## 2019-2020 SERVICE LEVELS

# **RAT CONTROL**

### WHAT ARE OUR GOALS?



To protect Alberta from rats

## HOW WILL WE ACCOMPLISH OUR GOALS?

#### **Key Strategies**

| STRATEGY             | DESCRIPTION   |
|----------------------|---|
| Physical Inspections | Complet <u>eing</u> physical inspections for rats, which also includ <u>inges</u> baiting |
| Public Education     | Share resources and information with the general public to raise awareness                |
| Vector Control       | Investigations  |
| Cooperation          | Provide assistance across the province when required                                      |

### WHEN & HOW WILL WE DO THIS?

#### Actions/Initiatives

| ACTION  | EXPLANATION   | ACHIEVEMENT<br>DEADLINE |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| Inspections Conduct <u>1300</u> <u>850</u> inspections a year at <u>1250-550</u> sites; <u>covering</u> ap <u>1100-830</u> square miles |   | Spring & Fall           |
|   | Covering Alberta Rat Control Zone is the 118-12 miles strip west of Alberta/Saskatchewan border |                         |
| Public Education  | Displays at events such as Agrivisions, Ag Education Days Vermilion Ag                          | Throughout              |
|   | Society Fair, etc   | year                    |
| Baiting   | All farmsteads & potential habitat in Rat Control Zone are inspected; within                    | Spring & Fall;          |
|   | the Rat Control Zone, bait is delivered as required upon request                                | upon request            |
| Vector Control  | Investigation of all rabies concerns; skunk culling if needed                                   | As needed               |
|   | Investigations of all rat calls.  |                         |
| Cooperation   | Will a Assist other municipalities in the event of infestation.                                 | On-going                |
|   | Cooperation with Saskatchewan Agriculture and Saskatchewan Pest Control                         |                         |
|   | Officers Association (SPOCA)  |                         |

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHED ACTIONS/INITIATIVES FROM LAST YEAR

<sup>\*</sup> Conducted  $\frac{549546}{2019}$  inspections during spring checks in  $\frac{20182019}{2019}$ .

<sup>\*</sup>Responded to 6 rat enquiries, all of which were negative.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**



## FINANCIAL RESOURCES



|          | DETAILS  |
|----------|--|
| REVENUE  | -Completely funded by Service Agreement with Alberta Agriculture for \$100,000 annually. |
| EXPENSES | -Within Grant Agreement parameters - <del>2019</del> Rat Control Operational Budget      |
| CAPITAL  | -Vehicle support for field staff<br>- <del>2019</del> Rat Control Capital Budget         |

## REGULATIONS/POLICIES

- A) Agricultural Pest Act & Regulations
- B) Alberta Rat & Rabies Control Program.

### **MEASUREMENTS**

| CATEGORY       | MEASUREMENT                | GOAL  |
|----------------|----------------------------|---|
| FINANCIAL      | Budget                     | Operate within budget   |
| ORGANIZATIONAL | Timeframes                 | Complete actions in allotted time frame                         |
| CUSTOMER CARE  | Awareness<br>Response Time | Improved general awareness Respond quickly to customer concerns |
| VISION         | Sustainability             | Provide support to other municipalities                         |

## HISTORY/BACKGROUND

Agreement verifies provincial grant

• Prior to 2004 the number of inspections was 3,200; in the 2004 contract the number of inspections was reduced to 2,676 per year. In 2009, the number of inspections was reduced again to 2,273 per year. In 2018, the number of inspections was reduced to 1300 per year, and the grant provided was reduced to \$100,000/year. As the number of active farm operations decreases, the number of annual inspection sites is also decreases. Presence of grain bags and bales stored in fields overwinter also impacts annual inspection sites.