



## News Release

For Immediate Release



*Jonah Langelotz and Mayor Al Friesen discuss the plan for the land*

### **GROWING TOGETHER: COMMUNITY ORCHARD PROPOSAL APPROVED**

**Altona, MB. July 8, 2022:**

The Town of Altona is proud to announce an extension of its existing partnership with the Altona Community Action Network (ACAN) to develop the land north of the Altona Community Garden into a community space that produces food and provides an example of a climate resilient food system to educate, nourish and inspire the community. This **Community Orchard** was proposed to Council on June 14, 2022 by ACAN Co-Chair Jonah Langelotz, along with several other representatives of ACAN.

The Community Orchard Proposal, which was accepted by Council, contains much more than trees. The plan, which encompasses 3 acres, includes a naturalized retention pond & hill, half an acre of main orchard growing space, two secondary growing areas, eco-buffers, native tallgrass prairie, and a pathway system connecting it all to our existing community trail system.

This initiative is led by a three-person task force – Jonah Langelotz, Erin Sawatzky, and Joel Martin, with support from ACAN and consultation with the Town of Altona. Leaping off the success of the Community Garden Pavilion project, they intend to apply for a series of grants and begin fundraising to make this community space a reality. Their ambitious three-year development plan would see grant writing, site surveys and planning done this year, with shovels in the ground in 2023.

The Town of Altona looks forward to continuing to work with this team to create new opportunities for the community to connect with one another, and with the world around us.

***Please direct inquiries to:***

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