

# **JOIN US**

# ALUS TWO HILLS

#### WHAT IS ALUS TWO HILLS?

Launched in June 2020, the County of Two Hills' ALUS program is focused on the restoration of wetlands currently being farmed for commodity production, such as grain or cattle, and converting that back into duck and wildlife habitat.

In every ALUS community, ALUS staff work closely with landowners to develop and support projects that are best suited to local needs and priorities. The ALUS Two Hills program aims to help address important environmental issues with riparian health and the loss of wetlands and native grasslands in order to drive better outcomes for farmers and ranchers.

The ALUS Two Hills Program Coordinator works with farmers and ranchers to help establish these projects, while participants receive annual, per-acre payments for the prouction of ecosystem services on their land.

Through their ALUS projects, ALUS Two Hills participants help to produce cleaner water, cleaner air and more biodiversity, including pollinator habitat, for the benefit of everyone in the community.

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The ALUS program is truly like no other. Farmers receive acknowledgement for the environmental work that they're doing—work that benefits the greater good of all society.

Duane Movald, ALUS Participant

### Are you a farmer or rancher with marginal or uneconomical lands?

ALUS helps you establish wetlands, tree planting, native prairie, pollinator habitat and other projects.

Over 1,600 farmers and ranchers have enrolled 38,000 acres of land in the ALUS program.

To find out how you can get involved in the program, contact us:

#### **Program Coordinator**

Roxanne Zahara Box 490, 4818-50 Ave. Two Hills, AB T0B 4K0 rzahara@thcounty.ab.ca 780-805-7149 thcounty.ab.ca

### WHERE AGRICULTURE & NATURE MEET

#### Learn more at ALUS.ca







Sustaining agriculture, wildlife and natural spaces for communities and future generations.

#### ALUS PROVIDES LANDOWNERS FUNDING FOR PROJECTS, INCLUDING:

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Watering systems and management fencing for livestock



Planting shelterbelts or eco-buffers



Naturalizing flooded cropland, expanding buffers and creating grassed waterways



Planting vegetation for pollinator species



Creating, restoring or enhancing wetlands



Erosion control



Installation of bird nests, bat boxes or other habitat structures

# COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP DELIVERS COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS

ALUS provides expertise, resources and initial cost-sharing for the establishment of environmental projects, as well as annual payments for the ecological goods and services generated by the projects.

#### THE ALUS ADVANTAGE

Participation in ALUS is VOLUNTARY, typically based on five- or ten-year contracts.

There are NO LAND RESTRICTIONS. ALUS agreements are with farmers and are not registered with land titles.

Farmers receive a FEE-FOR-SERVICE based on ecosystem services produced by projects. An arrangement based on mutual benefit of the farmer and society.

Landowner privacy is a cornerstone of ALUS. Participant data is PRIVATE and not shared.

Projects produce a FULL SUITE OF BENEFITS for ecosystems and communities, not just carbon sequestration. The value of these benefits is recognized with the payment of a fee-for-service.

Participation in ALUS is easy and transparent. There are NO ADMINISTRATION FEES and minimal paperwork.

ALUS offers ACCESS TO A WIDER MARKETPLACE without burdening or complicating management for the landowner.



The **Partnership Advisory Committee**, or PAC, is critical to the ALUS model. It ensures that the local programs are directed, implemented and managed by the communities themselves.

The PAC is made up of farmers, ranchers, local government, and environmental knowledge holders, with at least half being farmers or ranchers in the community. The composition of the PAC is important to ensure that many perspectives and the local context are at the forefront of developing the priorities of the ALUS program in that community.

The PAC is responsible for deciding which ALUS projects will move forward in a community and the amount of funding allocated to projects. The varied expertise of the PAC members allows them to make the best decisions possible, with respect to the local economy, environment and community.

