



January 7, 2022

News Release

Jasper Announces New Director of Community Development

The Municipality of Jasper is excited to announce that Christopher Read will be joining the organization in the position of Director of Community Development, starting February 14, 2022. Mr. Read is currently the Chief Administrative Officer with Clearwater County.

With well over twenty years of municipal experience, Mr. Read is a Certified Local Government Manager who began developing his municipal career here in Jasper as the Fitness and Aquatic Centre Manager from 2002 to 2012. Mr. Read left Jasper to learn and grow his municipal craft, working at the Town of Hinton as the Parks, Recreation, and Parks Manager; Yellowhead County as the Director of Community Services; and most recently Clearwater County as the Chief Administrative Officer.

The new position of Director of Community Development will be responsible for leading the integration of the former Community & Family Services and Culture & Recreation departments into an effective, cohesive, and unified Community Development department, and for leveraging existing staff resources and external partnerships to maximize the community's use and enjoyment of existing municipal facilities and greenspaces. Areas of responsibility include the Jasper Arena, Fitness & Aquatic Centre, Activity Centre, Jasper Cultural Centre, and Commemoration, Centennial, Robson, and Lions Parks. The Director will also act as the central point of contact with external cultural and sport organizations; and external community, social services, healthcare, and educational organizations.

"I am very excited to be returning home to Jasper after nearly a decade away," says Mr. Read. "I am very much looking forward to applying my wealth of experience in municipal service, as well as my education from NAIT, the University of Alberta, and Simon Fraser University in service of staff, Council, residents, visitors, businesses, partners, and everyone in between, in further developing the community of Jasper."

Having lived in Alberta his whole life, Mr. Read revels in the joys and challenges of living in smaller communities. As an avid outdoors person, Christopher enjoys biking, paddling, climbing, and backpacking. Jasper National Park has been his playground throughout the years, and he recently completed some bucket list items, including Skyline in a day, and skiing into the Tonquin Valley. He is supported by his wife of 23 years, Claudia who is a Registered Nurse, and their 17-year-old son Tommy, who loves basketball.

Please join us in welcoming Mr. Read and his family back to Jasper.

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