



Regional GIS Update

MapGuide Training

The first week of April saw Cal Kembel, Steven Ellert and Tom Graham returning to school. The 3 day in-house training course was taught by *Warren Medernach*, a certified instructor from *IMAGiNIT TECHNOLOGIES*. The seminar was arranged by staff to train them in the use of the GIS software program *Mapguide*.

One of the components of *Mapguide* is a viewer which is installed as a "plug-in" to an internet browser such as Microsoft Internet Explorer or Netscape Navigator. Using this viewer the user will be able to access their GIS data.

As different types of 'code' had to be written

for each browser, it was decided to use Internet Explorer because it was the program the majority of the communities were using, it is free, and will work with all the computers that the communities are using.

Staff was instructed on how to create maps by adding different layers, changing color schemes and the overall presentation of maps. Staff was also introduced to some basic programming that will be required to link the maps to the tax roll databases in order to generate reports, mailing lists, etc. Once we become more fluent in the programming language we will be able to develop tools and

reports that will fit the needs of the users.

Municipal Visits Continue

Staff are continuing their visits to each member municipality. Throughout the spring, the goal is to visit each municipality in order to help get them started on collecting infrastructure information that will be required to continue building the system in Year II.

Tom has created a form in Microsoft Access that will assist municipal staff in for collecting the required data. For those communities that do not have Access, a hardcopy of the form is available.

Municipal 2000 Sponsorship Program Grant Update

It is that time of year again. We wanted to remind all participating municipalities that the awarding of the three year pilot project has allocated all or a portion of your grant eligibility for 2003 to the GIS project. Those municipalities with grant eligibility for 2003 received a letter attached to their package sent out by Municipal Affairs indicating the amount of grant funding remaining. Just to remind you, each partner in the GIS is able to participate in one project this year, either an individual or intermunicipal, in addition to the GIS project. If you have any questions, please call:

Janice Romanyshyn, Coordinator, Grant Policy
Alberta Municipal Affairs
Municipal Services Branch
(780) 427-2225

Partnering Municipalities

Village of Barnwell
Village of Coutts
Village of Cowley
Village of Lomond
Village of Nobleford
Village of Warner
Town of Cardston
Town of Coaldale
Town of Coalhurst

Town of Fort Macleod
Town of Magrath
Town of Milk River
Town of Nanton
Town of Picture Butte
Town of Pincher Creek
Town of Stavely
Town of Taber
Town of Vulcan

Interesting Fact

The Oldman River Region Urban GIS Project was the only project chosen for funding as a Three year Pilot Project out of all the projects submitted last year. Therefore, the group can expect to receive Year II funding as early as May 2003 in the amount of between \$160, 000 and \$170, 000, depending on how the final allocation will be calculated.