



# Regional GIS Update

## Ready...Set...GO!!

All the planning, organizing and lobbying has paid off!! August 30, 2002 was a very happy day at the ORISA offices when word arrived that the grant application to develop a centralized regional geographic information system was approved.

To recap, combined municipal grant allocations to the project totaled \$232,383. \$185,908 coming from grant allocation and an additional \$46,475 as the 25 percent intermunicipal bonus. The application was approved for a partial enhanced grant of \$224,000 with a total of 96.25 points (31.35 needs points and 65 quality points).

The best news was yet to come. Our project has since been chosen as one of the 3 Year Pilot Projects

for 2002, which receives funding based on the allocations of members grant funds in 2003 and 2004.

ORISA staff was busy during September acquiring new hardware. Purchases include a new 42" plotter, color printer, 2 workstations and a computer server.

Staff has started to build on the pilot project developed to test the reliability of existing ORISA data. Municipal staff from Coalhurst have been extremely helpful as we start to work through the data sets and begin to develop a protocol in regards to the kinds and formats of information required and the order the GIS team will need to receive it in.

### THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

- Administrators and related staff meeting in December
- Collection of Tax Roll Database from each municipality
- Acquisition of parcel boundaries for each municipality
- Correction of discrepancies between boundary files and tax roll databases
- Acquisition of database software to setup linkage between map and database
- Discussion of needs of municipalities and the needs of GIS staff
- Budget update

## Meet the GIS Team

New staff have been recruited by ORISA to make the "magic" happen.

Tom Graham is the new GIS Analyst or database guy. Fresh off a summer position at the MD of Pincher Creek No. 9, Tom is a native of Pincher Creek and a recent graduate of the University of Lethbridge.

Steven Ellert, formerly of Alberta Environment, has accepted the position of GIS Technologist or map guy and will be working on linking the land use data with the maps.

Trevor Hazell, ORISA's 2002 summer student, has returned part-time to assist in the day-to-day drafting operations.

Rounding out the team is Cal Kembel, a long-time member of ORISA staff. Currently, Cal is in shock as three new people invade his space and commandeer any vacant available space.

Things will continue to be a little cramped until the move to the new building in the early spring.



Graphic Unit Staff Back Row: CAL KEMBEL & STEVEN ELLERT  
Front Row: TOM GRAHAM & TREVOR HAZELL

### 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