount of \$55,000.00 each year from Year-2015 to Year-2019, and LARA is not willing to accept Smoky Lake County's reduced Year-2020 municipal contribution offer as per the November 6, 2019 Council Motion #1221-19 in the amount of \$25,000.00 towards the LARA program.", BE RESCINDED; and, approve to provide Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) funds for Year-2020 in the amount of \$55,000.00, and proceed to execute a contract with the LARA for the Year-2020 Agricultural Extension Programming. **Motion # 576-20**

Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board requested a decrease in funding

- December 14, 2021 That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board Chairperson attend the next Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) board meeting in February 2022, for the purpose of requesting a 25% reduction to the Year-2022 County funding contribution in the amount of \$55,000.00 to the amount of \$41,250.00 towards LARA's extension programming services and research with emphasis on cattle production. **Motion #109-21**
- December 14, 2022 Council Meeting **Motion # 202-22** That Smoky Lake County Council **defer** consideration of executing the agreement with the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association for the 2023 year for continued extension programming at a cost of \$55,000, to the January 26, 2023 County Council Meeting.

Agricultural Fieldman was directed to reach out to LARA to inquire about different levels of funding for Smoky Lake County.

- January 26th, 2023 That Smoky Lake County Council **defer** the Operational Funding Agreement with Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), effective January 1, 2023 and expiring on December 31, 2023, with an Extension Programming funding contribution in the amount of \$55,000.00 to LARA for Year-2023 for the continuation of receiving unbiased environmental and extension programming for the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Community. **Motion #315-23**

Council wanted to see the results of the LARA Programming Survey that was conducted by LARA during this timeframe before deciding. This survey was **not** Smoky Lake County specific; it had been put out to the Public, so the results were not entirely relevant.

- February 14th, 2023 That Smoky Lake County execute an agreement with Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) for Year-2023 and provide funds in the amount of \$55,000.00 to LARA, for the provision of enhanced extension programming to Smoky Lake County producers to meet the County's obligations under the Resource Management Stream of the Provincial Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Grant. **Motion #381-23**



Request for Decision (RFD)

- Smoky Lake County partnered with LARA for the 2022 year with the following outcomes:
 - 44 research trials that composed 1914 research plots – 5 research trials at the Smoky Lake Plot consisting of 247 plots and 1 hemp demonstration.
 - 210 producers attended 28 extension events.
 - 6 Environmental Farm Plans
 - 18 Producers assisted with CAP grant projects.
- In 2023 LARA was amendable to provide an extension-based program for \$30,000. This extension-based program would have no trials within the County but would continue to offer mail-outs of newsletters and other information materials. They would offer at minimum one in person event within the county and continue to support producers one-on-one through phone calls, emails etc. Smoky Lake County would no longer have board representation. Council chose to fund the full amount of \$55,000 for the 2023 year.

Motion #380-23

- That Smoky Lake County's Agricultural Service Board provide a recommendation to Smoky Lake County, based on survey results, and information collected by Board Member speaking to local producers, in respect to either: fund, not fund, increase, or decrease, the municipal contribution towards the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) Year-2024 operating budget, to: fund individual memberships in the amount of \$200.00 per producer Premise ID Number and/or Farm Fuel Benefit Number, in Year-2024, up to a total County wide maximum funding in the amount of \$30,000.00 to Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), in lieu of any municipal contribution towards the LARA Year-2024 operating budget; and have the Smoky Lake County ASB provide in-house extension event(s). **Motion #05-23**

ASB Motion # 05-23 was presented to Smoky Lake County Council on January 11th, 2024. Council **deferred** the board's recommendation. The following motions were made:

- That Smoky Lake County Council **defer** the recommendation made by the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) on December 12, 2023: *"that Smoky Lake County fund individual memberships in the amount of \$200.00 per producer Premise ID Number and/or Farm Fuel Benefit Number, in Year-2024, up to a total County wide maximum funding in the amount of \$30,000.00 to Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), in lieu of any municipal contribution towards the LARA Year-2024 operating budget; and have the Smoky Lake County ASB provide in-house extension event(s)."* back to the ASB, and provide the ASB the information received from the County's January 11, 2024, Delegation: Delegation: Alyssa Krawchuk, Executive Director, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA). **Motion # 238-24** and;
- That Smoky Lake County Council make a request for information from Alyssa Krawchuk, Executive Director, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), to provide a detailed report of what it would cost Smoky Lake County to fund individual producer



Request for Decision (RFD)

memberships with full LARA benefits, up to a total Municipal Funding maximum in the amount of \$55,000.00, to be brought forward to the next Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board (ASB) as additional information. **Motion # 239-24**

PROPOSAL:

- Factors to consider if Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board doesn't enter into an agreement with LARA.
 - How will we provide extension to our producers? Due to our ASB Grant Agreement with the Province extension still needs to be provided.
 - LARA gives us a bale probe for producers to pick up and use for free.
 - LARA provides unbiased research and advice to producers.
 - With the loss of many Alberta Agriculture experts there are limited free resources to refer producers with questions to. The expertise provided by LARA is valuable to our residents.
 - Individual producers can pay to be LARA members for \$200.

Benefits:

Smoky Lake County will still meet our obligations under the Resource Management Stream of the ASB Provincial Grant.

Our producers will still have access to unbiased research and advice.

Disadvantages:

Alternatives:

Host events in-house.

No events

Quarterly newsletter

Host events on an as needed/ as 'hot topics' arise.

Change level of services in other program areas

Shelterbelt Program

Financial Implications:

If Smoky Lake County continues to partner with LARA there are no budget implications. If Smoky Lake County decided to switch their level of service being provided to them by LARA there will be budget implications. If Smoky Lake County decides to terminate their partnership with LARA there will be budget implications.

Legislation:

Smoky Lake County has an obligation under the Resource Management Stream on the ASB Provincial Grant to provide producers with a form of extension.



Request for Decision (RFD)

Intergovernmental:

Collaborate regionally with Lac La Biche County, MD of Bonnyville and the County of St. Paul through LARA

Strategic Alignment:

Education

Enclosure(s):

LARA Survey Results

LARA Funding Options

LARA 2023 Summary

LARA 2024 Contract

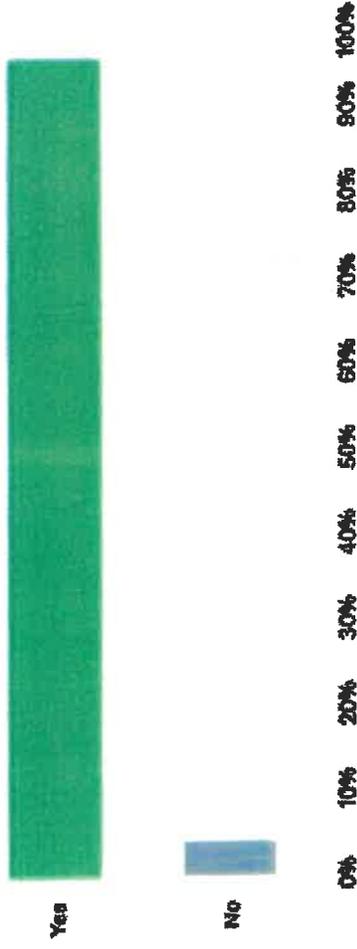
Signature of the CAO: _____

Q1

Customize Save as ▾

Do you know what Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) is?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

- ▾ Yes
- ▾ No

Total Respondents: 25

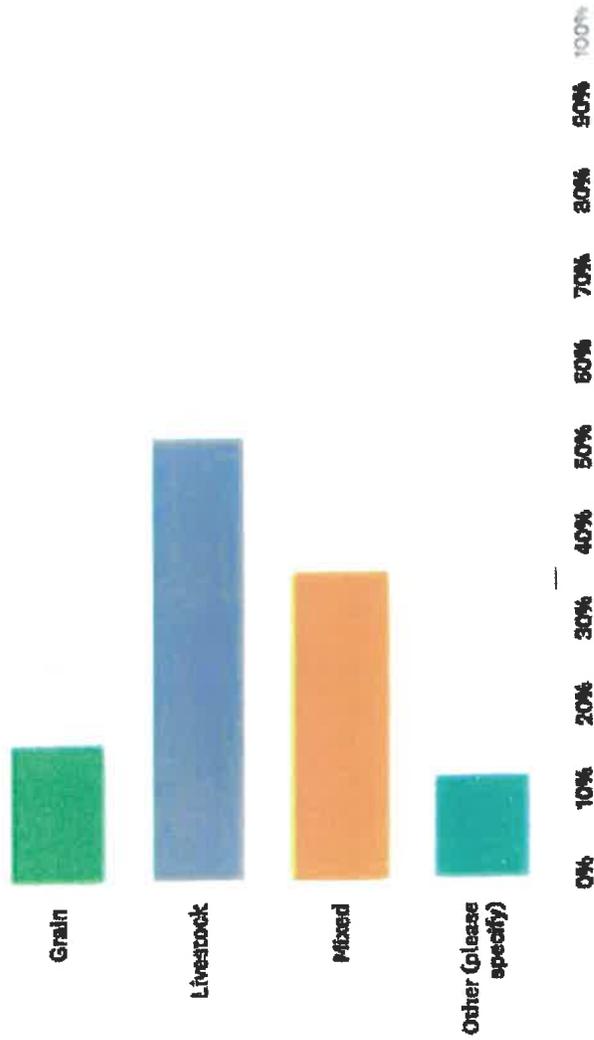
RESPONSES

- ▾ 96.00% 24
- ▾ 4.00% 1

Q2

What kind of producer are you?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

- Grain
- Livestock
- Mixed
- Other (please specify)

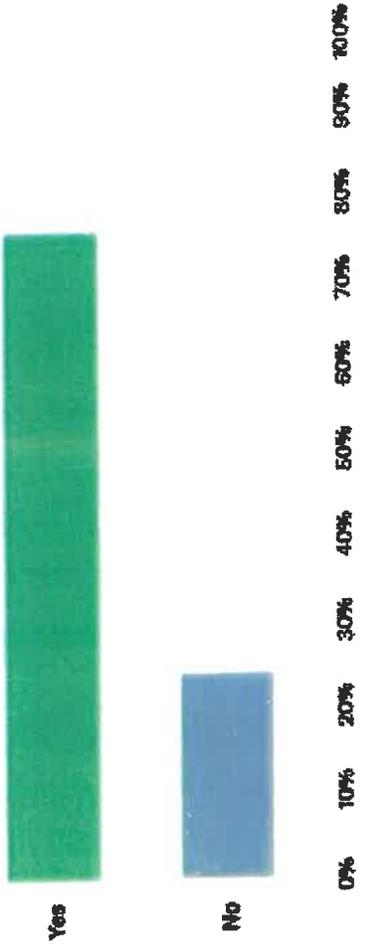
Total Respondents: 25

RESPONSES

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Grain	4
Livestock	13
Mixed	9
Other (please specify)	3

Do you receive LARA's newsletter?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

- Yes
- No

Total Respondents: 25

RESPONSES

Yes	19
No	6

What Services of LARA's do you use? Please list:

Attend workshops, us employees to help with government programs, got assistance with EFP

None

Have had no luck understanding the programs or getting help

None

Website, webinars, in person classes/courses

I use the meetings when they are something I am interested in

Hay testing

Sometimes feed tests, environmental farm planning

Feed testing, help with grants, information sessions

Hay analysis

Feed testing, attend quite a few if there seminars during the years. The Girls are a wealth of knowledge and are always there to help out have also received a few grants with Lara

I go to workshops and read info online. The workshops are my favourite.

Feed samples an the data they collect from crop trials to help make decisions on what varities to seed. An have taken advantage of numerous grants through Lara. Take part in meetings they hold for producers.

Adise on livestock

None

Workshops at most

1-online webinar, 2- feed testing, 3- in person questions

Online webinars and other in person sessions

Webinar

Help me complete EFP about 5 years ago

Speakers, feed testing

None

Sessions, feed testing, grants

None

What do you want to see from LARA?

Same as they have been doing, unfortunately they are short staffed and could be assisting with more programs etc.

More informational updates about currently information

Clarity

Opportunities for learning/demonstration

More seminars closer to home

More risk management tools and follow-ups with agriculture managers with grants and future planning

Some feed testing covered, the way it was before

Better service! Back to 2 two free analysis

Keep up the great work

More workshops 🍷

They do a good job of having both grain and cattle related meetings and trials

They do a great job

Grain and oilseed workshops

More crop workshops..they barely have anything! Seems mostly cattle oriented

More work shops to do with regenerative farming

More workshops for livestock

Online resources

Nothing really

Continue with research & programs, and extension great information provided on our local area

More research classes

Webinars

Sign on highway

Carleigh Danyluk

From: _____
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 10:05 AM
To: Carleigh Danyluk
Subject: Fwd: LARA input

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hey Carleigh,

I was sent two emails from local producers regarding LARA feedback. I am not sure what is the best way to present this at the meeting tomorrow. I do not know if you want to just print them off and give everyone a copy or if you want me to just read them out. Let me know, thanks. The two emails are below.

----- Forwarded message -----
From: _____
Date: Sat, 9 Dec 2023 at 20:41
Subject: LARA input
To: _____

Good day

Just a few points we would like to share with you regarding LARA.

Some of the opportunities provided through LARA have been invaluable.
We took the Holistic Management Course a few years ago and we still have valuable connections from that course.

We recently heard from Elaine Froese regarding succession which was also very helpful and informative.

We have been to several speakers facilitated through LARA. The focus on in mental health in farming is also excellent.

We would attend more of the information sessions - eg- the "funding opportunities "
However, as beef producers - having this start at 9am is simply not possible since we are feeding at that time. Please consider having these types of sessions start in the afternoon.
We would definitely attend more if the timing was reconsidered.

We appreciate how current LARA is with all their newsletters, and their advocacy for ag producers. It's an important tool to elevating the profile of agriculture.
We look forward to future events hosted by LARA.

Thanks

H

I talked to my dad and he is in support of LARA - he has gone to some of their plot trials over the years and used the feed testing probe .

I find their newsletter informative .

We have not accessed the assistance with Environmental Farm plans but have talked about it . The farm transition workshop we just attended was something we thought was a good opportunity and resource to have brought in locally to our region .

Overall as a farm family we think it is important to have a local resource that promotes agriculture and research in our area as farming practices continue to evolve. Hopefully we will use their resources more in the near future , like podcasts and access more in person events . I do admit sometimes I don't even know what they are offering as not using their social media platforms to track current events but now I am more aware will try to access their information pages more regularly .

Hope this helps a bit

Take care



Box 7068, Bonnyville, AB T9N 2H4
Tel. (780) 826-7260 Fax. (780) 826-7099

November 29, 2023

Smoky Lake County Agricultural Services Board
4612 – McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, Alberta
T0A 3C0

RE: Funding Levels for Lakeland Agricultural Research Association

To Whom It May Concern,

Upon request from Smoky Lake County Agriculture Services Board (ASB), please see below an outline of services provided at different funding levels as approved by the LARA board of directors.

Full membership: \$55,000

- Small-plot research trial site(s) within the County
- Field-scale demonstrations and/or research trials within the County
- Field day(s) at research sites
- LARA newsletters (Verdant Element and Grow With Us) sent to all registered farm mailboxes in the County.
- Extension services, including: age verification, forage testing, on-farm calls, one-on-one consultations, assistance with granting programs such as OFCAF and SCAP/RALP and more.
- Demonstration equipment including off-site watering systems, forage probes, razer grazer available for producers to borrow.
- Access to LARA WRRP program (pending).
- Minimum of 4 in-person events (including field days) within the County.

Extension-only membership: \$30,000

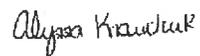
- Extension services, including: age verification, forage testing, on-farm calls, one-on-one consultations, assistance with granting programs such as OFCAF and SCAP/RALP and more.
- LARA newsletters (Verdant Element and Grow With Us) sent to all registered farm mailboxes in the County.
- Demonstration equipment including off-site watering systems, forage probes, razer grazer for producers to borrow.
- Access to LARA WRRP program (pending).

- Minimum of 1 in-person event within the County.

Please note that a full membership with LARA allows partnering municipalities to have two council members (one rep and one alternate) and two active producers sit on the LARA board of directors. With an extension-only membership, Smoky Lake County would no longer be able to have LARA board representation. The County is still able to attend meetings, but will not have a voting member or have producer reps on the board.

If you require more details, we are happy to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



Alyssa Krawchuk, Executive Director
Lakeland Agricultural Research Association

LAKELAND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

MISSION

LARA conducts innovative, unbiased applied agricultural research and extension throughout the Lakeland in support of sustainable agriculture



FIELD RESEARCH TRIALS

LARA conducts applied field scale research trials with local producers. Past trials have included soil health benchmarking, the long-term impact of four winter grazing strategies on soil health and sod seeding

DEMONSTRATIONS

Past demonstrations have included industrial hemp varieties, cover crop blends affects on soil health, rejuvenating pastures with legumes

VISION



To be a leader in applied research and extension in Alberta

SMALL PLOT RESEARCH TRIALS

LARA annually conducts over 40 research trials (over 2200 plots). Past projects have included:

- Regional Variety Trials (cereals and pulses)
- Regional Silage Trials (cereals and pulses)
- Top Dressing Nitrogen in Spring Cereals (Impacts on yield and protein)
- Regional Assessment of ESN on the Productivity and Grain Quality of Spring Wheat and Barley in Northeastern Alberta
- Evaluation of Varying Seed Size and Seeding Rates on Canola Productivity and Yield
- Impact of the Application of Two Liming Products on Soil pH and the Long-Term Impact on Alberta Crop Yields
- Drought Resiliency in Grain and Forage
- Ultra Early Versus Regular Winter Cereals for Forage as a Drought Management Strategy

EXTENSION SERVICES:



Age Verification, Forage Testing, On-Farm Calls, One-on-One Consultations, Annual Report, Workshops, Field Days, Webinars, Assistance with Granting Programs including OFCAF and SCAP/RALP and more...

EXTENSION PLATFORMS:

Newsletters: Grow With Us and The Verdant Element, Email list, Website, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LARA's YouTube channel



EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

- 1 summer off-site watering system*
- 1 winter off-site watering system*
- 3 forage probes
- 1 Razer Grazer*



*\$500.00 refundable damage deposit required.



COMING IN 2024



LARA will be offering two free feed tests to local producers (PID number is required)

LARA WWRP Program (pending) funds project including riparian fencing, offsite watering systems and water course crossings



Operational Funding Agreement

Between

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association
(LARA)

and

Smoky Lake County
(the Municipality)

1.0 Term

This agreement will commence January 1, 2024, and subject to termination, according to the terms of the agreement, continue through December 31, 2024. This agreement will be renewed on an annual basis.

2.0 Conditions

2.1 During the term of this agreement, LARA agrees to:

- a) Allow representation from Smoky Lake County on the LARA Board of Directors according to the bylaws of LARA.
- b) Make public results from LARA research and demonstration programs via newsletters, annual report, meetings, articles, etc. as may be decided by the LARA Board of Directors.
- c) Conduct extension programs and related research and demonstration trials that maybe requested by municipal representatives, residents and the LARA Board of Directors in conjunction with Smoky Lake County.
- d) Have the research trials in Smoky Lake County planted and harvested in a reasonable timeline and maintained weed free. In case of severe weather conditions such as drought, excess moisture, storms and animal damage these conditions will be eased.
- e) Continued partnership with Smoky Lake's County through their Agricultural Service Boards, Lakeland Forage Association, AAFRD and private Ag-Industries.
- f) LARA manager to liaise with the Smoky Lake's County's Agricultural Fieldman or Assistant Agricultural Fieldman on a monthly basis.

2.2 During the term of this agreement the Municipality agrees to:

- a) provide operational funding to LARA in the amount of \$55,000.00 upon signing of agreement
- b) appoint representatives to the LARA Board of Directors according to the bylaws of LARA.
- c) allow LARA to use Agricultural Demonstration Equipment owned by the County at no cost.
- d) provide project ideas to the LARA Board of Directors, via the Agricultural Service Board.
- e) LARA participation at the Agricultural Service Board meetings bi-annually to review project status.

2.3 Smoky Lake County will be doing our own Environmental Farm Plans.

2.4 LARA will provide Smoky Lake County with an outline of the research trails and extension programs LARA wishes to put on for that calendar year.

2.5 In the case where Smoky Lake County finds that LARA is not providing sufficient services, Smoky Lake County holds the right to withhold funds until services are being completed or termination of contract may occur.



3.0 Infrastructure

To ensure optimal regional coverage by LARA the Municipality will provide:

- a) Access to telephone and/or fax
- b) In Kind contributions

4.0 Hold Harmless

4.1 LARA agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Smoky Lake County, its employees and agents from any claims, demands, actions and costs whatsoever that may arise directly or indirectly, out of any act or omission of their employees or agents, in performance of this agreement.
This hold harmless shall survive the term of this agreement.

5.0 Termination

5.1 Smoky Lake County may terminate their involvement in this agreement with 30 days' notice should Lakeland Agricultural Research Association fail to meet Smoky Lake County's conditions in (2.1) listed above.

6.0 Addresses for Notices

6.1 Any notice made under the Agreement shall be deemed given to the other parties in writing and personally delivered, sent by registered mail or equivalent, addressed as follows:

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association
 P.O. Box 7068
 Bonnyville, Alberta
 T9N 2H4
 Fax: (780) 826-7099

Smoky Lake County
 P.O. Box 310
 Smoky Lake, AB
 T0A 3C0
 Fax: (780) 656-3730

7.0 Signed and sealed by the proper officers this _____ day of _____, 2024

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association

Alyssa Krawchuk, Executive Director

Wanda Austin, LARA Chairman

Smoky Lake County

Carleigh Danyluk, Agricultural Fieldman

Dan Gawalko, Agricultural Service Board Chairman

A thriving food industry local and beyond

Connect for Food™ Symposium

Save the date!

April 15, 2024

(location to be announced)

A day of learning, networking and connecting food industry stakeholders. Gain global insights on how our region can participate in the complex food system.

- A high-end event that **engages, empowers and enables** all stakeholders.
- **Challenge our current 'ways of thinking'**, our practices and behaviours.
- **Learn about food industry trends**, explore the **possibilities for participating** in the food economy.
- **Make new connections**, foster new business **relationships**, showcase our assets, exchange ideas and opportunities.
- **Create the foundation** for a successful, long-term initiative that supports the development and **growth** of our region's food economy.



Contact us at:

info@connectforfood.ca