





## The Village of Breton, Wild Rose School Division and Brazeau County Welcomes School Resource Officer

November 22, 2016

Breton, AB - Wild Rose School Division, Brazeau County and the Village of Breton are pleased to announce that a part-time School Resource Officer (SRO) began work in Breton public schools earlier this fall. Constable Stephen Taylor will work to establish relationships with administration, teachers, and students, promote family wellness, provide education on substance abuse, bullying, Internet safety, drinking and driving, among other topics.

He will spend the majority of his time in schools with the remainder of his time serving the community at large. Constable Taylor has been a member of the Breton RCMP detachment for approximately 1.5 years and has experience as a corrections officer and private investigator. He is hoping to participate in local youth sports.

"Positive first encounters with law enforcement can create a lifelong impression on students, and help steer students away from risky behaviour," says Brazeau County Reeve Bart Guyon. "The SRO will help develop self-esteem, confidence, and teamwork skills."

"The SRO program is vital to our efforts to ensure the ongoing well-being of our youth, who are the future of our communities," says Village of Breton Mayor Alan Barker. "The SRO will be a confidant, mentor, educator, counsellor, role model and protector for students. The Village of Breton is proud to work with its regional partners and the local police in committing to the SRO Program."

Working together is always the best way to ensure the success of community programs and this partnership between the Village of Breton, Wild Rose School Division and Brazeau County is an excellent example of this. Moving forward, as this position continues to grow, the positive impact it will have on the community will increase daily. While the position is part-time (up to six hours per week), students in Breton will now receive the same officer support as all WRSD schools.

"We are very excited to now be able to say that all of our schools in Breton and Drayton Valley have access to a School Resource Officer thanks to another excellent partnership," says WRSD Superintendent, Brad Volkman. "Ensuring that daily our students and staff attend school in a safe and caring learning environment is a top priority in promoting student success.

The School Resource Officer position is the result of a partnership and funding agreement between Wild Rose School Division, Brazeau County, and the Village of Breton.

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