



# Regional GIS Update

## Winter 2011 Update

The past year was a very busy year for the GIS department. In the spring, the GIS was completed for the Town of Rocky Mountain House, while the Town of Penhold and the Village of Glenwood's projects were completed near the end of the year – welcome to all.

The "Project Background" tab, accessible from the GIS website home page, has been reworked. There is now a graph showing the growth of the GIS as well as a table of the details of each municipality's entrance to the Project. We intend to keep this "history" up-to-date including any major upgrades or changes to the GIS platform. We have also authored a 'GIS and Mapping Services' brochure – you may have seen the link accessible from the log-in screen.

The GIS team has been following the development of the new "teconnect" center in Lethbridge. This new facility is being constructed in the Industrial Area not too far from the ORRSC office. This center will have a Information & Communication Technologies focus which we feel is a close fit with the business we do and therefore may offer us some potential. Of special interest is the Tier III Data Centre, the only one of it's kind in Southern Alberta, which would afford access to low-cost data capacity to protect the valuable data housed within the GIS.

The GIS team is looking at a new initiative - Regional/Rural GIS support. Many of the rural municipalities in the ORRSC region have what we refer to as one man GIS operations. These are most often desktop GIS programs looked after

by one municipal GIS staff member. We propose to act as an intermediary to serve their GIS data via the Internet similar to the Urban GIS Project. One main difference is that ORRSC GIS team would not perform GIS tasks for the municipality – only serve the data back to the municipality thus providing an uninterrupted service in the event of staff unavailability or turnover. As with the Urban GIS Project, the data would be available 24/7 to any one with an Internet connection and the required log-in credentials.

Some significant accomplishments:

### January 2010

The Urban GIS Project received a SouthGrow Award of Recognition in the Excellence in Collaboration / Partnership category.

### April

Steven and Mladen attended the Intermountain GIS Conference in Bozeman Montana.

### May

The GIS team presented at the GeoAlberta Conference in Calgary.

### November

The GIS team co-sponsored GIS Day at the University of Lethbridge and a few days later set-up our GIS display at Lethbridge College's Career Fair. November 30th we hosted the Annual GIS Update Meeting in ORRSC's conference facility.

### December - January 2011

GIS team attended all council orientations.

### Partnering Municipalities

- Village of Arrowwood*
- Village of Barnwell*
- Village of Barons*
- Village of Carmangay*
- Village of Champion*
- Village of Coutts*
- Village of Cowley*
- Village of Glenwood*
- Village of Hill Spring*
- Village of Lomond*
- Village of Milo*
- Village of Nobleford*
- Village of Rosemary*
- Village of Stirling*
- Village of Warner*

- Town of Cardston*
- Town of Claresholm*
- Town of Coaldale*
- Town of Coalhurst*
- Town of Fort Macleod*
- Town of Granum*
- Town of High River*
- Town of Innisfail*
- Town of Magrath*
- Town of Milk River*
- Town of Nanton*
- Town of Olds*
- Town of Penhold*
- Town of Picture Butte*
- Town of Pincher Creek*
- Town of Raymond*
- Town of Rocky Mtn House*
- Town of Stavelly*
- Town of Taber*
- Town of Vauxhall*
- Town of Vulcan*
- Municipality of Crowsnest Pass*

### GIS Tips

Are you looking for a better method to print and redline from the GIS. Contact us for information on another 'freebie' - **FastStone Capture**. This screen capture tool has many capture and annotation options for you to create a 'map' of that project you're working on.

### Orthophoto Sales

That nice orthophoto hanging in your office is for sale. We think there are others in your municipality who would like a copy. We would like to target Golf Courses, major businesses and others who may be interested in a custom plot of the orthophoto covering their parcels of land. Wouldn't a large plot of the Golf Course look awesome in the lounge?

*Left: Portion of Nanton's Golf Course with tee boxes, fairways and greens outlined in white.*

