



Agricultural Services

PREPARED BY:	Agricultural Services	COUNCIL APPROVAL DATE:	May 12, 2020
EFFECTIVE DATE:	May 12, 2020		
REFERENCES:	Municipal Government Act Agricultural Service Board Act Weed Control Act Agricultural Pests Act Animal Health Act Soil Conservation Act	PREVIOUS REVISION DATE:	NEW
FUNCTION:	Agricultural Programs and Services	LS REVIEW DATE:	March 24, 2020

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the authority and guiding principles for the delivery of agricultural programs and services in Parkland County.

POLICY STATEMENT

Parkland County will promote, enhance and protect viable and sustainable agriculture through the delivery of programs and services.

Authority and Responsibility:

1. Council is responsible to ensure that the County's powers, duties and functions are carried out appropriately, in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act* and the *Agricultural Service Board Act*.
2. Council appoints members to the Agricultural Service Board and approves the terms of reference and annual workplan of the Agricultural Service Board.
3. Under the *Agricultural Service Board Act*, the Agricultural Service Board:
 - a. Acts as an advisory body and assists the council and Minister of Agriculture in matters of mutual concern,
 - b. Advises on and helps organize and direct weed and pest control and soil and water conservation programs including acting as the appeal body under the *Weed Control Act*, *Soil Conservation Act* and *Agricultural Pests Act*,
 - c. Assists in the control of animal disease under the *Animal Health Act*,
 - d. Promotes, enhances and protects viable and sustainable agriculture with a view to improving the economic viability of the agricultural producer,
 - e. Promote and develop agricultural policies to meet the needs of Parkland County.
4. Council appoints the Agricultural Fieldman (Fieldmen) and Inspectors under the *Weed Control Act*, *Soil Conservation Act* and *Agricultural Pests Act*.

5. Council approves the Agricultural Services program through the annual departmental budget approval process.
6. Council appoints and authorizes the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) the responsibility of managing the Agricultural Services program.

Agricultural Services Guiding Principles

7. Parkland County will provide programs and services:
 - a. to encourage production, profitability and sustainability of the agriculture industry in Parkland County.
 - b. To meet the needs of a diverse agriculture industry within Parkland County
 - c. That are aligned to Council's strategic plan.