



## **NEWS RELEASE**

September 4, 2024

### **Clearwater County Congratulates O’Chiese First Nation on Funding Announcement for Bridge and Community Building Upgrades**

(Rocky Mountain House, AB) – Clearwater County would like to congratulate the O’Chiese First Nation community on their recent funding announcement for the construction of a new bridge and upgrades to their Community Services Building.

Over \$17.1 million is being invested by the federal government and O’Chiese First Nation for these two projects. They will be funded, in part, by the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) and the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) program.

A new two-lane bridge will replace the single-lane bridge over the Baptiste River, that is located on one of two main access roads into the community. The project will also realign roads with the bridge and protect it from flooding.

Upgrades to the Community Services Building include more energy efficient improvements to lighting, water, heat and ventilation. The building is a hub for many community programs and services, including recreation, childcare, health care, and food and clothing for vulnerable community members.

Clearwater County looks forward to continued collaboration with the O’Chiese First Nation. The funding of these projects exemplifies the power of strong partnerships and shared vision for regional development.

“We are proud to support and celebrate the O’Chiese community in their infrastructure advancements,” said Clearwater County Reeve Michelle Swanson. “Our ongoing partnership reflects our mutual dedication to improving the quality of life and economic vitality for all residents in the region.”

Clearwater County remains committed to working closely with the O’Chiese First Nation and other partners to pursue further opportunities that benefit our communities and foster growth and prosperity.

Congratulations again to the O’Chiese First Nation community. We look forward to many more successful collaborations in the future.

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