



## **Crowsnest Pass Agriculture & Environmental Protection Services Program History & Continuity**

### **2017 Key Accomplishments Agriculture & Environmental Protection Services**

- **Municipal Integrated Pest Management Program**

- 1) Public Education/Awareness
- 2) Cultural, e.g. hand pulling, deadheading, etc.
- 3) Mechanical, e.g. mowing
- 4) Chemical, herbicide application
- 5) Bio Control, e.g. bio control agents

- **Productive season, accomplished by two seasonal staff and full time Ag Fieldman**

- 1) 250 residential /commercial vegetation inspections completed, as a result of these, twenty nine Inspectors Notices were issued and all but three were compliant.
- 2) 2017 saw the implementation of additional vegetation inspections. Receiving notification of Alberta One Call ticket numbers allowed inspection of excavation activity giving this department the opportunity to track invasive species movement due to ground disturbance (380, 1<sup>st</sup> Call tickets reviewed, as a result twenty of these reviews required "Cause for Concern" response).
- 3) Conducted twelve Community Public Education Events/Workshops (2017 Budget, purchased a portable outdoor shelter).
- 4) 120 work applications completed, the result of this work activity included 409 bags of terrestrial invasive weeds (land based) were hand pulled and taken to the landfill, with a combined weight of 1,090 kilograms. Urban populated bed & shore/riparian zone reclamation along open body of water, consisting of over seven kilometers of bank erosion stabilization which improves water quality and community aesthetics.
- 5) Ground squirrel control on municipal controlled property, removing approximately 600 squirrels (2017 Budget, purchased an additional Cheetah Machine).

- 6) Aquatic invasive water monitoring, included monitoring for zebra/quagga mussels at two locations, forty-two inspections.
  - 7) Responded to eighty-two pest complaints, consisting of agricultural pests such as skunks, ground squirrels, pocket gophers and pack rats.
- **2017 ACIDF (Alberta Crop Industry Development Fund) Grant funding received \$11,400.00, to cover two projects.**
- 1) Enhancement of our existing environmental program of Bed & Shore stabilization and Riparian Zone reclamation along open body of water, thus improving urban bank erosion and water quality.

Conduct an up-to-date cross border invasive species survey along highway #3 right of way. Information gathered as a result of this survey will hopefully benefit our municipality to promote social awareness and increase government funding. This updated survey was necessary to collect statistical information which will be shared at the 2018 Inter-Provincial Tour, scheduled for the summer of 2018 in the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass