

New waste pickup option investigated

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Village of Cremona officials plan to present council with a new option for waste pickup services next month.

The Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission announced last month it will out-source solid waste collection, aiming to find a contractor that will provide the same service at a lower cost.

The commission plans to contract out residential waste, organics, recyclables and commercial recyclables, waste and organics services, as well as roll-off bin hauling services and rural waste collection.

The new service is expected to begin in January once a provider has been chosen. The contract would run for three years with the option for member municipalities to renew for two years.

Cremona, Carstairs, Didsbury and Sundre provided one year's notice to withdraw from the commission in December of 2014, after the commission increased its 2015 requisitions to make up for financial losses.

Olds and Mountain View County were the only two municipalities that did not provide notice of withdrawal from the commission.

Didsbury and Carstairs do not use the commission's collection service and instead have contracts with Can-Pak.

Although Didsbury recently decided to rescind its letter of withdrawal, not all member municipalities feel the same.

"I think things are going to get better, but I'm still not comfortable with rescinding our letter yet," Cremona mayor Tim Hagen said during the June 16 council meeting.

Luana Smith, chief administrative officer for the village, expressed excitement during the meeting about presenting a new option at the next meeting that would offer curbside recycling, compost and garbage pickup services.

Meanwhile, during the Town of Carstairs council meeting on May 25, council was presented with a motion to rescind its letter following an in camera discussion.

However, the motion was defeated and the town's position remains status quo.