NEWS RELEASE

SouthGrow's Elects New Management Board

Lethbridge, May 30, 2013 – SouthGrow Regional Initiative held its ninth Annual General Meeting at the Lethbridge Lodge on Wednesday, May 29, 2013 and elected a new Management Board. Chair, Sandra Nelson announced that she would not be seeking re-election and then conducted the election process for the new Board.

Elected officials and community representatives on the Management Board are:

> Mayor Ray Bryant, Town of Taber
> Councillor Maggie Kronen, Town of Cardston
> Councillor Greg Robinson, Town of Raymond
> Councillor Ron Lagemaat, Town of Coalhurst
> Councillor Roger Houghton, Cardston County
> Carol Zelenka, Member-At-Large, MD Taber
> Mayor Kym Nichols, Village of Carmangay
> Glenn Logan, Village of Lomond
> Councillor Dannie Lien, Village of Warner
> Myron Eagle Speaker, Blood Tribe Council

Prior to the elections, SouthGrow Chair Sandra Nelson presented the 2012-2013 Annual Report covering the initiatives and activities covering SouthGrow's three core businesses (Strategic Collaboration, Communication and Marketing, and Economic Development and Innovation). Shilpa Stocker presented the 2013-2014 Operations Plan with new projects and initiatives to raise awareness of the area and attract opportunities and investment to the region. Upcoming projects include Alternative Energy Community Capacity Building, Water for Economic Development, and Site Selection for the SouthGrow Communities.

In addition, the member municipalities passed a motion to accept changes to its Articles of Association. Chair Sandra Nelson was pleased with the support received from communities. *"SouthGrow is a strong regional economic development alliance and has planned key initiatives over the next year, which are valuable to our members as well as the south central region. Our members continue to see value and strength in collaboration that SouthGrow Regional Initiative offers."*

For more information, contact:

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Background information -- SouthGrow Regional Initiative

SouthGrow Regional Initiative was formed in 2003 and is a member-driven, volunteer-supported, not-for-profit regional economic development alliance for south-central Alberta. SouthGrow encompasses twenty communities with a total population of about 50,000. SouthGrow encourages collaboration, focuses on regional economic development issues and ensures the region has equal opportunity for growth and development.