

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Town Debuts Electric Utility Vehicle during Public Works Week

The Town of Drayton Valley has purchased two fully electric utility vehicles for the Public Works and Parks department. Their summer staff will use these vehicles as they carry out their various duties around Drayton Valley.

"We wanted to explore the electric option for our fleet, and these electric utility vehicles are a fantastic transition vehicle for the municipality," says Owen Olynyk, Acting General Manager for Engineering Services. "These vehicles are quiet, right-sized for the intended function, and do not need new charging infrastructure. During summer, you can drive around Drayton Valley all day, plug it into a wall outlet overnight and do it all over again the next day."

The Toro Workman GTX vehicles are configured to seat teams of four with cargo space for tools, equipment, and other materials. Crews are now able to get more done in fewer trips.

With these electric vehicles, the Town will no longer have to lease utility vehicles each summer. The purchase is part of an ongoing effort to find operational cost savings and efficiencies within the municipality. Both vehicles are partly funded by the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC) as part of their Electric Vehicles for Municipalities (EVM) rebate program.

"We expect to see lower fuel and maintenance costs with these electric vehicles," says Mayor Michael Doerksen. "With further co-benefits like reduced environmental impact and better health and safety outcomes, this is a project that has Council's full support."

The electric utility vehicles are one of the projects showcased during Public Works Week 2021. Councillors and staff had the opportunity to see these vehicles in action and learn more about the efficiencies these vehicles will bring to the organization.

For more information

Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC): <https://mccac.ca/>

Town of Drayton Valley: <https://www.draytonvalley.ca/drayton-valley-energy/>

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