

# The Central Peace **SIGNAL** .ca



The Municipal District of Spirit River 133 (MD) is working with Prairie Oat Growers Association (POGA), Peace Region Economic Development Alliance (PREDA) and other entities in a joint initiative to distribute 7,500 bags of oats to 27 municipal offices in the Peace Country to be handed out for free to ratepayers. Photo shows, from left, MD Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar, who is also a POGA board member; PREDA Chair Carolyn Kolebaba; and MD Councillor Nick van Rootselaar.

More than 15,000 pounds of oats will be making their way into Peace Country homes this fall, thanks to a joint initiative of the Municipal District of Spirit River 133 (MD), Peace Region Economic Development Alliance (PREDA), Grain Millers, Prairie Oat Growers Association (POGA) and Save-on Foods.

“The goal of this initiative by POGA was to showcase not only the versatility and great value of oats in the kitchen but also the tremendous health benefits that it brings to the table,” said MD Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar, who also sits on the POGA board. “POGA was looking for a region to work on this initiative, and the MD knew we could make it happen by partnering with PREDA.”

The project involves distributing 7,500 bags of oats, through the PREDA network, to 27 municipal offices in the Peace region to be handed out for free to ratepayers.

“PREDA will always step forward when there is an opportunity to better the Peace region and offer value to the people of our communities,” said PREDA Chair Carolyn Kolebaba. “Studies show the Peace region grows the best oats in Canada, so what better way to promote that than by giving out free samples.”

The oats were provided through an agreement between POGA, Grain Millers and Western Foods (Save-on Foods.) The MD coordinated the delivery and warehousing while PREDA arranged the shipping through its member municipalities. Each PREDA municipality will have a stand of oats at its administration building.