



For Immediate Release

Town of Olds Fire Department Receives TC Energy Funding for Advanced Drone Program

Olds, AB **September 15, 2025** - The Town of Olds Fire Department (OFD) is proud to announce that it has received funding support from TC Energy through their social impact program, Build Strong. This funding will be used to purchase a drone along with the supporting equipment and software required to strengthen the department's ability to respond to emergencies.

Over the past year, OFD has actively participated in a groundbreaking "Drone as a First Responder" study in partnership with the University of Alberta. The study has demonstrated the significant value of drone technology in enhancing public safety, improving situational awareness, and enabling faster, safer response times during emergencies.

With TC Energy's support, the department can now build upon the positive outcomes of the past year and ensure that drone technology remains a permanent and vital part of its emergency response toolkit.

"In the past year, we have witnessed firsthand the amazing potential that utilizing drones in emergency response can bring. After having one at our disposal in that time, we feel strongly that this is a piece of public safety technology that we would hate to be without going forward," said Fire Chief Justin Andrew.

The addition of this technology will allow OFD to continue leading the way in adopting innovative solutions that keep the community safe. From fire response to search and rescue and hazardous incident assessments, drones have proven to be an invaluable asset in modern public safety.

The Town of Olds Fire Department extends its gratitude to TC Energy for its generous support and continued commitment to community safety and resilience.



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