



## MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# City of Lacombe boosts recreational fishing with Alberta Conservation Association partnership

**Lacombe, Alberta (February 12, 2020)** – The City of Lacombe is delighted to announce a \$3000 per year, five-year sponsorship of Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) to support fish stocking at the Len Thompson Fish Pond Park, a municipal facility created and co-maintained by the Lacombe Fish and Game Association (LFGA).

“Council is definitely aware of the importance of the facility to the local fishing community, and of the angling pressures at the pond due to its increasing popularity,” said Mayor Grant Creasey. “We are very pleased to support higher stocking levels of trout to maintain good recreational fishing for our residents, especially children and youth, so that they can enjoy getting back to nature and bonding with family and friends.”

“Having the City of Lacombe as a Corporate Partner in Conservation will be a tremendous benefit to our fish stocking efforts at Len Thompson Pond, and is an excellent example of a municipality investing directly in the youth and families of their community,” said ACA Vice President Ken Kranrod. “Many new anglers catch their first fish at a local pond, and we value the City’s support in helping make this opportunity possible in Lacombe.”

ACA is a not-for-profit organization that works to conserve, protect and enhance fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for Albertans to enjoy, value and use. Its *Corporate Partners in Conservation* program recognizes companies and organizations that play a vital role in conservation in Alberta through multi-year agreements on specific conservation projects.

Each year, ACA’s Fish Stocking Project stocks over 100,000 catchable-sized trout across the province to create “catch-and-release” fisheries. Fishing for trout is often an exciting experience as they are easy to catch and a great first fish.

The sponsorship is part of City’s ongoing commitment to maintain the recreation service level at the Len Thompson Fish Pond Park. The pond is an important draw in the community, with local businesses and organizations, volunteers and the public supporting a number of activities at the facility.

The Thompson-Pallister Bait Company were the original sponsors of fish stocking in Lacombe, and continue their support to this day.

"We certainly appreciate Council's commitment to stocking the pond," said Thompson-Pallister Bait Company President Brad Pallister. "The additional rainbow trout will have a strong positive benefit to the community. It will enhance the experience for out-of-town tourists that are visiting the pond to relax with friends and family, catch a fish, or snap a picture of the City's World's Largest Lure."

The LFGA hosts the annual Lacombe Kids Can Catch event. At the event, kids, parents and volunteers pitch in to stock the pond by hand, while socializing and teaching children to fish at this popular spring outdoor community event.

"Our membership is delighted to have the ongoing support of the City to enhance fish stocks at the pond," said LFGA President Greg Lunn. "This sponsorship will help make fishing opportunities more accessible to local and area youth, and aligns with our goal to promote, through education and programs, the conservation and utilization of fish and wildlife resources for current and future generations."

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### **About ACA**

Alberta Conservation Association is a non-profit organization formed in 1997. ACA is a registered charity that holds special status as a Delegated Administrative Organization. ACA delivers the responsibilities as outlined in the Wildlife Act and defined in an Alberta Environment and Parks' Memorandum of Understanding. Funded largely by the province's hunters and anglers, ACA is "boots on the ground" for conservation projects that benefit Alberta's wildlife, fish and habitat. Through print and digital media, ACA provides educational outreach and awareness encouraging all Albertans to use, enjoy and value our rich outdoor heritage.

### **About the City of Lacombe**

The City of Lacombe is a vibrant, fast-growing community of over 13,985 residents that welcomes innovation and enterprise while honouring its architectural and historical heritage. One of Alberta's newest cities, Lacombe is optimally located along the QE II Highway corridor between Calgary and Edmonton, and in close proximity to Red Deer. Lacombe has a rich natural environment of lakes and green spaces, along with a wide range of lifestyle amenities and recreational opportunities.

### **For additional information contact:**

Deven Kumar,  
Communications Coordinator  
(403)782-1236 office  
(403)782-5655 fax  
[dkumar@lacombe.ca](mailto:dkumar@lacombe.ca)