

Title: Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative

Policy No: 6324

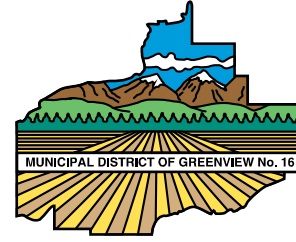
Effective Date: May 28, 2024

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Department: Agricultural Services

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Legal References:

Animal Health Act, S.A. 2007, c.A-40.2

Cross References:

Not applicable

Purpose: The Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative is to support innovative approaches to increase delivery options and geographic reach of veterinary care to livestock producers, to support animal health, the livestock agri-food sector, and the strength of our food supply.

Funding through this Initiative will help veterinary care be delivered in ways that addresses several challenges, including the long distance between many farmers and veterinary clinics, and the shortage of large animal veterinarians working in rural and remote parts of Greenview.

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1. **Greenview** means the Municipal District of Greenview No. 16.
- 1.2. **Eligible Practice** means a Food Animal veterinary practice or a mixed veterinary animal practise with an active status with the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association and which serves Greenview livestock producers.
- 1.3. **Food Animal** means Bovine (cattle), porcine (swine), ovine (sheep), caprine (goats), megachilidae (cutter bees), apis mellifera (honey bees), and bison bison (bison).
- 1.4. **Initiative** means the Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

- 2.1. Greenview livestock producers are experiencing shortages of access to veterinary services, putting strain on veterinarians and limiting growth opportunities for livestock farmers. In response to this recognized challenge, Greenview created the initiative, to assist veterinarians in expanding telemedicine and in-filed diagnostic options to increase the reach of a single practitioner and reduce the travel that may otherwise be required to deliver herd health services.
- 2.2. Stacking of the Greenview Initiative may be permitted should the Government of Alberta establish a program similar to the Initiative, provided the applicant's share of costs remains at a minimum of 50% of overall costs.
- 2.3. Costs incurred must reflect when the goods and services are expected to be received, regardless of when payments are made. When purchasing goods or services, the applicant

must follow a process that is transparent, fair and promotes the best value for the money expended and at competitive prices that are no greater than fair market value after deducting trade discounts.

- 2.4. All suppliers from which goods or services are purchased must be at arm's length from the applicant, meaning they are not related to, affiliated with, or controlled in any way by the applicant.

3. LIVESTOCK VETERINARY INNOVATION INITIATIVE PROGRAM

- 3.1. An applicant is eligible for the Initiative provided they are an Eligible Practice which is:
 - A) Located within Greenview;
 - B) Located within 125 kilometres of Greenview borders with Greenview livestock producer clientele; or
 - C) A mobile clinic with Greenview livestock producer clientele.

- 3.2. Eligible projects and activities include:
 - A) Telemedicine diagnostic: support for telemedicine and/or diagnostic (i.e. mobile/cellular and video/camera and monitor solutions; veterinary hematology analyzers; vehicle modifications)
 - B) Handling Equipment: Support for portable large animal handling equipment such as head gates, squeeze chutes, and associated vehicle modifications; and
 - C) Education/Training: Support for education and training on new equipment or techniques.

- 3.3. Funding shall be allocated according to the following:

Eligible Practice Type	Funding Level	Maximum Cost Share across all categories	Max Cost Share funding per category
Practice Within Greenview	50% eligible costs	\$50,000	Telemedicine/Diagnostic Equipment - \$25,000 Handling Equipment- \$15,000 Education/ Training- \$5,000
Practice within 125 km of Greenview Boundary, serving Greenview clients	50% eligible costs	\$30,000	Telemedicine/Diagnostic Equipment - \$17,500 Handling Equipment- \$10,500 Education/Training- \$3,500
Serving Greenview Clients, mobile practice	50% eligible costs	\$20,000	Telemedicine/Diagnostic Equipment - \$10,000 Handling Equipment- \$7,500 Education/Training- \$2,500

- 3.4. Applicants may utilize all available funding for one of the three funding categories by stating such intent within their application.

- 3.5. The following types of projects are ineligible:
 - A) Activities that do not support Food Animal health;
 - B) Activities that involve directly influencing or lobbying any level of government;
 - C) Normal operating costs associated with carrying out business or facility expansions, unless otherwise noted in the Eligible costs section.
 - D) Having the sole purpose of coming into or maintaining compliance with Requirements of the Law that pertain to current operations.

- E) Those that are not in compliance with all applicable requirements of law, including environmental legislation and public health and safety requirements, bylaws, ordinances, approvals and permits.
- F) Activities that are already receiving 100% in total funding assistance from all sources, including other government and non-government sources.

3.6. Activities not listed within Section 3.2 may be reviewed by and funding awarded at the discretion of Greenview's Agricultural Services Board.

4. APPLICANT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1. Applicants are responsible for ensuring they meet the eligibility criteria listed within this policy.
- 4.2. Applicants are responsible for preparing progress and final reports in the prescribed manner requested by Greenview.
- 4.3. Applicants shall maintain adequate records for, but not limited to, the type of equipment purchased and the intended purpose, records of Greenview clientele, and cash flow of eligible costs.

5. COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1. Council is responsible for allocating funding to the Greenview Veterinary Services Innovation Initiative.

6. ADMINISTRATION RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1. Administration shall annually prepare the Veterinary Services Innovation Initiative to accept applicants.
- 6.2. Administration will work with applicants to determine eligibility and ensure all program parameters have been satisfied.