



# INFORMATION BRIEF

Meeting: October 15, 2024

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## Oldman Watershed Council Pollinator Gardens

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On October 1, 2024 The Oldman Watershed Council, OWC, communicated they'd received notice they were successful in their Grant Application for Pollinator Funding. They will be working on pollinator education and restoring pollinator habitat for the next 4 years. In 2022, the Cuckoo Bumblebee was recognized as a species at risk in Claresholm. Project details will be released in the coming months.

### **BACKGROUND:**

In October 2023, the OWC applied for a 5-year grant to restore habitat for native bees, the Town of Claresholm provided a letter of support in favour of a partnership to plant pollinator gardens. The grant would pay for all supplies and OWC staff/volunteers to plant the gardens. The gardens will require watering, and individuals who are interested to partake in the program.

This would involve the Town reaching out to individuals, businesses and organizations to ensure the garden areas are maintained.

This initiative is to further support pollinator habitat in our region. Administration recognized that the parks, green spaces and existing garden areas could benefit from this program.

"The Oldman Watershed Council (OWC) is a community-based, not-for-profit that works with everyone to find practical solutions to environmental challenges that impact us all. It takes time and effort to work collaboratively but OWC is building a new way of managing our water and land where we all do our part, work together and think long term". <https://oldmanwatershed.ca/>

### **DISCUSSION/OPTIONS:**

Administration will review parks, greenspaces, trails and existing gardens to determine where pollinator gardens, or plantings would be most beneficial in our community. Administration will work cooperatively with the OWC to ensure we're within their guidelines for the project.

Once the project details are released, administration will work with the OWC to promote this within the community, in efforts to gain support from individuals, businesses and organizations.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1.) none

### **APPLICABLE LEGISLATION:**

- 1.) none

PREPARED BY: Denise Spencer, Recreation Manager

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APPROVED BY: Abe Tinney, – CAO

DATE: October 9, 2024

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