



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 16, 2014

**Town of Okotoks and MD of Foothills Annexation Negotiation Update**

The Town and MD each appointed three elected officials to sit on an Annexation Negotiation Panel (ANP) tasked with negotiating a draft Annexation Agreement which would, at the conclusion of the annexation process, be provided to the respective Councils for consideration.

The first meeting occurred March 3, 2014 and the ANP has met 8 times up to the October 14, 2014 meeting and has plans to meet again in November, 2014.

The ANP has come to agreement on many aspects of the annexation, however there are a number of outstanding matters that have not been agreed upon.

At the ANP's September, 2014 meeting, the recommendation was made to each respective Council to undertake mediation. Mediation would assist with discussions on the proposed annexation.

Also at the September meeting, both respective Councils supported pursuing the Alberta Community Partnership Grant through the Mediation and Cooperative Processes (MCP) for costs associated with mediation between the MD of Foothills and the Town of Okotoks as we strive to come to an agreement.

For more information, please attend the public Annexation Consultation Meeting on Thursday, October 16 from 7pm-9pm at the Foothills Centennial Centre, 4, 204 Community Way.

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**For more information:**

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