

BULLETIN

August 4, 2023

Rural Economic Development Microgrant – Apply Before the August 15 Deadline!

The RMA has partnered with the Government of Alberta to help rural municipalities undertake research on potential rural economic development projects — applications will be accepted until August 15

The RMA has received funding from the Government of Alberta's Economic Development in Rural Alberta Plan (EDRAP) to create a rural municipality economic development microgrant program. Applications for this program are now being accepted from RMA full member municipalities.

The program will provide a grant of up to **\$10,000** to support projects related to innovative economic development ideas or plans. Project examples include:

- Innovation in rural investment attraction
- Rural economic development best practices
- Business case development
- Feasibility or pre-feasibility assessment for new opportunities
- Enhancing municipal capacity to support economic development
- Opportunity identification
- Market research

Applications must include a detailed project proposal including the scope of work, project need and project outcome, timeline, budget and funding, project team, and any other relevant information. A council resolution or letter of support from CAO must also be included. The full application guidelines can be found here.

Applications can be <u>submitted online</u> in Microsoft Word or PDF format until **August 15, 2023**. All approved projects must be completed in full by March 15, 2024, including a final report of key outcomes.

A webinar was hosted on June 30, 2023, by Keating Business Strategies and the RMA, to provide an overview of the application process and what is considered an eligible project. A recording of the webinar can be found on the application web page.

This is an exciting opportunity that will help directly fund RMA member projects that contribute to local or regional economic development opportunities.

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