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## JOINT NEWS RELEASE

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April 10, 2025

### Exploring New Opportunities to Strengthen Water Security

For Immediate Release – The Town of Thorsby and the County of Wetaskiwin are excited to announce the exploration of a new collaborative effort aimed at enhancing water services and ensuring robust water security for our region. Thorsby's sophisticated water system is at the heart of this initiative, which seeks to provide enhanced water options for County residents, businesses and the agricultural sector, both now and in the future.

Currently, Thorsby and the County of Wetaskiwin are assessing the feasibility of a collaborative water distribution model. This proactive effort aims to identify a more secure and sustainable water source in response to the County's current dependence on wells. This initiative is designed to secure a reliable water supply that meets immediate needs and supports future growth throughout the greater region.



“Without a glacier fed waterbody within our municipality, water security is critical to the success of the County of Wetaskiwin,” stated Reeve Josh Bishop. “This opportunity could increase the efficiency of the water systems within both municipalities. We commend Thorsby for their forward-thinking approach and look forward to working together in building a strong and profitable system that will achieve the scale necessary to become self sustaining.”

“Thorsby's future success has always been about marketing and distributing its water,” stated Mayor Hostyn. “I along with our Council and administration have been diligently setting the groundwork to make this a reality. We are so pleased to be working closely with the County of Wetaskiwin exploring options that could benefit the residents, agriculture, and businesses in both municipalities for economic success.”

We invite all stakeholders—residents, businesses, and neighboring communities—to engage with us as we explore future development of critical water services. This collaboration represents a unique opportunity for everyone to contribute to ensuring our region has the water it needs to grow and prosper safely.

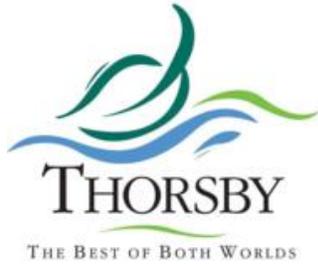
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Our current focus includes optimizing water management strategies and maintaining water infrastructure to ensure safe, reliable water services for everyone, including residents, businesses, and industry. This initiative not only addresses the diverse water needs across our region but also promotes sustainable development and equitable resource access.

By working together, we can bring our overhead costs down, increase capacity and spur industrial and commercial growth. This strategic approach enhances the potential for new investments in emerging sectors, strengthening Alberta's economy and supporting long-term sustainable development.

For more information or to get involved, please contact:

- Reeve Josh Bishop and CAO Scott MacDougall at the County of Wetaskiwin: 780.352.3321
- Mayor Darryl Hostyn and CAO Donna Tona at the Town of Thorsby: 780. 789.3935

Let's work together to secure a prosperous and water-secure future for our region. To stay up to date on this project visit [www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca/regional-water](http://www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca/regional-water)

- 30 -

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