A Bylaw of the City of Lacombe to create a clear and effective approach to community economic development by assigning roles and responsibilities for administrative staff, advisory committees and community organizations

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, c M-26, a municipality may pass bylaws for municipal purposes, and the City of Lacombe deems it expedient and in the public interest to pass a Community Economic Development Bylaw; and

WHEREAS Council strives to position the City of Lacombe as a welcoming and attractive location for investment, preserving our natural and cultural resources and utilizing them as a source of economic strength; and

WHEREAS Council recognizes that community economic development utilizes local resources to enhance economic opportunities while improving social conditions in a sustainable way; and

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Lacombe understands that, to be effective, community economic development should be rooted in local knowledge and led by a variety of community groups as well as the municipality;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Lacombe, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

1. **BYLAW TITLE**
   1.1. The bylaw will be referred to as the “Community Economic Development Bylaw”.

2. **DEFINITIONS**
   In this bylaw:
   2.1. “Council” means the duly elected municipal Council of the City of Lacombe;
   2.2. “City” means City of Lacombe;
   2.3. “CAO” mean the person appointed by the Council of the City of Lacombe as the Chief Administrative Officer, or their designate;
   2.4. “Community Economic Development” or “CED” means community-based processes to explicitly foster the economic, social and cultural well-being of Lacombe as outcomes, including but not limited to business attraction, incubation, and retention; economic diversification and marketing of the community; sponsorship and event hosting and support; nonprofit sector development; and stimulating, incentivizing, and collaborating with the business community.
   2.5. “ELA” means the Echo Lacombe Association.

3. **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**
   3.1. The CAO will facilitate the operation of a Community Economic Development Department and portfolio.
   3.2. The City will maintain an active partnership with the Lacombe and District Chamber of Commerce.
   3.3. The City will promote, secure and maintain facility, event, and program sponsors and sponsorship opportunities.
3.4. The City will minimize non-performing City assets and improve management of underperforming assets through community economic development initiatives.

3.5. The City will seek to expand the City’s commercial tax base and secure alternative sources of revenue for the municipality.

3.6. The City will encourage the increase of local, regional and national events within the community.

3.7. The City empowers the ELA, through this bylaw and by subsequent supportive agreements, to:

3.7.1. manage the City’s energy retailer, Echo Energy,

3.7.2. offer a range of community economic development and other programs and projects, and

3.7.3. advance grassroots community economic development in Lacombe.

3.8. The City hereby directs the proceeds, less cost of operation, of Echo Energy to the ELA for the purposes of managing the retailer and for fostering nonprofit community economic development in Lacombe.

3.9. The City and ELA will annually develop additional mandate, funding, and other supports via agreements outlining:

3.9.1. ELA’s management and adjudication of designated City CED programs, and

3.9.2. The City’s additional monetary, in-kind contributions, and administrative support for ELA and its initiatives.

3.10. The ELA will provide an annual progress report to Council at a designated Council meeting.

3.11. The ELA will provide one voting Board membership to the City as an anchor member, to which the City will appoint a Councillor or the CAO during its annual organizational meeting.

3.12. The City will annually develop mandates, funding, and other supports with its community-based nonprofit partner groups, via operational agreements; and

3.13. The City will pursue partnerships with the business community and other levels of government to secure economic development opportunities for Lacombe.

4. DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

4.1. Upon approval of the City’s annual operating or interim operating budget, the City will disburse operational funding to the City’s nonprofit partner groups within the terms of the budget.

5. EFFECTIVE DATE

5.1. This Bylaw will come into force and effect upon third and reading.

6. REPEAL OF BYLAW 359

6.1. Bylaw 359 – Economic Community Development Task Force, and any amendments thereto, are hereby repealed.

INTRODUCED AND GIVEN FIRST READING THIS 13TH DAY OF JULY, 2020;
READ A SECOND TIME THIS 10TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2020;

Original Signed

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Mayor

Original Signed

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Chief Administrative Officer