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## **Olds accepted as a Main Street community**

*Paul Frey, Olds Albertan, March 30, 2010*

Everyone involved with Olds' preparation for the Alberta Main Street program can take a deep breath before launching the program in earnest. Members of Municipal Heritage Services with the Alberta government will be coming to Olds on April 15 to explain the next stage in the process now that Olds has been accepted into the program. Olds was accepted as a member in the Main Street Network at the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation meeting of Feb. 26.

Michael Dougherty, heritage coordinator for Uptowne Olds, said while one hurdle — getting accepted as a member — has been cleared, everyone involved is awaiting further information on the next step in the process.

Members of the Uptowne Olds committee have been working with the town's operations and community services departments on securing funding to upgrade and beautify the uptown core.

"We're also trying to develop a longer term plan to support (upgrades) that ultimately involves transportation and water and sewer infrastructure with Uptowne Olds," said Larry Wright, the town's director of operations.

Terms of reference have been put together for an upcoming rezoning plan in the core that will help to revitalize the core. Wright estimated that it will be another two months before the process gets started.

"We need water, sewer issues dealt with, we need the fire protection issues dealt with and eventually we're probably going to look at surface improvements and streetscaping," Wright said.