

May 14, 2004

Historic Meeting Formalized Calgary Regional Partnership

With the founding meeting of the Calgary Regional Partnership Inc. today, fifteen municipalities and jurisdictions in and around Calgary – representing more than a million Albertans -- formalized their commitment towards “thinking regionally...acting locally”.

In opening the Partnership’s Spring General Assembly, near during which the articles of association and incorporation documents were approved, Chair Bill McAlpine, Mayor of Okotoks, likened the historic meeting to a wedding because “we are making a formal, public declaration of our commitment to the Partnership.”

Members of the Partnership also approved a three-year Business Plan to forward several projects in its three priority areas – municipal services, sustainable environment and prosperity. In addition to its annual member contribution of approximately \$227,000, the Partnership will be seeking about \$2.4 million from other sources over the next three years.

Alberta Municipal Affairs has committed \$700,000. Other departments and agencies whose participation is anticipated is Alberta Economic Development, Alberta Environment, Alberta Transportation, Western Economic Diversification, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the private sector and others where interests in Partnership initiatives coincide.

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