






Subject: **Economic Outlook: Agriculture 2024**
 Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2024
 Prepared By: Jenna Kester, Economic Development Officer
 Presented By: Jenna Kester, Economic Development Officer

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That Council approve phase one of the Economic Outlook: Agriculture 2024 project as presented with a cost not to exceed \$5200 to be funded through the Strategic Initiative budget.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT: (Check all that apply)

	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High Quality Infrastructure		Economic Resilience		Quality of Life		Effective Leadership		Level of Service	

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite)- N/A
 Council Bylaw/Policy (cite)- N/A

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Kneehill County’s Economic Outlook series will focus on a number of initiatives with the purpose of identifying and discussing economic challenges, opportunities the region will face, how our residents can adapt to meet these changes and how Kneehill County’s Council can support the future recommendations.

The first initiative of these planned projects will focus on the future of Agriculture in the region, and the necessary discussions and research needed to prepare. The first project will be split into two parts: Grain and Livestock. Other initiatives will be focused on at a later date, including Tourism and the Oil and Gas Industry.

We are looking forward to engaging with working groups and industry specialists for these projects. We will be bringing together members from the community who are forward-thinking individuals with one goal in mind: to understand the current environment and to provide Council with insight on the potential future of these sectors.

With the approval of the project plan from Council, administration will recruit working group members through social media, similar to the Municipal Development Plan working group avocation. We will be surveying the community to find these future drivers of likeminded individuals. The working group will consist of:

- 2 members of Council
- 3 or 4 members at large. Members at large will be appointed by Council and must be landowners in Kneehill County.



Time commitment of the working group – a maximum of 4 half day meetings.

Compensation – appointed members at large will receive a per diem as well as mileage, as per policy 3-3 Council Appointees Reimbursement.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES/OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

Administration has found that other communities have provided successful insight to their Council's using this method, and therefore we would like to take a similar proactive approach.

FINANCIAL & STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:

The budget for Phase 1 of the Economic Outlook Agriculture project is approximately \$4660.00 plus an approximately 10% contingency for a total budget of \$5200, as laid out in the table below. It is recommended that this project be funded through the Strategic Initiative budget.

Economic Outlook: Ag 2024		
Phase 1		
Item	Cost	Total
Meeting 1		
Members at large per diem (3 or 4 members)	\$200/meeting (mileage, 1/2 day attendance)	800
Snacks		\$40
Meeting 2		
Members at large per diem (3 or 4 members)	\$200/meeting (mileage, 1/2 day attendance)	800
Snacks		\$40
External Speaker (academic expert)	\$500	\$500
Meeting 3		
Members at large per diem (3 or 4 members)	\$200/meeting (mileage, 1/2 day attendance)	800
Snacks		\$40
External Speaker (academic expert)	\$500	\$500
Meeting 4		
Members at large per diem (3 or 4 members)	\$200/meeting (mileage, 1/2 day attendance)	800
Snacks		\$40
Advertising for working group		
Social media posts, card hand outs	\$300	\$300
Total approximate budget for project, phase 1		\$ 4,660.00

RECOMMENDED ENGAGEMENT:

Directive Decision (Information Sharing, One-Way Communication)

Tools:	Individual Notification	Other:	
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ATTACHMENTS:

Economic Outlook: Agriculture 2024 Project Plan

COUNCIL OPTIONS:

1. Approve the project plan for Economic Outlook Agriculture 2024



FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

APPROVAL(S):

Mike Haugen, Chief Administrative Officer

Approved-

