



**Mountain View**  
C O U N T Y

## Media Release

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September 27, 2017

### **Council Tabs Jeff Holmes as Next CAO**

Mountain View County Council is excited to announce the hiring of Jeff Holmes as Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), to follow retiring CAO Tony Martens.

Jeff has been with Mountain View County in multiple capacities, starting in 1998 - 2000 when he first worked as a seasonal employee. Following three years working in Kentucky as a crop adviser specializing in precision agriculture, he rejoined the County and has served in a management capacity as the previous Manager of Agriculture, Lands and Parks Services, and most recently, the Director of Legislative, Community and Agricultural Services for the last 6-plus years.

At the September 27, 2017 regular meeting, Council approved extending a contract offer to Mr. Holmes and authorizing Reeve Bruce Beattie to sign the contract on behalf of Council. For his part, Beattie said Council has a strong belief in building capacity from within the organization, something they've done previously with Mr. Martens, and now with the most recent selection for CAO.

"I have worked with Jeff the past seven years and have been impressed with his knowledge and work ethic" Beattie stated. "He has shown an ability to work with the public in administering community programs, a strong knowledge of agriculture from both a producer's and administrator's point of view, a commitment to the legislative aspects of County administration dealing with complex government policy and regulation, and most importantly a commitment to rural values as expressed in Council's Vision Statement."

Mr. Holmes was born and raised in Mountain View County in the rural neighbourhood of Hainstock. He is a graduate of Olds College and his family are long-time agriculture producers in the Olds area. He has completed his legislative and municipal governance training through the University of Alberta, and Queen's University.

Beattie said the decision to hire from within the organization is the result of succession planning that Council and the outgoing CAO undertook back in 2011. Succession planning allows for the organization to hire strategically and plan for the ever-changing modern workforce and labour legislation.

"Our Council strongly supports creating a climate through policy where staff can look forward to progressing and building a career with Mountain View County," Beattie added.

Mr. Holmes will assume the role of Acting CAO on January 1, 2018, and then will take the top administrative position as Council's only employee on February 1, 2018 following Mr. Martens formal retirement.

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#### **Media inquiries may be directed to**

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