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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS AT THE CREDIT UNION CO-OP AQUATIC CENTRE

Town acknowledges Municipal Climate Change Action Centre for \$531,000 investment

Rocky Mountain House, Alta. – The Town of Rocky Mountain House today celebrated the re-opening of the Credit Union Co-op Aquatic Centre, and the installation of energy-efficient combined heat and power (CHP) units and boilers.

The Credit Union Co-op Centre was closed to the public between March 18 and Aug. 31 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, major improvements to the mechanical systems were undertaken during that time.

“This Council’s first goal has always been to maintain our community’s assets,” said Mayor Tammy Burke. “We know that requires good stewardship of our resources, partnerships and creative solutions. We also strive to be a collaborative community delivering high-quality services, and an environmental leader. The Combined Heat and Power and Boiler project we are celebrating today meets each of those goals.”

The \$785,000 project was jointly funded by the Town of Rocky Mountain House and Clearwater County, and included a \$531,000 investment from the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC) Recreation Energy Conservation Program.

Calvin Lechelt, MCCAC Energy Efficiency Program Lead, congratulated the Town for the innovative project.

“We applaud and thank the Town of Rocky Mountain House for their leadership in achieving real savings and real change through the installation and use of these highly efficient systems, and hope this project inspires municipalities across Alberta to follow in their footsteps,” he said.

Electricity generated by the CHP units is displacing power previously purchased from the grid. Heat recovered from the generation process will displace gas consumption, and the two high-efficiency boilers enable efficient use of natural gas.

The result is \$43,000 in savings per year on utility costs, and a 222-tonne reduction in annual greenhouse gas emissions.

“For heating the pools and building, powering ventilation, air conditioning, and lighting, we were paying over \$100,000 per year in utilities. With the installation of the CHP and two high-efficiency boilers, we have cut that nearly in half,” said Mayor Burke.

The Credit Union Co-op Aquatic Centre reopened to the public on Aug. 31. In addition to the CHP and boilers, new sand filters and sound baffles were installed as part of the Town’s 2020 Capital improvement program.

“We are so happy to welcome swimmers back to the Credit Union Co-op Aquatic Centre,” said Mayor Burke during a celebration acknowledging MCCAC’s grant contribution. “The CHP project is saving money and greenhouse gas emissions. Thank you to all of our partners for this important step forward for our community.”

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For more information, please contact:

Laura Button, *Communications Coordinator*

Town of Rocky Mountain House

lbutton@rockymtnhouse.com

Main office: 403-845-2866

Direct line: 403-846-4257