

## **Wetaskiwin City Council Withdraws from Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)**

June 28, 2017

(Wetaskiwin, Alberta) – Wetaskiwin City Council voted to withdraw from the Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)—effective December 31, 2017—at their regular council meeting on June 26, 2017.

Formed as an economic partnership between the City of Wetaskiwin, County of Wetaskiwin, and the Town of Millet in 2003, JEDI’s primary mandate is to facilitate and market industrial development opportunities in the JEDI region.

“While Wetaskiwin City Council supports the municipal partnership in principle, we have concerns regarding the return on our investment,” said Mayor Bill Elliot. “A cost-benefit analysis has indicated that re-directing these funds to the City’s Community Development department would more positively impact local business attraction, business investment, as well as business retention and expansion.”

The City of Wetaskiwin is committed to maintaining and strengthening its positive relationships with all neighboring municipalities, and looks forward to partnering in future joint ventures that benefit our region.

The City’s 2017 contribution to JEDI was \$158,500, with a total cost of \$2,029,591.19 since the agreement’s inception.

–30–

For more information please contact:

Dave Burgess  
City Manager  
780-361-4409