



**MEDIA RELEASE** 

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## Stirling Launches Municipally Controlled Corporation – Ridge Utilities Ltd.

The Village of Stirling has launched a municipally controlled corporation to market electricity, natural gas, internet and green power options to residents, farmers and businesses across southern Alberta. Working with Utility Network & Partners Inc., a licensed marketer of energy and internet services under the Consumer Protection Act, Ridge Utilities will offer a range of rate options and service bundles to help consumers save money.

"Council wanted to explore innovative ways to support the long term financial sustainability of our community and neighbouring communities in the region," said Mayor Trevor Lewington. "A municipally controlled corporation allows us to create a new and incremental revenue stream beyond property taxes and user fees."

"Ridge Utilities will complement existing private sector energy marketing offerings in the market and give community minded consumers another option," notes Scott Donselaar, Stirling's CAO who will also act as General Manager of Ridge Utilities. "Our unique ability to bundle both internet and utilities in some communities will provide another way for consumers to get the most out of their utility bill."

Consumers wanting to explore rate offerings and bundles can visit the Ridge Utilities website, call the customer support team at (403) 308-8850 or email <a href="mailto:customercare-ridge@utilitynetservices.ca">customercare-ridge@utilitynetservices.ca</a>.

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#### For information:

Trevor Lewington, MayorScott Donselaar, CAOEmail:Lewington@stirling.caEmail:CAO@stirling.caCell:(403) 330 3701Office:403 756 3379

### **About Ridge Utilities:**

Ridge Utilities Ltd. was formed as a municipally controlled corporation by the Village of Stirling as an innovative community sustainability initiative. The company markets electricity, natural gas, internet and green generated power to residents, farmers and businesses across southern Alberta. As part of the Utility Network & Partners Inc. family, Ridge Utilities will invest profits from its operations back into projects in communities where its customers live. Visit www.ridgeutilities.net for more information.

#### **About Stirling:**

The Village of Stirling is one of three communities in Canada designated as a National Historic Site and the largest village in Alberta by population with 1,269 residents as of the 2018 municipal census. While Stirling is proud of its past, the community is also preparing for the future with high speed fibre optic broadband internet service connected to more than 85% of households as well as solar arrays on public buildings to offset municipal power consumption needs resulting in Canada's first "net zero" Village. Visit <a href="www.stirling.ca">www.stirling.ca</a> for more information.