TOWN OF VALLEYVIEW
SMART CITIES CHALLENGE APPLICATION

TOWN OF
VALLEYVIEW
PORTAL TO THE PEACE

SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION - VALLEYVIEW

QUESTION 1: COMMUNITY INFORMATION

- ☐ **Name of community:** Town of Valleyview
- ☐ **Province:** Alberta
- ☐ **Population:** 1,863
- ☐ **Indigenous Community:** No

QUESTION 2: PRIZE CATEGORY

We are applying for the **$5 million** prize category.

SECTION 2: PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL

SUB-SECTION 1: PROBLEM DEFINITION

QUESTION 3: CHALLENGE STATEMENT

Building community resiliency and enhancing quality of life regardless of age or place, through digital inclusion, and providing sustainable access to services that are critical in a knowledge-based world.

QUESTION 4: PROPOSED OUTCOMES

Valleyview has a relatively diverse economy, with a role as a regional administrative and commercial Centre and significant activity in four other primary economic sectors: oil and gas; agriculture; tourism; and retail. However, changing international shifts threaten the future stability of these sectors, and consequently the economic prosperity of the town. In the past ten years, Valleyview has experienced a decline in economic growth and activity locally and regionally. In this context, further economic diversification is critical for the community's long term economic resiliency and success, drawing on related expertise and assets in traditional economic sectors.

Effective integrated economic development is a collaborative effort involving the business community, government, and community members. This is especially critical for small to medium size towns such as Valleyview, where the greatest assets are resourceful and committed people. To strengthen Valleyview's collaborative direction, an Economic Development Strategy was developed with guidance from a volunteer Advisory Committee, and advice and information from many members of the community and local, regional and provincial experts. The strategy development process aimed to foster ownership of its implementation by a local champion or champions who will move forward with the more detailed steps to further articulate identified opportunities.

It was identified and a number 1 priority to provide Broadband access to every member within our region.

The outcomes our proposal seeks to achieve to support our challenge statement are as follows:

- ☐ **Digital Inclusion of all residents regardless of age or place:** Provide free, reliable Wi-Fi Access across the Town of Valleyview to meet the day-to-day needs of all Valleyview residents.
- ☐ **Ensuring youth have reliable, high-speed access to educational tools to support their curriculum work:** Provide reliable access to all families of school aged children throughout the Town of Valleyview through a program that would allow families to apply for free or discounted access to internet services while they have a school-aged child at home.
- ☐ **Stimulate and develop entrepreneurial and technical capabilities within the community:** Provide Business Mentorship for Valleyview entrepreneurs looking to benefit from automation, an on-line presence, on-line sales and tech opportunities that can be accessed from home or other business location with reliable, affordable access to the internet.
- ☐ **Enhancing the quality of life for seniors by providing technology support:** Digital Literacy Programs for seniors.
- ☐ **Build Resiliency and future sustainability through affordable, reliable access to the internet:** Provide affordable, accessible, and reliable Internet to all residents and businesses in the Town of Valleyview.
- ☐ **Set-up a Community Intranet and Citizen Dashboard**: Provide ease of access and sustainability of services for residents, businesses, and municipal partners.

QUESTION 5: ENGAGEMENT

In recent years, the Town of Valleyview has carried out an update to our Strategic Plan, based heavily on economic development and feedback from our community. An Advisory Committee made up of residents, local businesses, and administration was struck to engage and involve the community residents in the process.

In the past ten years, the Town of Valleyview has experienced a decline in economic growth and activity locally and regionally. This has influenced the entire community due to the increase in unemployment and under-employment, decrease in family income levels, and a decrease in the local tax base due to a loss of businesses and families moving to seek economic opportunities outside of the region.

The Valleyview Economic Development Strategy Advisory Committee was set up in spring 2017 to advise on the structure and input of the *Economic Development Strategy* and on community engagement activities. The committee was made up of 15 members from Town and District staff, Council representatives, First Nations representatives, local business leaders and entrepreneurs, and sectoral experts were be invited to participate. A maximum two per jurisdiction and/or interest will sit on the AC.

The first meeting was held on May 29, 2017 with nine of the members. This initial meeting was primarily a round table discussion to bring forward a myriad of ideas that would support Valleyview in their vision for community resiliency.

May 29, 2017 Teleconference:

Additional comments from the Advisory Committee:

- ☐ Look into the opportunity cost of people who work in Valleyview but don't live in Valleyview.
- ☐ Money is leaving the area (not staying local).
  - o What is the value of this opportunity cost?
  - o How can we address it?
- ☐ The importance of collaborating across sectors, levels of government, and communities with the region cannot be overstated.
- ☐ Regional focus is critical (cooperation/partnerships between communities in the area).

June 5 Advisory Committee Workshop #1

The main goal of this workshop with the advisory committee was to carry out a SWOT analysis.

The Opportunities section of that workshop were:

- ☐ The first list of opportunities were provided to the Advisory Committee at the outset based upon the May 29 2017 Advisory Committee teleconference, the market research and the data provided by the Town of Valleyview and the MD of Greenview:
- ☐ **Interest in regional fibre-optic**
- ☐ Provincial grants for renewable energy
- ☐ **Federal government grants for infrastructure**
- ☐ Renewable energy support / growth
- ☐ 3D printing and related technology
- ☐ Plan for highway expansion (long term)
- ☐ Travelling public numbers - high traffic counts

The Advisory Committee provided the following list of opportunities at the workshop during workshop #1:

- ☐ Broadband
- ☐ Home based businesses
- ☐ Call centres
- ☐ Olds is a great example of how much it benefited a small town to get broadband
- ☐ Attract businesses
- ☐ Council has directed senior staff to investigate the potential for broadband
- ☐ PREDA has been a partner in a broadband survey in northern Alberta
- ☐ Valleyview and Fox Creek are 'sitting' on a good geothermal formation
- ☐ Local agricultural processing – micro opportunity – canola oil
- ☐ Grande Prairie and Edmonton would be natural markets for local products
- ☐ Buying group – co-operative – agri-hub
- ☐ Interest in artisanal products – breweries greenhouse and small-scale vegetable crops
- ☐ Transportation may provide opportunity (i.e. distribution – trucks unload and reload here to all points north and/or south)

Community broadband was highlighted as one of 5 major target areas to address economic viability and resiliency.

June 7 Workshop #2

Fibre optic broadband is recognized as an important factor in enabling Valleyview and area to optimize opportunities.

Throughout the Advisory Committee planning, it was abundantly clear that any objective that the community was hoping to achieve would need the support of affordable, reliable internet access to promote resiliency and sustainability in the Town of Valleyview.

Council made a commitment in fall of 2017 to move forward a Business Case and Business Plan to further investigate the opportunities around a community broadband deployment. Through that process, a local stakeholder engagement session was held to present the draft results and gain feedback around the community's commitment and desire for a municipal fibre-optic utility that would support the goals of the Town of Valleyview.

On February 6, a stakeholder meeting was held at Town Hall. Numerous local business owners, residents, media, and regional partners attended. The main outcomes of that meeting were: "This can not come soon enough", some of the larger businesses were already looking to purchase or construct their own infrastructure as their businesses were going to be unable to remain viable without reliable internet access.

The next step recommendations of the recent Community Broadband Business Plan laid out the following community and marketing process:

"Given the Town of Valleyview's context does not provide for significant incumbent competition, the Marketing Strategy would most likely focus on driving customer sign-up. This will mainly be driven by two considerations:

1. *Product pricing/speed/content options that have direct relationship on customer perceived value proposition and positively impact sign-up decisions; and*
2. *Broader community development benefit, which also includes a bottom-line financial benefit to the community if a high sign-up rate can be achieved.*

Strategy focus will therefore have two pillars:

1. *Product benefits; and*
2. *Community impact.*

At its core, the Strategy will identify product value proposition/differentiation from the all potential incumbent options or lack thereof. This strategy will then drive generation of core brand elements (network name, visual identity, colour palette), and cornerstone marketing execution (website presence, one-page "sales sheet" to be distributed in the community/online).

Customer Engagement might involve a few different opportunities such as:

1. *Facilitating CIRA setting up Valleyview as a test site wherein residents in Valleyview can do speed tests to determine what speeds are actually available in which parts of the town; Valleyview would need to do a mail out, say, with their water bills urging residents to go to the test site;*
2. *Working with the Chamber to host a couple of meetings; and/or*
3. *Carrying out a door-to-door campaign."*

Plans to Continue Engagement Throughout Proposal Implementation

The Town of Valleyview will lead in commissioning a Smart Cities Initiative Advisory Committee to advise on the outcomes implementation within the community and on community engagement activities. The committee will be made up of approximately 15 members from Town and District staff, Council representatives, Northern Lakes College representatives, local school division representatives, regional

partners, First Nations representatives, local business leaders and entrepreneurs, sectoral experts, and members of the current Well-Being Coalition. A maximum of two per jurisdiction and/or interest will sit on the AC. This will be loosely based on the format of the Economic Advisory Committee based on the positive results of that process in the community.

SUB-SECTION 2: PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL DETAILS

QUESTION 6: PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL

The current statistics show declines in occupancy rates, labour participation, business numbers, etc. The objectives of this program, then, would be stop the decline. Within three years of the network being completed and the implementation of the challenge statement outcomes, the community would aim to see an improvement. Sample statistics that would be relevant to this outcome:

- ☐ 2016: Residential Vacancy is at 16.7%, up 40.3% from 2015;
- ☐ Average residential rents have declined 8.94%;
- ☐ Number of businesses in town has declined 7.53%;
- ☐ Violent crimes are up 21.2%;
- ☐ Major Projects have declined 57.5%;
- ☐ Building permits are up 54.5%, but the value has declined 81.0%;
- ☐ Labour participation rate has declined 3.97%;
- ☐ Unemployment is up 212.2% over 5 years;
- ☐ Employment rate is down 11.1% over 2012 - 2016.

Additional growth potential that the Town would be measuring through the process would be associated with (statistics will be gathered as part of the implementation plan):

- ☐ Create more opportunity to improve and develop small businesses (i.e. number of businesses);
- ☐ Encourage higher education for a sustainable community (i.e. number of students pursuing post-secondary education before and after);
- ☐ Develop individual strength and competency (comparing social outcomes before and after).

The Valleyview Well-being Coalition also carried out a community-wide Well-being Survey that asked people to reflect on their quality of life. The result is a Valleyview Index of Well-being that measures what matters most to our quality of life. The Valleyview Well-being Index is composed of eight themes of well- being: personal, material-financial, time-life-balance, work, neighbourhood, arts-cultural, environmental and local governance.

The current Well-Being Index, based on the responses from a total of 209 adults and 57 children (Grade 6 students), for a 17% response rate, was 69 out of 100.

The Valleyview Well-being Index would be a relevant statistic for gauging the outcomes of the Smart Cities Challenge Statement.

The details of the above outcomes our proposal seeks to achieve to support our challenge statement are as follows:

- **Digital Inclusion of all residents regardless of age of place: Provide free, reliable Wi-Fi Access across the Town of Valleyview to meet the day-to-day needs of all Valleyview residents.** This includes the vulnerable section of the population that through finances or other do not have access in their homes to the internet that is necessary to pay bills, basic skills training for young parents or those looking for a job. The Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) department will be a partner in this initiative. Potentially build on the ATCO project to update the pedestrian scale lighting downtown.

- **Ensuring youth have reliable, high-speed access to educational tools to support their curriculum work:** Provide reliable access to all families of school aged children throughout the Town of Valleyview through a program that would allow families to apply free or discounted access to internet services while they have a school-aged child at home. The 21st Century learner is being provided with the tools at school to excel in a digital world. However, the students in the Town of Valleyview are coming home to unreliable, if any, internet access for further study and access to homework tools and reading supports. Today, in Valleyview, only TELUS services are available, and the service offerings are indicative of early generation asymmetric digital subscriber line (ADSL) equipment. These are well below the recently announced minimal service objective of 50 Mb/s in the downstream direction and 10 Mb/s up set by the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) in December 2016 as an essential need. Only two speed tests have been run in Valleyview on the Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) MLab site. The results show >3Mb/s down and >1Mb/s up. These speeds are unusable for research and on-line reading supports. The new community-wide broadband initiative through deployment of fibre-optic infrastructure will provide the system to meet these needs; however, affordability of broadband services is still a significant factor with digital inclusion efforts. The Town intends to prioritize providing service to traditionally underserved households through this initiative. There are several school districts including both public and separate that will collaborate with Valleyview on this initiative.

- **Stimulate and develop entrepreneurial and technical capabilities within the community:** Provide business mentorship for Valleyview entrepreneurs looking to benefit from automation, online presence, online sales, and tech opportunities that can be accessed from home or other business location with reliable, affordable access to the Internet. As a partner in this initiative, Northern Lakes College will provide education and other resources to help stimulate and develop entrepreneurial and technical capabilities within the community. Effective integrated economic development is a collaborative effort involving the business community, government, and community members. This is especially critical for small to medium size towns such as Valleyview, where the greatest assets are resourceful and committed people. In both the recent *Economic Development Strategy*, and the updated community *Strategic Plan*, is the need for infrastructure and opportunities (i.e. broadband Internet) to be in in place for technology-based businesses to locate in the Valleyview region. There is already a need for this type of support and the need will only grow with the deployment of a community-wide fibre optic system.

- **Enhancing the quality of life for seniors by providing technology support and digital literacy programs for seniors**: Such programs will provide the local business community, the school divisions and Northern Lakes College more opportunities to come together and deliver value to seniors in our community. Similar to Olds, Alberta, "Cyber Senior Olds" program was started by two sisters to help seniors get online after they witnessed firsthand how the internet transformed their grandparents. They started with the recruitment of friends, but since that time Cyber-Seniors has grown into an international organization with an award-winning

documentary that encourages involvement program where high school students are paired up with local seniors to set up their computer systems and provide basic digital literacy training.

☐ **Build Resiliency and future sustainability through affordable, reliable access to the internet:** Provide affordable, accessible, and reliable Internet to all residents and businesses in the Town of Valleyview. Changing international market trends threaten the future stability of most business sectors, and consequently the economic prosperity of the town. In the past ten years, Valleyview has experienced a decline in economic growth and activity locally and regionally. This has affected the community in a number of ways, such as: an increase in unemployment and underemployment, decreased family income levels, and a decrease in the local tax base due to a loss of businesses and families moving to seek economic opportunities outside of the region. In this context, economic diversification is critical for the community's success. Broadband networks rank among the most important infrastructure assets of our time—for purposes of economic development and competitiveness, innovation, workforce preparedness, healthcare, education, democratic discourse, and environmental sustainability. Valleyview is planning a community-wide deployment over the next few years that would support the above initiatives. Valleyview's regional partners, the MD of Greenview, Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, and Northern Lakes College will be partners in this initiative.

☐ **Set-up a Community Intranet and Citizen Dashboard**: Provide ease of access and sustainability of services for the residents, businesses, and municipal partners. An improved community communications infrastructure and citizen's dashboard will provide the Town many opportunities for improving effectiveness and efficiency in traffic control, healthcare services, emergency response and related services, disaster resiliency, law enforcement and crime prevention, e-government and app-based citizen services. It will also facilitate timely access to everyday services with improved security and control over collection of data. Additionally, this provides an opportunity to harness advanced data analytics in partnership with Northern Lakes College towards providing timely education and knowledge support in areas of need, as well as to streamline city planning, municipal services and other sustainable benefits. The system would have its own wavelength – ensuring both high bandwidth and data security.

QUESTION 7: COMMUNITY GOALS

Community Vision, Mission, and Strategic Plan

Valleyview Vision Statement is:

> *"Valleyview is home: a welcoming, inclusive community with urban opportunities and a small-town atmosphere."*

Building on their mission:

> *"Valleyview embraces well-being, providing opportunities that are the best in the region, attracting families and businesses who put down roots and contribute to our innovative, growing community."*

The Economic Sustainability Pillar from the plan states, Leveraging Technology for Economic Diversification and Growth, sets a goal *"To attract technology-based opportunities"*. Under this goal, a **high priority strategy** is to '*Attract businesses that are technology-based"* through the following desired results and/or achievements:

☐ Encourage and develop Infrastructure and opportunities (i.e. broadband internet) are in place for technology-based businesses to locate in Valleyview region.
☐ Potential businesses that fit the technology-based business criteria to be identified and cultivated to enhance the regional economic vitality in northern Alberta.

Economic Development Strategy

One of the primary objectives of Valleyview's *Economic Development Strategy* is showcasing Valleyview's leadership in technology and innovation. More specifically, their sustainable building and energy practices and a way to offer opportunities for visitors to learn more such as:

☐ Organizing tours, information packages for the new Town Hall passive house;
☐ Organizing tours for any new renewable energy developments that occur in Valleyview;
☐ Promoting community-based broadband to attract entrepreneurs and interest in Valleyview as a small community that is progressive and acting;
☐ All technology innovation initiatives should be mentioned in a rebranding of Valleyview;

There is also a Connectivity and Access Goal in the *Economic Development Strategy* that speaks to fibre-optic access:

> *"Continue to explore alternative business and financing models to provide cost-effective highspeed internet access to all Valleyview residents and businesses, possibly including a utility model."*

Currently, as stated above in the marketing and engagement, there is no question for Valleyview residents and businesses that there is need, a vital need for affordable, reliable access for the community. The only question remaining is how to resource the deployment so that community champions can continue to carry forward the goals and visions outlined in the *Strategic Plans* and *Economic Development Strategy*.
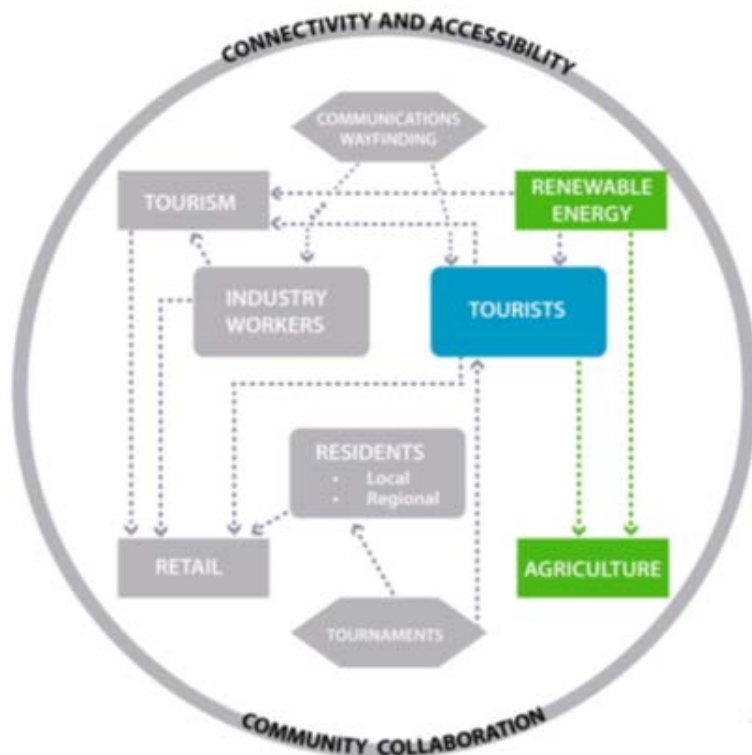
Valleyview's Well-being initiative is a community-based project committed to identifying, understanding and measuring the well-being or quality of life for people who choose to call Valleyview home. The results of Valleyview's Community Well-Being Assessment (CWA) will be used to enhance quality of life through mobilizing community, building capacity, and identifying gaps and opportunities to impact social change.

The data gathered from the CWA will provide a common data set for all individuals and agencies in the community to measure against and work from. This ensures everyone speaks a common language as it relates to well-being, measures genuine progress in the same manner and that all efforts to improve the community are in concert with the aim of enhancing community well-being.

This initiative will be a key performance indicator for the overall impact of the outcomes of this proposal.

QUESTION 8: COMMUNITY READINESS

Improve Connectivity and Access

Throughout the Strategy development process, Advisory Committee members and stakeholders highlighted the need to improve connectivity and access to Valleyview as critical to economic development. Highway travellers are aware of Valleyview, but the town's presence on Highway 43 has become less focused as development has proceeded southwards; furthermore, there is little to indicate that a charming, traditional town centre and other attractions await just off the highway to stay and explore. Online, Valleyview's presence is improving but not strong, while few businesses have access to fibre-optic infrastructure, limiting their access to resources and limiting their market's ability to access them.

Investment in both physical and online improvements is recommended as an important part of this strategy. Therefore, the Town of Valleyview is currently moving forward with a Community Broadband Masterplan. A *Community Broadband Infrastructure Masterplan* (CBIMP), provides the detailed engineering level information required for a community to determine where and why the infrastructure components of their community broadband need to be located. The Masterplan will also provide the guidance needed to direct what needs to be deployed now and over the next five or ten-year period.

The next step would be deployment of their $3.5 million community fibre utility. The Town of Valleyview is working to investigate and has been engaging with regional partners to secure financial resourcing to make this plan a reality. In order to meet their goal of Community Resiliency, to future-proof their northern Alberta rural Town, Valleyview has identified community broadband as their main enabler. The community broadband deployment would provide:

☐ Affordable, reliable internet access to all businesses and residents in the Town of Valleyview.
☐ Include a regional connection, where appropriate to support a regional fibre-optic to tower system to support regional economic development and social supports.
☐ Provide a community-wide WiFi opportunity that would support local social programs, business customer support, and tourism.

☐ Provide an intranet system that connects municipal, social, and emergency systems for faster, more reliable and consistent access to data, faster data transfer for decision-making and emergency response.

Northern Lakes College will be a partner in this initiative and provide education and other resources to help stimulate and develop entrepreneurial and technical capabilities within the community. The College gets between 200-250 applications for the College's educational programs from the Town of Valleyview and surrounding communities a year, and the number has been growing year over year. The majority of these applications are for Academic Upgrading courses, but there is also a strong interest in other programs such as *Human Service Careers*, *Business and Administrative Studies*, *Health Careers*, *University Studies*, *Trades and Resources*, and other Diploma programs.

In addition to these applications, there is also a strong interest in the College's Continuing Education Courses, with close to 200 applications over the last three years for courses on a variety of topics that include *First Aid and Workplace Safety*, *Mental Health*, *Defensive Driving* and *Wildlife Awareness*. The College is an important source of post-secondary education for the town and surrounding communities with the majority of applications between 19 and 44 years old, with many learners between the ages of 45 and 65 (and older) applying for courses as well.

Improvements in broadband access will allow more students applying for admission to the College's various programs to be served and increase access of the College's programs and services to a broader audience in the area. The College's existing campus infrastructure and network resources connecting over 23 locations in Northern Alberta could provide access to many opportunities for community collaboration, resource sharing and joint knowledge development.
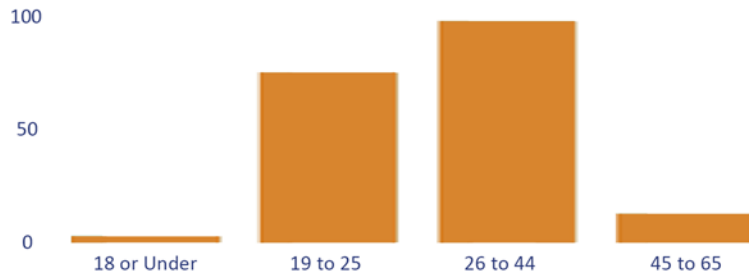
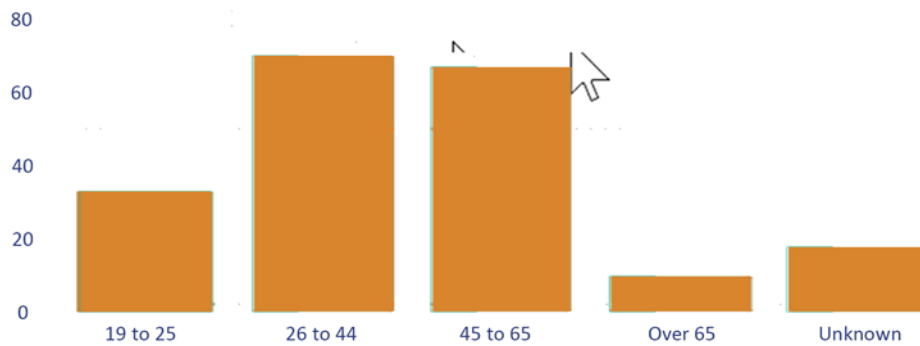## APPLICATION TREND (OVER PROGRAM YEARS)
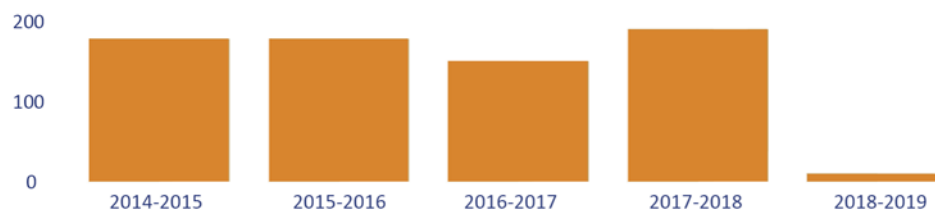
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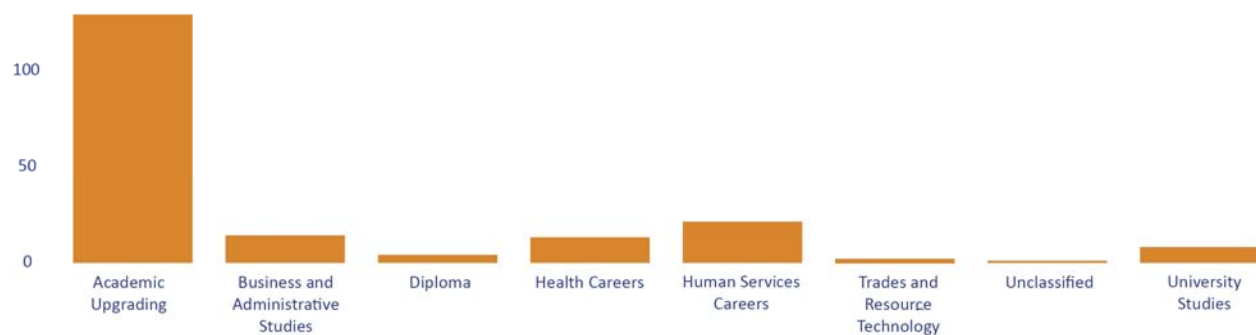
AGE DEMOGRAPHICS

AGE DEMOGRAPHICS (CONTINUING EDUCATION)

QUESTION 9: GRANT UTILIZATION

Item	Description	Budget
Proposal Implementation Plan / Strategy	Development of Proposal Implementation Plan / Strategy and collection of current state statistics that are relevant to the outcomes of this proposal. Funding includes local staff time and one consultant.	$25,000
Community Engagement	Set-up Advisory Committee, create and carry-out Community Engagement Plan. Funding includes local staff time and one community engagement consultant.	$50,000
Outcomes Action Plan	Create Action Plan specific to each Outcome, including stakeholder/partner identification, schedule with associated deliverables, and high-level financials for each outcome.	$150,000
Summary Proposal Document	Overall summary report for application submission created by the Advisory Committee.	$25,000

"We look forward to working with our community members, local business, organizations, and [our partners] as we further refine this model. Their involvement will be vital as we look to assess the viability of delivering advanced broadband connectivity to our community and in implementing provisions to enable expansion out into our region."

- Vern Lymburner, Mayor, Town of Valleyview (full Letter of Support attached)

The partners involved in our proposal are:

☐ **Northern Lake College (Letter of Support attached).** The College will be a partner in this initiative and provide education and other resources to help stimulate and develop entrepreneurial and technical capabilities within the community. *"Digital and technology developments are advancing at a rapid rate and Northern Lakes College understands the need and importance for up-to-date technology solutions and innovations. We believe that working together with our Community partners to combine and harness the benefits of essential services such as education as part of this regional initiative will further reinforce the case for much needed broadband connectivity to many of the Communities we serve. A joint Smart City project will not only help demonstrate municipal efficiencies by bring our Communities closer together in collaboration, but will also support economic development efforts, improve program and service delivery and the overall quality of life for our regional citizens. We are very excited to be a named partner towards this projects initiatives and objectives."*

☐ **Taylor Warwick Consulting Ltd. (Taylor Warwick) and MAGNA Engineering Services Inc. (MAGNA):** Taylor Warwick authored both the Community Broadband Business Case and Business Plan. They are currently the municipal community broadband consultant will continue to provide services as needed throughout the project. MAGNA will provide engineering support services as required.

☐ **Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation (Letter of Support attached):** Valleyview values their regional partners and is excited about the opportunities to create regional outcomes that benefit the larger regional community. Of note: 26% of the Valleyview population is aboriginal as of 2017 census data. *"Broadband is imperative for all communities to attract and retain businesses and residents, in enabling social infrastructure and in ensuring universal connectivity is accessible and inclusive. Such next-level connectivity will also empower communities in times of emergency and in better managing aging assets."*

☐ **Northern Gateway Public Schools (Letter of Support attached**): Northern Gateway feels that *"From an educational perspective, one of the greatest emerging challenges facing the K-12 school system is the shortage of high speed residential broadband access in rural Alberta communities."*

☐ **Municipal District of Greenview (Letter of Support attached):** *"Greenview realizes the importance of pursuing the option of Fibre-optic Broadband Infrastructure. Broadband is imperative for communities to attract and retain businesses and residents by enabling social infrastructure as a utility in our communities. Ensuring connectivity is paramount to the health and resiliency of our community."*

QUESTION 11: CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX

All Letters of Support referred to in Question 10 should be considered confidential and not posted online.

SECTION 3: OTHER REQUIREMENTS

QUESTION 12: PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Throughout their Strategy development process, Valleyview and their stakeholders highlighted the need to improve connectivity and access as critical to economic development and an improved quality of life.

The Town has moved forward planning for a community broadband deployment that will support future business opportunities for Valleyview. Valleyview will be able to attract new residents while they engage businesses and grow the economy, increase their population, and enhance quality of life. Broadband networks provide access for better healthcare, education, public services, economic prosperity through new business and increased real property values, and improvement of the quality of life for families. To maximize the impact of this infrastructure the Town of Valleyview, in partnership with Northern Lakes College, and other regional partners in looking to the following outcomes to build resiliency and increase the overall Quality of Life for residents. These outcomes are:

- ☐ Digital Inclusion of all residents through a community-wide wireless initiative.
- ☐ Ensuring youth have reliable, high-speed access to educational tools at home.
- ☐ Stimulate and develop entrepreneurial and technical capabilities within the community.
- ☐ Enhancing the quality of life for seniors through technology support.
- ☐ Build Resiliency and future sustainability through affordable, reliable access to the internet.
- ☐ Community Intranet and Citizen Dashboard.

QUESTION 13: APPLICATION LOCATION

Town of Valleyview website.

QUESTION 14: COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

Please see Letters of support from community leaders and others

QUESTION 15: CONTACT INFO

- ☐ **Name:** Marty Paradine
- ☐ **Title and affiliation:** Town Manager
- ☐ **Phone number:** 780-524-5150
- ☐ **Email address:** mparadine@valleyview.ca

QUESTION 16: PRIVACY

We agree to the *Privacy Notification, Consent and Release* form and the *Communications Protocol.*

SECTION 4: SURVEY QUESTIONS

QUESTION 17: ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

2017 Full Time Equivalents

- ☐ **Number of total FTEs:** 48
- ☐ **Percentage of total FTEs devoted to innovation:** 2%

2017 Operating and Capital Budgets

- ☐ **Total operating budget:** $10,268,902
- ☐ **Percentage of total operating budget devoted to innovation:** 25%
- ☐ **Total capital budget:** $4,588,151
- ☐ **Percentage of total capital budget devoted to innovation:** 80%

QUESTION 18: PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL FOCUS

The focus area of our preliminary proposal is:

- ☐ Economic opportunity
- ☐ Access to Education
- ☐ Health resources.

QUESTION 19: SERVICE AREAS

The community system/service areas expected to be implicated in our preliminary proposal are:

- ☐ Economic development
- ☐ Education and training
- ☐ Emergency services and enforcement
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Land use planning and development
- ☐ Public health
- ☐ Recreation and parks
- ☐ Roads and transportation
- ☐ Social services
- ☐ Waste
- ☐ Water and wastewater

QUESTION 20: TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

The technologies that we expect to be implicated in our preliminary proposal include:

- ☐ Asset management
- ☐ Assistive technology
- ☐ Big data analytics
- ☐ Cloud computing
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Enterprise solutions
- ☐ Environmental monitoring
- ☐ Health or medical technology
- ☐ Internet of things
- ☐ Mobile applications
- ☐ Networks
- ☐ Open data platforms
- ☐ Payment platforms
- ☐ Sensors
- ☐ Video Analytics