

# Media Release



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 6, 2009

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### **Rocky View Schools' residents asked to provide feedback into Ward Boundary Review**

Rocky View Schools' (RVS) remarkable growth over the past three years has led the Board of Trustees to conduct a Ward Boundary Review to ensure its electoral boundaries reflect the area's recent population growth.

"Everywhere you go in our jurisdiction, earth-moving equipment is frantically building new residential developments, from multi-level complexes to single family homes," said Board Chair Sylvia Eggerer. "Given that next October the 2010 School Board Elections will be held, our Board wanted to ensure its electoral boundaries are proportionate to the communities they represent."

According to Stephen Cymbol, the educational consultant hired to undertake the review, Census Canada's latest statistics reveal that between 2001 to 2006 communities in RVS grew by over 20,000 residents.

"Some communities such as Chestermere have grown exponentially," said Cymbol. "From 2001-2006, the community grew by 148 percent. The City of Airdrie, too, grew almost 42 percent during that time period."

In a report to the Board of Trustees, Dec. 3, 2009, Cymbol laid out the population changes to Trustees' current ward boundaries, along with six alternatives that could address the demographic changes. The alternatives range from adding one trustee to bring the Board to eight trustees representing seven wards, to reducing the jurisdiction's electoral wards from seven to five wards represented by five trustees.

Cymbol said the next step in the review is to consult the general public on the four alternatives.

"All residents of Rocky View Schools are encouraged to visit the jurisdiction's website to obtain a copy of the Ward Boundary Review Discussion Paper," said Cymbol. "After reading the paper, residents can provide feedback via an online survey accessible through RVS' website, through a December 9 Open House at RVS' Education Centre in Airdrie, or through email to me directly."

Residents will have until December 30, 2009, to provide the consultant with feedback. Cymbol is slated to present the findings of his consultation process to the Board of Trustees at its January 7, 2009, Board Meeting. If the Board decides to modify RVS' current ward boundaries, a bylaw will be presented to the Board in February for deliberation.

Feedback channels, Cymbol's discussion paper and contact information are available on the jurisdiction's website at: <http://www.rockyview.ab.ca/home/wardboundaryreview>.

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### **For more information contact:**

Angela Spanier, Director of Communications, 403.945.4012