



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CUI Maintains Current Utility Rates for 2018

Chestermere, Alberta – January 2, 2018 - Chestermere Utilities Inc. ("CUI") confirmed today that it will not be requesting a change to its currently approved utility rates for 2018.

"CUI and the City of Chestermere Council (the "Shareholder"), recognizes the rate and pace of change over the last two years has been challenging for our customers. Given our progress to date, we are pleased that we've been able to provide customers with stable rates in the creation of our 2018 plan," said Leigh-Anne Palter, CUI's Chief Executive Officer.

Through diligent and close collaboration with the Shareholder, CUI is confident it can deliver on the Corporation's mandate to maintain safe and reliable operations, ensure ongoing financial sustainability, and support municipal growth and investment, all while maintaining the utility rates approved by Council on December 19, 2016.

Accomplishment of a number of key milestones over the last two years has enabled CUI to make this decision.

The organization maintained excellent safety performance with zero lost time injuries while insourcing solid waste collection, and delivering an extensive construction program associated with the water capital projects identified in its 2017 rates request. Upgrades to Chestermere's sanitary system are on track to be compliant with Alberta Environment standards by the end of 2018, positioning the community for long-term growth.

By successfully renegotiating the EPCOR Operations and Maintenance Agreement, and securing alternative long-term financing to support its capital spending, CUI has dramatically improved its financial performance.

Chestermere's solid waste diversion performance is among the leaders in the province and recent changes to the curbside collection program are anticipated to enable similar future results.

In preparing its 2018 plan, CUI also accounted for continuous operational improvements associated with its comprehensive water management program. In 2017, CUI identified and repaired fourteen significant leaks, implemented the copper service replacement program, and introduced a residential water meter replacement program that exchanges aging meters with new, technologically advanced meters. These activities will continue in 2018 and are critical to reducing Chestermere's water losses by minimizing CUI's water purchases, and ensuring accurate billing for water customers' use, thereby reducing the portion of water losses recovered in utility rates.

CUI looks forward to working with the Shareholder and its customers in 2018, ensuring strategic delivery of our mandate and continuously improving our services.



About CUI

CUI is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the City of Chestermere providing safe and efficient water, waste water, storm water, solid waste and recycling services to residents and businesses located in Chestermere, Alberta. Chestermere is one of Alberta's fastest growing cities; CUI currently services 18,500 customers. CUI was established as a standalone corporation in 2012 operating at arms-length from the municipality. CUI manages \$110 million in assets, over \$17 million in annual revenue and has planned \$30 million in growth projects in the coming years.

CUI's vision is to become a leader in stewardship through the innovative delivery of essential services in Alberta. As an organization, we are working diligently to be a trusted community partner through the stewardship of precious resources and the delivery of safe, efficient utility solutions to our customers. For further information about CUI, please visit our website at www.cuinc.ca

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