



AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF PICTURE BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Monday, March 13th, 2023 at 6:30 pm

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes – 27th February, 2023

4.0 PUBLIC HEARING

5.0 DELEGATION

5.1 Denver Brewin – Telus Services Presentation

6.0 REQUESTS FOR DECISION

6.1 AAIP Rural Renewal Stream

6.2 OptionPay

7.0 MAYOR'S REPORT

8.0 COUNCIL'S REPORT

9.0 ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

9.1 CAO Report

9.1.1 Director of Operations Report

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 Oldman River Health Advisory Council Meeting Invitation

10.2 Alberta Municipal Affairs – 2023 MSI funding allocations

10.3 Alberta Municipal Affairs – 2023 Provincial budget

10.4 Southern Alberta Economic Development Forum Invitation

11.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 11.1 Picture Butte & District Chamber of Commerce – Community Easter Egg Hunt
- 11.2 Walk on the Wildside Society – Meeting Minutes – February, 2022
- 11.3 Walk on the Wildside Society – Meeting Minutes – May 2022
- 11.4 Walk on the Wildside Society – Meeting Minutes – May 2022
- 11.5 Walk on the Wildside Society – Meeting Minutes – September 2022
- 11.6 Oldman River Regional Service Commission – Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – December 2022.
- 11.7 Barons Eureka Warner FCSS – Board Meeting Minutes – February 2023
- 11.8 Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association – Roadmap February 2023
- 11.9 Alberta Municipalities Analysis on Provincial Budget 2023

12.0 CLOSED SESSION

- 12.1 FOIP Act Division 2 Section 16 – Union Grievance

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
OF THE
PICTURE BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Monday, February 27th, 2023 AT 6:30 PM

PRESENT: Mayor C. Moore Deputy Mayor H. de Kok Councillor C. Papworth
Councillor T. Feist Councillor S. Thomson

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Administrative Officer – K. Davis
Director of Corporate Services – M. Overbeeke
Director of Emergency Services – F. West
Administrative Assistant – C. Johnson

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Moore called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

040 2302 27 MOVED by Deputy Mayor de Kok that the agenda be approved as amended:
ADD: 6.5 Seniors Week
CARRIED

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Regular Council Meeting – February 13th, 2023

041 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Papworth that the Regular Council Meeting minutes of February 13th, 2023 be approved as presented.
CARRIED

4.0 PUBLIC HEARING

Steve Harty from Oldman River Regional Services Commission spoke to the proposed Bylaw No. 932-23 Land Use Bylaw No. 841-15 Amendment – Land Use Redesignation. The landowner is requesting redesignation of 643 Crescent Avenue from R1 Residential to R5 Multi-unit.

4.1 Submissions

4.1.1 In Person Submissions

4.1.1.1 Ask for Those in Favour

James Middleton, Landowner and owner of 641 Crescent Avenue was present to speak in favour of the proposed bylaw.

4.1.1.2 Ask for Those Opposed

There was no one present to speak in opposition to the proposed bylaw.

4.1.2 Written Submissions

4.1.2.1 Ask for Those in Favour

There were no written submissions in favour of the proposed bylaw.

4.1.2.2 Ask for Those Opposed

Yves Leclair, a resident of Picture Butte, submitted two letters opposing the proposed bylaw.

Chantel Johnson, a resident of Picture Butte, submitted a letter opposing the proposed bylaw.

4.2 Adjourn Public Hearing

Mayor Moore adjourned the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

J. Middleton left the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

5.0 DELEGATION – None for this meeting

6.0 REQUESTS FOR DECISION

6.1 Bylaw No. 932-23 Land Use Bylaw No. 841-15 Amendment – Land Use Redesignation

042 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Thomson to approve the second reading of Bylaw No. 932-23 Land Use Bylaw No. 841-15 Amendment – Land Use Redesignation.
CARRIED

043 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Feist to approve the third and final reading of Bylaw No. 932-23 Land Use Bylaw No. 841-15 Amendment – Land Use Redesignation.
CARRIED

M. Overbeeke entered the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

S. Harty left the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

6.2 2023-2025 Final Operating and Capital Budget

044 2302 27 MOVED by Deputy Mayor de Kok to approve the 2023-2025 Operating and Capital Budget as presented and to direct Administration to keep the mill rate at the 2022 rate.
CARRIED

6.3 Operational Surplus Allocations

045 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Papworth to approve the Operational Surplus Allocations as presented.
CARRIED

Deputy Mayor de Kok left the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

6.4 Volunteer Firefighter Tax Credit Policy

046 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Papworth to approve the Volunteer Firefighter Tax Credit Policy as presented and direct Administration to implement the program for the 2023 tax year.
CARRIED

Deputy Mayor de Kok returned to the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

6.5 Seniors Week

Administration discussed with Council their plans for Seniors Week as there was a request to rent the Community Centre for the weekend of Seniors week. Historically Council has done an event during the week with the Seniors. Council agreed that during the week works best for the Seniors and Council and to allow the bookings on the weekend in the Community Centre.

7.0 MAYOR'S REPORT

7.1 Mayor's Report

Mayor Moore advised Council on her recent activities:

February 21 Attended a Committee of the Whole meeting

February 22 Attended a Community Futures meeting

February 27 Attended a Municipal Planning Commission meeting

047 2302 27 MOVED by Mayor Moore that the Mayor's Report be accepted as presented.
CARRIED

8.0 COUNCIL'S REPORT

8.1 Council's Report

Deputy Mayor de Kok advised Council of his recent activities:

February 21 Attended a Committee of the Whole meeting
February 27 Attended a Municipal Planning Commission meeting

Councillor Feist advised Council of her recent activities:

February 21 Attended a Committee of the Whole meeting
February 27 Attended a Municipal Planning Commission meeting

Councillor Papworth advised Council of her recent activities:

February 15 Attended a Green Acres Finance & Audit meeting
February 21 Attended a Committee of the Whole meeting
February 22 Attended a Green Acres Board meeting
February 24 Attended a Green Acres Special Zoom meeting
February 27 Attended a Municipal Planning Commission meeting

Councillor Thomson advised Council of his recent activities:

February 21 Attended a Committee of the Whole meeting
February 22-24 Attended the Alberta CARE conference in Strathmore
February 27 Attended a Southern Alberta Energy from Waste
Association meeting
February 27 Attended a Municipal Planning Commission meeting

048 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Thomson that the Council Reports be accepted as
presented.
CARRIED

9.0 ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

9.1 CAO Report

049 2302 27 MOVED by Deputy Mayor de Kok to accept the CAO Report as presented.
CARRIED

9.1.1 2022 Emergency Services Annual Report

050 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Thomson to receive and file the 2022
Emergency Services Annual Report.
CARRIED

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 Fortis Operations Centre – Open House Invitation

051 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Papworth to receive and file the Fortis Operations
Centre Open House Invitation.
CARRIED

11.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11.1 Community Bulletin – Events and Programs in Picture Butte
11.2 Town of Tofield – Camrose Casino
11.3 FCSS – Report to Municipalities - 2022

052 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Feist to receive and file Informational Item 11.1 –
11.3.
CARRIED

12.0 CLOSED SESSION

12.1 FOIP Act Division 2 Section 16 – Architectural Contract for Firehall Expansion

12.2 FOIP Act Division 2 Section 24 – Sunset Park Phase 2 Cost Estimate

053 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Papworth to close the meeting in accordance with Division 2 Section 16 and 24 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act to discuss Architectural Contract for Firehall Expansion and Sunset Park Phase 2 Cost Estimate at 7:28 p.m.

CARRIED

054 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Feist to open the meeting to the public at 7:53 p.m.

CARRIED

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for March 13th, 2023 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

055 2302 27 MOVED by Councillor Thomson that the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 7:53 p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor Moore

Keith Davis
Chief Administrative Officer



Request for Decision

Our Vision: *Picture Butte is the Community of Choice to work, live and play in Lethbridge County*

Our Mission: *Picture Butte is a thriving community dedicated to serving our people through fiscal responsibility and transparency.*

Date: 9 March, 2023
To: Mayor, Council
From: CAO

Re: Alberta Advantage Immigration Program – Rural Renewal Stream

Background:

A business owner has expressed a desire for the Town to be a part of the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program (AAIP) announced and implemented by the Provincial Government.

The advantage of this program is that it allows businesses to hire immigrants and individuals that currently have temporary working permits. Nominated individuals then apply for permanent residency within a 6 month period instead of having to return home after their work visa has expired. For municipalities it is beneficial in that immigrants already working in the area can become permanent residents within a one year period and hopefully stay in the municipality they are working in.

The Town of Taber has applied and is a designated municipality that can accept immigrant applications from businesses and nominate them as candidates for the AAIP. They are willing to take the Town of Picture Butte on as a trial basis. Currently, the Town of Taber is paying for an employee to administer this program. If the program is well received locally and the Town of Taber becomes overwhelmed with applications from Picture Butte, we may have to look at becoming a designated community in the future or pay the Town of Taber.

In the immediate the Town of Taber is willing to accept applicants from the Town of Picture Butte at no cost. If Council would like to trial this program with the Town of Taber we will need to send a letter to the Province requesting to join Taber's designation.

Recommendation:

To request the province to join the Town of Taber's designation for the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program.

Attachments:

1. Letter from the Town of Taber

Links to learn more:

<https://www.alberta.ca/aaip-rural-renewal-stream.aspx>

Strategic Plan Priority: Goal 2: Beneficial Sustainable Growth: Our community sees more residential and business growth.

Submitted by: Keith Davis, CAO



March 6, 2023

Town of Picture Butte
Attn: Keith Davis

RE: Alberta Advantage Immigration Programs

In February 2022, the provincial government announced a new immigration initiative aimed at Rural areas. The goal of the program is to help rural areas recruit and retain foreign workers to help fill the labour shortages. We have all felt the sharp impact of the labour shortages in our rural communities – from businesses closed during their regular hours because they can't staff it, or owners working double or triple shifts to stay open, or even of businesses that have had to close as they simply can't sustain themselves without staff.

The Rural Renewal Program allows businesses to offer full time, year round jobs to foreign workers who have experience in that area. There are a number of qualifications to be met by the candidate, including English proficiency, settlement funds, education assessments and more – this is to ensure they are a great fit for the job and the community. The candidates, and their families are able to apply for permanent residency right away, which is the benefit to them. Businesses are required to show that they have tried to fill the position locally before they can recruit foreign workers.

Taber became a designated community for the program in July of 2022. Our program includes the MD of Taber, Vauxhall and more recently, Coaldale. When we first approached Council to see if they were interested in the program, we asked for a staff member as well to help administer the program. Thankfully, Council agreed and we hired an Economic Development Assistant to oversee the program, they started in September, which is when we officially kicked off the program.

To date, we have 32 candidates approved in Taber, with 79 people total including their families. For families that wish, their spouse/partner do receive an open work permit if they would like to work, however some choose to stay home with their children. Many of them are already working in town, as anyone that is in Canada legally (tourist visa, post grad work permit, open work permit) are able to apply through this program. Each candidate is carefully vetted by our team, and interviewed to ensure they are a good candidate, one that we think will stay here long term.

Each application goes before our Approval Committee. The committee considers the candidate, their history, and the need for the position in the community. Once approved, the Town writes a "Letter of Support" to endorse the candidate for provincial nomination. The candidate applies through the Government of Alberta online portal with the letter of support and other necessary documents, and once approved, becomes a Provincial Nominee. Provincial Nominees must apply for permanent residency within 6 months of their nomination, and they may apply for the appropriate work permits to continue working, or to begin their legal employment, in Alberta.

There are currently 19 businesses signed up with at least one active candidates in our designation. Not only that, but we are seeing investment from outside the province looking and moving to Taber because of the opportunity to bring in the labour force needed.



There are other municipalities that are interested in joining our program, as we have the process and administration already set up. The Town of Coaldale has recently joined our designation, and we are looking forward to kicking off the program there this month.

We would be happy to take on Picture Butte on a trial basis. We will provide the business and candidate support, as well as the community support letters upon candidate approval. We will re-evaluate in a few months' time. If your Council would like to go ahead with this, the province will need a letter of support from the Town Council to join our designation. Once you have a letter signed, please forward to me and I will send it on to the proper program contacts.

Thank you so much for your interest, we are delighted to see Southern Alberta growing and look forward to collaborating to continue that growth.

Best regards,

Amy Allred
Economic Development Manager
Town of Taber
403-223-5500 x 5514
403-308-5877
amy.allred@taber.ca



Memorandum

- Our Vision:** *Picture Butte is the Community of Choice to work, live and play in Lethbridge County*
- Our Mission:** *Picture Butte is a thriving community dedicated to serving our people through fiscal responsibility and transparency.*

Date: 9 March, 2023
To: Mayor, Council
From: Director of Corporate Services

Re: OptionPay

Background:

We receive a high volume of calls for payment of ambulance invoices and other A/R invoices that require staff to email credit card authorization forms, have the customer fill in the form and email back and process the payments manually and then email a receipt. We do not take credit card information over the phone because it is better business practice to have authorization from the cardholder as it covers us in the case of fraud or chargebacks. With the amount of calls the ambulance have been taking outside of the immediate area, we receive a lot of calls requesting payments. This same process is followed for arena ice rentals, community centre rentals, business licenses, and tax certificates. We researched how other municipalities offer online payments on their websites to streamline the process for our residents. We found many municipalities in Alberta and BC have been using OptionPay.

What is OptionPay?

OptionPay is a virtual terminal for credit card processing that allows municipalities to offset costs by migrating the merchant fees to the customer following a set tiered rate table that is shown on their website. The fees start at \$2.00 for up to a \$60.00 transaction. There are no monthly fees incurred to the Town for this service.

OptionPay is a personalized link on our website that opens to a form that accepts all credit cards based on your preferences, including Visa debit that currently we cannot enter manually. We work with OptionPay to set up the form with the options we want to include in the form including invoice number, tax roll number, receipt email etc. The form will notify the customer of the exact amount charged to the credit card including the fee. If the customer receives reward points on their credit card, they will receive points on the full amount charged including the fee.

We can personalize and change the form as often as we like to include different facilities or departments and as many drop down options as we like. Some good examples of the different options you can include in the payment form [Lake Country](#), [Town of Bon Accord](#) and [Town of Nobleford](#).

OptionPay also offers personalized QR codes that can be printed on Ambulance bills or A/R bills that will direct the resident directly to the website payment page by scanning. This QR code could be placed at the campground for easy access to the payment website for campground users.

By migrating the merchant fees to the resident, we could allow taxes to be paid by credit card. This is something that we think would be favorable to some residents. To allow this, the Tax and Tax Penalty Bylaw would need to be amended to allow credit cards as a type of payment accepted.

Financial Implications:

If implementing OptionPay online with fees directed back to the customer, our recommendation would be to remove the Moneris machine from the Town Office and replace with the OptionPay card reader in office. OptionPay offers a USB card reader for no additional cost. This can only be used for credit cards; a separate machine would be needed for debit cards. This allows for the consistency of the fees to be migrated to the user and help to cut costs.

The Moneris machine itself costs a monthly fee of \$30.00-\$55.00 for the machine rental. This varies due to an extra \$25.00 fee added quarterly. Other monthly charges in the last year ranged from \$95.05 to \$322.93 a month. On top of these monthly charges we also are charged pay transaction fee, brand fee, network connection fee, minimum transaction fee, and pre-authorization fee. These can range anywhere from 0.87% to 2.54% depending on the card type used and the amount of the transaction. When a Visa Debit or Mastercard Debit is used, it is still treated as a credit card and charged the same fees. These fees were increased in October 2022 again.

In 2022, the Town spent a total of \$2452.46 in Moneris fees.

A Square machine would need to be purchased at a cost of \$440.00 to process debit cards. We use this system at the Pool. The only fees associated after the initial cost is \$0.10/transaction. There are no monthly fees.

Recommendation:

To direct Administration to implement the OptionPay fee structure for credit card payments online and in office.

Strategic Plan Rationale or Other Reasoning:

1. Goal 3: Continually improved governance

Alternate Options:

To direct Administration to keep the Moneris machine for processing credit and debit cards in office.

Attachments:

1. OptionPay Tiered Rate Table
2. List of Municipalities

Submitted by:

Michelle Overbeeke, CPA-CMA
Director of Corporate Services

Chantel Johnson, Administrative Assistant



PROVIDING ADDITIONAL PAYMENT OPTIONS

OPTIONPAY TIERED RATE TABLE

Revised May 2019

Transaction Range Start	Transaction Range End	OptionPay Card Load Fee
\$0.01	\$30.00	\$2.00
\$30.01	\$60.00	\$2.00
\$60.01	\$90.00	\$2.65
\$90.01	\$120.00	\$3.74
\$120.01	\$150.00	\$5.15
\$150.01	\$180.00	\$6.08
\$180.01	\$210.00	\$7.01
\$210.01	\$240.00	\$7.94
\$240.01	\$270.00	\$8.87
\$270.01	\$300.00	\$9.80
\$300.01	\$330.00	\$10.73
\$330.01	\$360.00	\$11.66
\$360.01	\$390.00	\$12.59
\$390.01	\$420.00	\$13.52

Transaction Range Start	Transaction Range End	OptionPay Card Load Fee
\$420.01	\$450.00	\$14.45
\$450.01	\$480.00	\$15.38
\$480.01	\$510.00	\$16.31
\$510.01	\$540.00	\$17.24
\$540.01	\$570.00	\$18.17
\$570.01	\$600.00	\$19.10
\$600.01	\$630.00	\$20.03
\$630.01	\$660.00	\$20.96
\$660.01	\$690.00	\$21.89
\$690.01	\$720.00	\$22.82
\$720.01	\$750.00	\$23.75
\$750.01	\$780.00	\$24.68
\$780.01	\$810.00	\$25.61
\$810.01	\$840.00	\$26.54
\$840.01	\$870.00	\$27.47
\$870.01	\$900.00	\$28.40
\$900.01	\$930.00	\$29.33
\$930.01	\$960.00	\$30.26
\$960.01	\$1,000.00	\$31.50
\$1,000.01	\$1,250.00	\$39.25
\$1,250.01	\$1,500.00	\$47.00
\$1,500.01	\$1,750.00	\$54.75

Transaction Range Start	Transaction Range End	OptionPay Card Load Fee
\$1,750.01	\$2,000.00	\$62.50
\$2,000.01	\$2,250.00	\$70.25
\$2,250.01	\$2,500.00	\$78.00
\$2,500.01	\$2,750.00	\$85.75
\$2,750.01	\$3,000.00	\$93.50
\$3,000.01	\$3,250.00	\$101.25
\$3,250.01	\$3,500.00	\$109.00
\$3,500.01	\$3,750.00	\$116.75
\$3,750.01	\$4,000.00	\$124.50
\$4,000.01	\$4,250.00	\$132.25
\$4,250.01	\$4,500.00	\$140.00
\$4,500.01	\$4,750.00	\$147.75
\$4,750.01	\$5,000.00	\$155.50
\$5,000.01	\$5,250.00	\$163.25
\$5,250.01	\$5,500.00	\$171.00
\$5,500.01	\$5,750.00	\$178.75
\$5,750.01	\$6,000.00	\$186.50
\$6,000.01	\$6,250.00	\$194.25
\$6,250.01	\$6,500.00	\$202.00
\$6,500.01	\$6,750.00	\$209.75
\$6,750.01	\$7,000.00	\$217.50
\$7,000.01	\$7,250.00	\$225.25

Transaction Range Start	Transaction Range End	OptionPay Card Load Fee
\$7,250.01	\$7,500.00	\$233.00
\$7,500.01	\$7,750.00	\$240.75
\$7,750.01	\$8,000.00	\$248.50
\$8,000.01	\$8,250.00	\$256.25
\$8,250.01	\$8,500.00	\$264.00
\$8,500.01	\$8,750.00	\$271.75
\$8,750.01	\$9,000.00	\$279.50
\$9,000.01	\$9,250.00	\$287.25
\$9,250.01	\$9,500.00	\$295.00
\$9,500.01	\$9,750.00	\$302.75
\$9,750.01	\$10,000.00	\$310.50
\$10,000.01	\$10,250.00	\$318.25
\$10,250.01	\$10,500.00	\$326.00
\$10,500.01	\$10,750.00	\$333.75
\$10,750.01	\$11,000.00	\$341.50
\$11,000.01	\$11,250.00	\$349.25
\$11,250.01	\$11,500.00	\$357.00
\$11,500.01	\$11,750.00	\$364.75
\$11,750.01	\$12,000.00	\$372.50
\$12,000.01	\$12,250.00	\$380.25
\$12,250.01	\$12,500.00	\$388.00
\$12,500.01	\$12,750.00	\$395.75

Transaction Range Start	Transaction Range End	OptionPay Card Load Fee
\$12,750.01	\$13,000.00	\$403.50
\$13,000.01	\$13,250.00	\$411.25
\$13,250.01	\$13,500.00	\$419.00
\$13,500.01	\$13,750.00	\$426.75
\$13,750.01	\$14,000.00	\$434.50
\$14,000.01	\$14,250.00	\$442.25
\$14,250.01	\$14,500.00	\$450.00
\$14,500.01	\$14,750.00	\$457.75
\$14,750.01	\$15,000.00	\$465.50
\$15,000.01	\$15,250.00	\$473.25
\$15,250.01	\$15,500.00	\$481.00
\$15,500.01	\$15,750.00	\$488.75
\$15,750.01	\$16,000.00	\$496.50
\$16,000.01	\$16,250.00	\$504.25
\$16,250.01	\$16,500.00	\$512.00
\$16,500.01	\$16,750.00	\$519.75
\$16,750.01	\$17,000.00	\$527.50
\$17,000.01	\$17,250.00	\$535.25
\$17,250.01	\$17,500.00	\$543.00
\$17,500.01	\$17,750.00	\$550.75
\$17,750.01	\$18,000.00	\$558.50
\$18,000.01	\$18,250.00	\$566.25

Transaction Range Start	Transaction Range End	OptionPay Card Load Fee
\$18,250.01	\$18,500.00	\$574.00
\$18,500.01	\$18,750.00	\$581.75
\$18,750.01	\$19,000.00	\$589.50
\$19,000.01	\$19,250.00	\$597.25
\$19,250.01	\$19,500.00	\$605.00
\$19,500.01	\$19,750.00	\$612.75
\$19,750.01	\$20,000.00	\$620.50
\$20,000.01	\$20,250.00	\$628.25
\$20,250.01	\$20,500.00	\$636.00
\$20,500.01	\$20,750.00	\$643.75
\$20,750.01	\$21,000.00	\$651.50
\$21,000.01	\$21,250.00	\$659.25
\$21,250.01	\$21,500.00	\$667.00
\$21,500.01	\$21,750.00	\$674.75
\$21,750.01	\$22,000.00	\$682.50
\$22,000.01	\$22,250.00	\$690.25
\$22,250.01	\$22,500.00	\$698.00
\$22,500.01	\$22,750.00	\$705.75
\$22,750.01	\$23,000.00	\$713.50
\$23,000.01	\$23,250.00	\$721.25
\$23,250.01	\$23,500.00	\$729.00
\$23,500.01	\$23,750.00	\$736.75

Transaction Range Start	Transaction Range End	OptionPay Card Load Fee
\$23,750.01	\$24,000.00	\$744.50
\$24,000.01	\$24,250.00	\$752.25
\$24,250.01	\$24,500.00	\$760.00
\$24,500.01	\$24,750.00	\$767.75
\$24,750.01	\$25,000.00	\$775.50
\$25,000.01	\$25,250.00	\$783.25
\$25,250.01	\$25,500.00	\$791.00
\$25,500.01	\$25,750.00	\$798.75
\$25,750.01	\$26,000.00	\$806.50
\$26,000.01	\$26,250.00	\$814.25
\$26,250.01	\$26,500.00	\$822.00
\$26,500.01	\$26,750.00	\$829.75
\$26,750.01	\$27,000.00	\$837.50
\$27,000.01	\$27,250.00	\$845.25
\$27,250.01	\$27,500.00	\$853.00
\$27,500.01	\$27,750.00	\$860.75
\$27,750.01	\$28,000.00	\$868.50
\$28,000.01	\$28,250.00	\$876.25
\$28,250.01	\$28,500.00	\$884.00
\$28,500.01	\$28,750.00	\$891.75
\$28,750.01	\$29,000.00	\$899.50
\$29,000.01	\$29,250.00	\$907.25

Transaction Range Start	Transaction Range End	OptionPay Card Load Fee
\$29,250.01	\$29,500.00	\$915.00
\$29,500.01	\$29,750.00	\$922.75
\$29,750.01	\$30,000.00	\$930.50

For your reference, below are municipalities currently using OptionPay to process card payments for many bill types including (but not limited to) Property Taxes, Utilities, Permits, Licenses, Fines, Campgrounds, Bulk Water, Landfill, Cemetery, Rec/fitness Center, Arena Bookings, Donations, Fundraising and Accounts Receivable.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Birch Hills County, AB ·Bruce County, ON ·Camrose County, AB ·Cardston County, AB ·City of Brooks, AB ·City of Castlegar, BC ·City of Cold Lake, AB ·City of Courtenay, BC ·City of Fernie, BC ·County of Forty Mile, AB ·County of Minburn, AB ·County of Newell, AB ·County of Paintearth, AB ·County of St. Paul, AB ·County of Two Hills, AB ·County of Vermilion River, AB ·County of Wetaskiwin, AB ·Cypress County, AB ·District of Barriere, BC ·District of Coldstream, BC ·District of Elkford, BC ·District of Lake Country, BC ·District of Lantzville, BC ·District of Sechelt, BC ·District of Sparwood, BC ·District of Summerland, BC ·Flagstaff County, AB ·Lacombe County, AB ·Lamont County, AB ·MD of Bighorn, AB ·MD of Fairview, AB ·MD of Peace, AB ·MD of Provost, AB ·MD of Spirit River, AB ·MD of Taber, AB ·MD of Willow Creek, AB ·Municipality of Killarney-Turtle Mountain, MB ·Municipality of Shuniah, ON ·Ponoka County, AB ·Red Deer County, AB ·RD of Bulkley Nechako, BC ·RD of Columbia Shuswap, BC ·RD of North Coast, BC ·RD of North Okanagan, BC ·RM of Aberdeen, SK ·RM of Barrier Valley, SK ·RM of Caledonia, SK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·RM of Canwood, SK ·RM of Corman Park, SK ·RM of De Salaberry, MB ·RM of District of Lakeland, SK ·RM of Hanover, MB ·RM of Hillsdale No. 440, SK ·RM of Keys, SK ·RM of La Broquerie, MB (EN/FR) ·RM of Lac du Bonnet MB ·RM of Lumsden, SK ·RM of Macdonald, MB ·RM of Manitou Lake, SK ·RM of Morris, MB ·RM of Prince Albert SK ·RM of Stanley, MB ·RM of Ste. Anne, MB ·RM of Stuartburn, MB ·Smoky Lake County, AB ·Starland County, AB ·Summer Village of Rochon Sands, AB ·Summer Village of White Sands, AB ·Thorhild County, AB ·Town of Assiniboia, SK ·Town of Bashaw, AB ·Town of Black Diamond, AB ·Town of Birch Hills, SK ·Town of Bon Accord, AB ·Town of Bow Island, AB ·Town of Cardston, AB ·Town of Castor, AB ·Town of Coronation, AB ·Town of Creston, BC ·Town of Devon, AB ·Town of Drayton Valley, AB ·Town of Drumheller, AB ·Town of Edson, AB ·Town of Elk Point, AB ·Town of Gibsons, BC ·Town of Golden, BC ·Town of Hanna, AB ·Town of Hay River, NT ·Town of High Prairie, AB ·Town of Hinton, AB ·Town of Innisfail, AB ·Town of Ladysmith, BC ·Town of Lamont, AB ·Town of Langham, SK ·Town of Lumsden, SK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Town of Milestone, SK ·Town of Magrath, AB ·Town of Morris, MB ·Town of Mossbank, SK ·Town of Mundare, AB ·Town of Nobleford, AB ·Town of Onoway, AB ·Town of Osoyoos, BC ·Town of Oyen, AB ·Town of Penhold, AB ·Town of Pilot Butte, SK ·Town of Pincher Creek, AB ·Town of Ponoka, AB ·Town of Port McNeill, BC ·Town of Radville, SK ·Town of Regina Beach, SK ·Town of Shellbrook, SK ·Town of Smoky Lake, AB ·Town of Spirit River, AB ·Town of St. Paul, AB ·Town of Ste. Anne, MB (EN/FR) ·Town of Sylvan Lake, AB ·Town of Taber, AB ·Town of Tofield, AB ·Town of Turner Valley, AB ·Town of Two Hills, AB ·Town of Vegreville, AB ·Town of Wainwright, AB ·Town of Waldheim, SK ·Town of Westlock, AB ·Town of White City, SK ·Town of Wynyard, SK ·Village of Anmore, BC ·Village of Bittern Lake, AB ·Village of Breton, AB ·Village of Chase, BC ·Village of Cumberland, BC ·Village of Dunnottar, MB ·Village of Gold River, BC ·Village of Kaslo, BC ·Village of Myrnam, AB ·Village of Nakusp, BC ·Village of Pemberton, BC ·Village of Port Alice, BC ·Village of Queen Charlotte, BC ·Village of St Pierre Jolys, MB (EN/FR)
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CAO Report

Our Vision: *Picture Butte is the Community of Choice to work, live and play in Lethbridge County*

Our Mission: *Picture Butte is a thriving community dedicated to serving our people through fiscal responsibility and transparency*

Date: 10 March, 2023
To: Mayor, Council
From: CAO

Miscellaneous Items

- Since last meeting I have been allocating most of my time to reorganising our electronic filing system. This is a big project and I am nearing its completion.

Ongoing projects

Sunset Park Phase 2

The subdivision tendering package has been posted to Alberta Purchasing Connection the deadline to submit submissions is the 23rd of March.

Wastewater Approval Requirements

The completed application is with Alberta Environment. A grant application is with Alberta Transportation. Alberta Environment has accepted our wastewater approval renewal application. We advertised the approval application, as required, in the Sunnysouth newspaper. I answered a few questions from residents regarding this advertisement and what was going to be occurring there. Alberta Environment now has to process any expressions of concern and then make a decision on our application.

Sanitary Main Upgrade – Phase 2

There are a few deficiencies that need completing with this project. We are working with the engineers to have them completed. These will likely be completed in the spring/summer of 2023.

HOLIDAY STATUS

Days in lieu used 16 hrs out of 70 hrs

Accrued Holidays 23 days

Submitted by:

Keith Davis, CAO



Town of Picture Butte

Our Vision: *Picture Butte is the Community of Choice to work, live and play in Lethbridge County.*

Our Mission: *Picture Butte is a thriving community dedicated to serving our people through fiscal responsibility and transparency.*

Director of Operations Monthly Report

March 1 – March 9, 2023

Current Public Works Activity

- **Sunset Phase II:** The Tender was posted on March 2, 2023, for contractor pricing, with a closing date of March 23, 2023.
- A meeting with the County of Lethbridge happened on March 7, 2023, to amend the Water Service Agreement to include wastewater services.
- The software changes to upgrade the panel inside the Water Plant happened on March 7, 2023. The software is part of the County of Lethbridge's initiatives to upgrade all SCADA systems.
- **Sewer repairs** on 7th Street were completed successfully.
- Meeting with Public Works on crack sealing, street cleaning and line painting.
- **Snow Maintenance:** Staff continues to snow plow and apply sanding during the snow events.
- Obtained quotes for an online safety program are completed.
- **North County Recreation Complex – Arena:** The last day of ice users is scheduled for March 25, 2023, with the shut off of the plant on March 27, 2023.
- Clean-up and building of new barricades inside the shop continues and is in progress.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives, for the information, the Director of Operations report for the period of March 1, 2023 – March 9, 2023.

Prepared by:

Aaron Benson

Date: March 9, 2023

Respectfully presented to:

Council

Date: March 13, 2023

Keith Davis

From: Christine Osunde <Christine.Osunde@albertahealthservices.ca> on behalf of Old Man River HAC <oldmanriver@albertahealthservices.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2023 12:56 PM
To: Old Man River HAC
Subject: You are invited to the Oldman River Health Advisory Council Meeting on March 16, 2023 @ 12:00 - 3:00 pm
Attachments: Oldman River Poster - March 16, 2023.pdf

Hello Community Members,

Alberta Health Services and the Oldman River Health Advisory Council invite you to Join us for a great opportunity to hear from AHS South Zone executive leadership, and the latest from **Healthy Aging Alberta**. As well, meet and hear from members of the Oldman River Health Advisory Council as we bring updates to AHS from our local communities, and learn how you can connect with us in the future.

Please see poster with registration link attached.

Oldman River Health Advisory Council Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 16, 2023

Time: 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

[Please click here to register to attend](#) and a zoom link will be sent to your email.

Thank you, and we look forward to connecting with you.

Sincerely,

AHS Community Engagement & the [Oldman River Health Advisory Council](#)

Christine Osunde

Senior Advisor, Community Engagement & External Relations

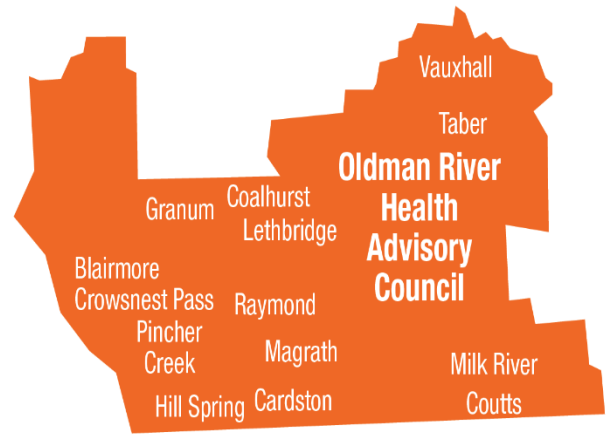
[Alberta Health Services](#)



Stay informed about key public health information and opportunities to engage with AHS. [Subscribe](#) to Community Engagement's e-newsletter, Together4Health Headlines.

This message and any attached documents are only for the use of the intended recipient(s), are confidential and may contain privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, retransmission, or other disclosure is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately, and then delete the original message. Thank you.

Join the healthcare conversation



Participate in the Oldman River Health Advisory Council Meeting

Join us for an AHS South Zone Leadership update, hear what the health priorities are for the ORHAC, and get the latest update from [Healthy Aging Alberta](#).

Date: Thursday, March 16, 2023

Time: 12:00 – 3:00 pm

[Join Zoom Meeting](#) or Email: OldmanRiver@ahs.ca



More info:

call: 1-877-275-8830

email: OldmanRiver@ahs.ca



Oldman River
Health Advisory Council



ALBERTA

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Shaw*

AR110967

Dear Chief Elected Officials:

The Government of Alberta understands the important role of local governments in fostering vibrant communities and supporting the provincial economy, and we are committed to ensuring municipalities and Metis Settlements meet their infrastructure and operating needs.

In keeping with this commitment, next year we will be introducing the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF), an updated framework that ties funding to provincial revenue changes, which will ensure sustainable funding levels for the province and allow municipalities to plan more effectively for the future. The baseline funding amount for the LGFF will be \$722 million in 2024/25. Subject to approval by the Legislature, the legislation will be updated so that this amount will increase or decrease at 100 per cent of the percentage change in provincial revenues from three years prior, rather than 50 per cent as legislated. In light of this change, capital funding under the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) and LGFF will total approximately \$2 billion over the next three years, with MSI capital funding set at \$485 million in 2023/24, and LGFF providing \$722 million in 2024/25, and approximately \$813 million in 2025/26.

In addition, operating funding has been increased. As many municipalities are facing increased operating costs due to inflation, our government will double the MSI operating budget in 2023/24 from \$30 million to \$60 million in recognition of these challenges.

The 2023 MSI allocations for all municipalities and Metis Settlements are available on the program website at www.alberta.ca/municipal-sustainability-initiative.aspx.

I am also pleased to advise you that Alberta's municipalities and Metis Settlements will receive \$266 million in federal funding under the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF), an increase of \$11 million from last year.

The 2023 CCBF allocations are available on the program website at www.alberta.ca/canada-community-building-fund.aspx.

.../2

Please note MSI and CCBF funding is subject to the Alberta Legislature's approval of Budget 2023, and individual allocations and 2023 funding are subject to Ministerial authorization under the respective program guidelines. CCBF funding is subject to confirmation by the Government of Canada. I expect to send letters confirming MSI and CCBF funding commitments to local governments in the spring.

I look forward to working together to support the infrastructure and operating needs of your communities, and to ensure a smooth transition from the MSI to the LGFF program in 2024.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Schulz
Minister

cc: Chief Administrative Officers
Linda Lewis, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Metis Settlements General Council
Cathy Heron, President, Alberta Municipalities
Paul McLauchlin, President, Rural Municipalities of Alberta
Dave Lamouche, President, Metis Settlements General Council
Dan Rude, Chief Executive Officer, Alberta Municipalities
Gerald Rhodes, Executive Director, Rural Municipalities of Alberta



ALBERTA

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Shaw*

AR111005

Dear Chief Elected Officials:

My colleague, the Honourable Travis Toews, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance, has tabled *Budget 2023* in the Alberta Legislature. I am writing to share information with you about how *Budget 2023* impacts municipalities.

Alberta's government is helping to secure Alberta's future by investing almost \$1 billion to build stronger communities across our province. The Municipal Affairs budget reflects an overall increase of \$45.2 million from the previous budget. These investments will continue to support municipalities in providing well-managed, collaborative, and accountable local government to Albertans.

We have heard frequently how important it is for Alberta municipalities to secure reliable, long-term funding for infrastructure and services in your communities. Through *Budget 2023*, capital support for municipalities is being maintained with \$485 million provided through the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI). In addition, we are doubling MSI operating funding to \$60 million. The estimated 2023 MSI allocations are available on the program website at www.alberta.ca/municipal-sustainability-initiative.aspx.

Next year, we will be introducing the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF), an updated framework that ties funding to provincial revenue changes, which will ensure sustainable funding levels for the province and allow municipalities to plan more effectively for the future. The baseline funding amount for the LGFF will be \$722 million in 2024/25. Furthermore, we heard your feedback and, subject to approval by the Legislature, are updating the legislation so that this amount will increase or decrease at 100 per cent of the percentage change in provincial revenues from three years prior, rather than 50 per cent as legislated. Based on the most current financial data and subject to approval of the legislation, we anticipate funding for municipalities will increase by 12.6 per cent to approximately \$813 million for the 2025/26 fiscal year.

The federal Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF), which provides infrastructure funding to municipalities throughout the province, will see an increase of \$11.1 million to Alberta. The estimated 2023 CCBF allocations are available on the program website at www.alberta.ca/canada-community-building-fund.aspx.

MSI and CCBF program funding is subject to the Legislative Assembly's approval of *Budget 2023*. Individual allocations and 2023 funding are subject to ministerial authorization under the respective program guidelines. Federal CCBF funding is also subject to confirmation by the Government of Canada. Municipalities can anticipate receiving letters confirming MSI and CCBF funding commitments in April.

.../2

I am pleased to inform you that an additional \$3 million in grant funding is being committed in support of local public library boards, which means an increase of at least five per cent for all library boards. This funding increase will help maintain the delivery of critical literacy and skill-building resources to Albertans. There will also be an increase of \$800,000 in funding to the Land and Property Rights Tribunal to expand capacity for timely surface rights decisions.

Additionally, *Budget 2023* will provide an increase of \$500,000 to provide fire services training grants. Public safety is always a priority, and while we respect that fire services is a municipal responsibility, our government recognizes that a strong provincial-municipal partnership remains key to keeping Albertans safe.

As we all look forward to the year ahead, I want to re-iterate that Alberta municipalities remain our partners in economic prosperity and in delivering the critical public services and infrastructure that Albertans need and deserve. Municipal Affairs remains committed to providing sustainable levels of capital funding, promoting economic development, and supporting local governments in the provision of programs and services.

Alberta's economy has momentum, and we are focused on even more job creation and diversification as we continue to be the economic engine of Canada. At the same time, we recognize Albertans are dealing with the financial pressures of high inflation.

Budget 2023 will help grow our economy while also strengthening health care, improving public safety, and providing relief to Albertans through the inflation crisis. Alberta's government will do its part by remaining steadfastly committed to responsible management, paying down the debt, and saving for tomorrow.

With these priorities in mind, we will move forward together in fulfilling Alberta's promise and securing a bright and prosperous future for Alberta families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Schulz', written in a cursive style.

Rebecca Schulz
Minister

Keith Davis

From: Peter Casurella <peter.casurella@southgrow.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2023 8:38 AM
To: Peter Casurella
Subject: Invitation to Southern Alberta Economic Development Forum - please share
Attachments: Economic Forum 2023-compressed.pdf

Dear CAOs,

Please share the attached with your staff and councils!

Please find attached an invitation to the Southern Alberta Economic Development Forum on March 30th in Lethbridge, Alberta.

This event will feature a Keynote presentation by Economist **Jack Mintz** on **the Future of Alberta's Economy**.

There will also be a presentation from Economic **Todd Hirsch** titled: **Bracing for Turbulence, Preparing for Economic Disruption**.

The day also features **Breakfast, Lunch**, and a number of **breakout sessions** on topics of interest for southern Albertans.

It's \$80 to attend, and SouthGrow is only aiming to cover our costs.

Please share this with your colleagues and networks, and you can register


Here! <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/southern-alberta-economic-development-forum-tickets-517002106217>

Sincerely,



Peter Casurella

Executive Director
SouthGrow Regional Initiative
Creating Opportunity in Southern Alberta

 [1-403-394-0615](tel:1-403-394-0615)

 peter.casurella@southgrow.com

 southgrow.com

ALBERTA'S ECONOMIC FUTURE

SOUTHERN ALBERTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM



JACK MINTZ

THE FUTURE OF ALBERTA'S ECONOMY

IN THE COMING YEARS, FIVE MAJOR TRENDS WILL BOOST OR UNDERMINE ECONOMIC GROWTH: DEMOGRAPHICS, DEGLOBALIZATION, NEW TECHNOLOGIES, ENERGY TRANSFORMATION AND INTERNATIONAL AND, IN CANADA, REGIONAL TENSIONS. ALBERTA'S CHALLENGE IS TO RIDE A WAVE THAT LEADS TO PROSPERITY.



TODD HIRSHE

BRACING FOR TURBULENCE: PREPARING FOR ECONOMIC DISRUPTION

SPIKING INTEREST RATES, CRUSHING INFLATION AND COMMODITY PRICE VOLATILITY THREATEN TO DAMPEN CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SENTIMENTS. IN THIS TURBULENT ENVIRONMENT, WHAT IS LIKELY TO HAPPEN? AND WHAT CAN BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRIES DO TO PREPARE?



MARCH 30TH

SANDMAN
SIGNATURE
LETHBRIDGE

PANEL DISCUSSIONS
INCLUDE:

**BROADBAND
LABOUR
COLLABORATION
WASTE-TO-ENERGY
AGRI-FOOD TOURISM
ENERGY FUTURE
INVESTMENT-
ATTRACTION**

BREAKFAST AND
LUNCH WILL BE
PROVIDED

\$80.00 PER TICKET

EVENT RUNS FROM
8:30AM - 4:00PM

**SCAN CODE TO GET
TICKETS NOW OR VISIT
SOUTHGROW.COM**

DIVE DEEP INTO KEY REGIONAL ISSUES

INVESTMENT ATTRACTION

BONNIE NUNNARI | YULIYA MARCINKOSKI

Opportunities abound: Discover the untapped potential of attracting investment into your communities. Join us for an insightful session on the promising returns and growth prospects awaiting Southern Alberta.

WASTE TO ENERGY

KIRK HOFFMAN | SEAN COLLINS | TOM GRANT

Turning trash into treasure: Exploring the potential of waste-to-energy solutions for a sustainable future. Join us to learn about innovative technologies and best practices for converting waste into renewable energy sources.

AGRI-FOOD TOURISM

ERIN CRANE

Feed your wanderlust and your appetite: Unleashing the power of agri-food tourism for local businesses. Don't miss this chance to learn how to tap into this burgeoning market and showcase your unique farm-to-table experiences to visitors near and far.

COLLABORATION

RENAE BARLOW | BEV THORNTON

Stronger together: Harnessing the power of regional collaboration for sustainable growth and development. Join us for an informative session on the benefits, strategies, and success stories of working together to achieve shared goals.

ENERGY FUTURE

MAGGIE HANNA | BRAD NICKEL

Powering the future: Charting a course towards a sustainable and resilient energy landscape. Join us to explore the latest innovations, trends, and policies shaping the energy sector, and learn how you can be part of the solution.

LABOUR

CHARLES MCARTHUR | BRYON ANDERSON

Talent matters: Overcoming labour market challenges and unlocking your region's potential. Join us for an insightful session on effective strategies for attracting and retaining a skilled workforce in today's rapidly evolving economic landscape.

BROADBAND

IMRAN MOHIUDDIN | PHIL WRIGHT

Connecting rural communities: Unlocking the potential of broadband for economic and social development. Join us to learn about the latest opportunities, best practices, and success stories in expanding broadband access and adoption in rural areas.

From: Picture Butte Chamber
Sent: Friday, March 3, 2023 1:41 PM
Subject: Easter Egg Hunt

Invitation to all Picture Butte Chamber Members **Come join the Fun!**

Community Easter Egg Hunt

In conjunction with Chamber of Commerce

Date: Saturday, April 8, 2023 Time: 11:00 AM

The Chamber will supply plastic eggs to all interested Chamber businesses. You can fill the eggs with coupons, wrapped candy, swag or whatever fits in the eggs. You are also invited us in co-operatively hiding the eggs on Sat. April 8th at 9 am.

- If you are unable to join us hide them, drop off filled eggs at Uptown Convenience or Ag Employ prior to Fri. March 31.
- If you wish to have us fill eggs for your business donations will be accepted until March 31.
- Monetary donations also accepted before March 31 to get your business name on the poster!

There will be three eggs containing coupons which will redeem larger prize baskets suitable for children.

We will meet at the parking lot of the outdoor skating rink. There will be a starting point for kids so everyone has the same chance of finding the eggs. Volunteers and business owners will “keep the park closed” and sound a horn when kids may start. We will encourage kids to just collect eggs at the park and open them when they get home, to avoid any garbage left behind.

Stores and businesses interested must notify prior to March 31, so we can advertise your store/ business as a sponsor.

Contact Christy -at Uptown - ckwarnock@hotmail.com or Tony – at Ag. Employment - agemploy@gmail.com or Rita - chamber@picturebutte.ca to be involved.

A G E N D A Meeting May, 05, 2022

Attendance:

Call to Order. V.P. Norm will be presiding at this meeting

Financial report; Community Spirit account. \$8812.75. Town holdings ?? We still have T-shirts for sale

Minutes of February 17 meeting

Approval of Agenda

Items to discuss:

Quotes and costs of telescopes, stands, freight costs

Hank's Feedmill Service: progress on the building of the archway and the sign frames waiting for powder coating

Volunteers to water trees. Mulching of trees done. Trees needing to be supported against the winds.

Recognition of donors

Remainder of debt owing to Justin. The filling in of cracks on trail's hard surface

The Natural Garden. Plans for this Year's garden

New Business

Committee Reports

Adjournment

MINUTES FOR BOARD MEETING OF FEBRUARY, 17, 2022

Attendance: 6: Sandra Peters, Estelle Anderson, Yves Leclair. Leon Hage, John Kolk, Shirley Kiffiak

Call to order: by Pres. John Kolk at 7 pm in the Fish and Game Building

Approval of Agenda: motion by Yves to accept Agenda as presented.

Minutes of previous meeting of December 16, 2021: Motion to accept by Estelle.

Treasurer's Report: Community Spirit Account at ATB. \$9172.00 and Town of PB account has \$2150.00.

Bills coming up are the costs of powder coating the signs and archway, and printing of the sign pictures by Friesen. Yves had asked Jaxon Reiter to edit the info on the signs so it is accurate.

Old business: A cheque was given to the Town for \$8000 to pay towards the hard surfacing bill.

There is still an amount owing, being held back due to repairs needed for cracking on the pathway. We will deal with this when winter is over. A letter was sent to LNID to get their permission to spread some deadfall trees for animals and birds to use. Haven't received an answer yet. Leon will look into more information and prices for a suitable telescope.

New business. Yves and Darlene Doenz met with Hank's Feedmill to discuss drawings and designs. Copies of designs were presented for viewing.

A motion was made by Yves that WOWS should pay for the costs of having metal sign holders and archway powder coated. Carried

Doug Jackson from Bert's Grocery said the Lions would donate to sponsoring a sign as long as the Lions Club logo would be on the sign. Discussion about the need for volunteers to water the trees planted along the pathway. Discussion as to how to go about this job. Very important. Thank you cards will be sent out to the bench and table donors. Recognition of these donors and to Roger Zeinstra for the trees donated will be made.

WOWS volunteers were chosen to be honored at the Chamber of Commerce AGM with a Special Tribute Award on February 11th.

Committee Reports: Archived pictures of early days of Picture Butte are available to view on the Rogers Sugar Archives. "You were raised in Picture Butte".

Yves presented his bill for concrete placement along pathway. Leon made the motion to pay the old bill. Cost of cheque given to Southland Concrete is \$299.25. A cheque was issued.

Motion by Yves to pay the Chamber of Commerce the 2022 membership fee of \$60.00. Carried. A cheque was issued.

Need pictures to share on the WOWS website. Future annual Spring clean up needs to be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

Next meeting will be Thursday, March 17, 2022.

Adjournment by John.

Note the March 17 meeting was cancelled..... Thank you

Note the April 14 meeting was also cancelled.... thank you. It was Easter and some would be away and it is Spring and farm fields are needing to be seeded. Thus. John will be very busy seeding.

Minutes of WOWS meeting - May 5th 2022

Attendance: 4. Darlene Doenz, Yves Leclair, Norm Elaschuk, Shirley Kiffiak

Call to Order: by V.P. Norm presiding over the meeting.

Financial Report: Community Spirit Account: \$8812.75. Holdings at the T of P. B. unknown.

WOWS t-shirts still available for purchase, 26 left. Yves presented a cheque from the Lions Club for \$1000.00 for a sign post with their logo on it. Thank you to the Lions members.

Motion to accept this report by Darlene and seconded by Yves.

Minutes of the February 17th Meeting read and accepted by Norm and seconded by Darlene

Agenda:

Items discussed were: the quotes and costs of telescope, stands and freight costs. Leon looked into prices and Darlene suggested that it would be nice to have the telescope permanent along the pathway, and possibly more than one telescope. Problems with taking it in and out for safe keeping. Who would be responsible for them.

Report on progress of Hank's Feedmill on the building of the sign frames and archway. WOWS would be responsible for the cost of powder coating.

Discussion on the trees and volunteers are needed to keep up the watering. Trees needing to be anchored against the wind.

Thank you cards are being prepared to thank and recognize those who have purchased benches and tables in Memoriam, etc.

Discussion on the remainder of the bill owing to Justin. Need to discuss with Justin the process to repairing the cracks in the fly ash pathway.

Darlene is working on preparing the natural garden along the trail.

We need to decide on a day for trail clean up this spring.

New Business:

Yves has approached the Town about his idea to widen 4th street to make it more appealing for people to walk on. Diagrams were handed out to show the plan. The Town is on board with this idea, but is approving 10 foot width. This will eventually be connected with other sidewalks that lead to the Gazebo, with better, and appealing walkability.

Yves offered to write a letter of explanation and WOWS support to the Town for provision of Benches etc. needed along the sidewalks.

An article on WOWS with pictures is being prepared to place in the County Connections magazine.

With only 4 people present we enjoyed a lively meeting. It was suggested that a meeting be held close to the end of the month to discuss all these topics and decide a day to do the clean up.

No other committee reports.

Meeting adjourned by Norm at 8:30. Thank you, Norm.

The next meeting for WOWS will be Thursday, May 26th at 7:00 in the Fish and Game building. We hope to see many people come out

NOTE: There will be a Board Meeting and an AGM including election of officers on Thursday September 29 at 7 pm in the Fish and Game building
These are the minutes of the last Board Meeting we had in May. Watch for the Agendas to come. Shirley K

WOWS MINUTES for May 26, 2022

Attendance: Estelle Anderson, Darlene Doenz, Mitch Bazant, Yves Leclair, John Kolk, Shirley Kiffiak

Call to Order by John at the Fish and Game building at 7 pm.

Approval of Agenda Motion of approval by Estelle and 2nd by Darlene. Carried.

Minutes of previous meeting of May 5 read. Motion of approval by Yves and 2nd by Darlene. Carried.

Financial Report by Shirley. A cheque given by the PB Lions Club for \$1000 was deposited and the balance in the ATB account is now \$9,812.75. The T of PB has only a little money left in our WOWS account. Also have 27 WOWS t-shirts left.

Old Business: need base built, 3 meters of concrete needed for the pedestal of the archway. Yves reported helpers are needed next week. Hank's Feedmill service did the signs frames installation.

The natural garden: Darlene reported that she got some plants from the Beaver Mines store and planted a variety of native to the area plants.

Watering of trees is happening with hoses and hooking up to Grisnich's irrigation line and with help from Casey Oskam's daughter and her family and others.

Thank you cards were sent out to those who have donated benches and tables in memoriam, etc.as well as some who have helped or contributed to WOWS.

Clean up along the pathway will be Saturday, June 11 starting at 10 am. John will talk to the Town to get their garbage truck parked by the camp kitchen again. Shirley will put up posters around Town again. Refreshments will be provided.

John will talk to Justin about the pathway cracks again.

It is noted that 177 people are on the WOWS Facebook page.

We will try to get Tony Kok to do a drone video along the pathway.

Info needs to be sent to the Shimek family about the trees.

Darlene suggested that we get 2 telescopes and have them in permanent locations and not have to worry about portable telescopes and who will be responsible for keeping them safe, etc.

On June 30 a delegation is invited to a Committee of the Whole at the Town Council Chambers at 6:30 pm to discuss WOWS support for the improving of the widening of sidewalks along 4th Street and providing various amenities through citizen's donations such as benches, doggie hitches, bicycle stands, flower pots etc. Yves will appear on Zoom and several members will attend to give support to the idea of beautification of 4th street. Trees are an added feature.

New Business: Calvin Sosick is willing to remove left over piles of concrete, fill in holes, remove rocks and clean up gravel and mulch. Thank you to Calvin.

Adjournment was given by Shirley at 8:20

No next meeting date was given.

MINUTES

(Walk on the Wild Side)

Attendance 10: Gary Vander Waal, Yves Leclair, Calvin Sosick, Darlene Doenz, Estelle Anderson, Mitch Bazant, Leeon Hage, John Kolk, Penny Sosick, Shirley Kiffiak

Meeting called to order by John Kolk President in Fish and Game Building after the AGM meeting. All officers remain the same positions but also welcoming Penny Sosick as Director.
All 10 people stayed after the AGM meeting which was held first.

Agenda: Add Yves's report to New Business.
The Agenda was then approved by Darlene and 2nd by Yves. Carried
Minutes of the previous meeting of May 26 were read and adopted as read by Estelle and 2nd by Darlene. Carried

Treasurer's Report given by Shirley: \$9947.75 in WOWS ATB account plus T-shirts and a small amount of money held in the Town. Approved by Leeon and 2nd by Yves. Carried

Old Business: Gary from Prairie Escapes next gave his report on the situation with the trees along the pathway. 95% of trees were damaged in the hailstorm of July 18. Trees had a hard, and dry, windy winter and spring, with very cold temperatures at a crucial time in their growth. His supply of other replacement trees was also hail damaged.

Thanks to the Sosicks for watering the trees as best they could. Future watering is very crucial. It was decided to leave the hail damaged trees to see how they would fare over winter and what happens with new growth in the spring. Gary offered replacement trees at \$65.00 each plus moving costs. but his stock is limited.

Motion given by Darlene and 2nd by Estelle to accept the Offer for what trees will have died. Carried.

There is always the challenge of getting enough water on the trees, even with the wheel move supplied by Mr, Grisnich. Thank you to all those people who helped water the trees.

Darlene reported that the natural garden fared okay.

Next on the agenda was the problem of erosion and need of crack filling on the fly ash pathway.

Yves needs a helper or two with the choosing of the info for the signs along the pathway. Frames are already placed. Bills were presented by Yves for the concrete work as well as the powder coating of the frames and archway.

A motion was passed at the meeting of November 19, 2020 for a budget of max \$1000.00 for the concrete pads, for sign holders, etc. Two cheques were issued: one for \$663.31 to Southland Concrete and one for \$661.50 to Hank's Feedmill for the powder coating.

John reported seeing 20 White-faced Ibis on the Lake. He showed a picture of the bird. Beautiful looking birds. Very colorful.

New Business: Yves gave a report on what was occurring along 4th Street down town. Street Scapes with widening of the sidewalks and planting of trees along the sidewalks. The center line would be moved over to accommodate the wider sidewalks.

Other New Business: There is a grant available through the Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta up to \$15,000. Motion by Yves and seconded by Darlene that Shirley would apply for a grant for telescopes for the pathway. Carried Deadline to apply was October 15 but extended to the 17th because of the weekend.

No further reports.

No next meeting date was given but maybe in November.

John adjourned the meeting



OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, December 1, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

ORRSC Conference Room (3105 - 16 Avenue North, Lethbridge) or ZOOM Virtual Meeting

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Colin Bexte (Absent)Village of Arrowwood
 Kent Bullock (Absent) Village of Barnwell
 Dan Doell (In Person)..... Village of Barons
 Mike Wetzstein (Absent) Town of Bassano
 Ray Juska (Absent)..... City of Brooks
 Roger Houghton (In Person)..... Cardston County
 Allan Burton (In Person) Town of Cardston
 Sue Dahl (Virtual)..... Village of Carmangay
 James F. Smith (Absent) Village of Champion
 Brad Schlossberger (In Person)..... Town of Claresholm
 Jesse Potrie (Absent) Town of Coalhurst
 Tanya Smith (In Person)..... Village of Coutts
 Barbara Burnett (In Person) Village of Cowley
 Dave Filipuzzi (Virtual) Mun. Crowsnest Pass
 Dean Ward (Virtual)..... Mun. Crowsnest Pass
 Stephen Dortch (In Person) Village of Duchess
 Gordon Wolstenholme (In Person)Town of Fort Macleod
 Mark Peterson (In Person)..... Village of Glenwood
 Suzanne French (Virtual) Village of Hill Spring
 Morris Zeinstra (Absent)Lethbridge County

Brad Koch (Absent) Village of Lomond
 Gerry Baril (In Person) Town of Magrath
 Peggy Losey (In Person) Town of Milk River
 Dean Melnyk (Absent) Village of Milo
 Victor Czop (Virtual)..... Town of Nanton
 Marinus de Leeuw (Absent)..... Town of Nobleford
 Teresa Feist (Absent) Town of Picture Butte
 Tony Bruder (Absent)..... M.D. of Pincher Creek
 Don Anderberg (Virtual) Town Pincher Creek
 Ronald Davis (Absent)..... M.D. of Ranchland
 Neil Sieben (In Person)..... Town of Raymond
 Don Norby (In Person)Town of Stavely
 Matthew Foss (In Person)..... Village of Stirling
 John DeGroot (Absent) MD of Taber
 Raymond Coad (Absent) Town of Vauxhall
 Christopher Northcott (In Person)..... Vulcan County
 Richard DeBolt (In Person) Town of Vulcan
 David Cody (In Person)..... County of Warner
 Marty Kirby (In Person)..... Village of Warner
 Evan Berger (In Person) M.D. Willow Creek

STAFF:

Bonnie Brunner Senior Planner
 Mike Burla Senior Planner
 Ryan Dyck Planner
 Steve Harty Senior Planner
 Raeanne Keer Executive Assistant

Lenze Kuiper Chief Administrative Officer
 Kattie Schlamp Assistant Planner
 Gavin Scott Senior Planner
 Jaime Thomas GIS Analyst
 Hailey Winder Planner

Chair Gordon Wolstenholme called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by: Christopher Northcott

THAT the Board adopts the Agenda for December 1, 2022, as presented.

CARRIED

2. RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS AND ALTERNATE MEMBERS FOR 2023

a. Members and Alternates 2023
- 2023 Meeting Calendar

The Board reviewed the list of Member and Alternate Members for 2023 and the 2023 meeting calendar.

3. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2023

a. Nomination Information

M. Burla, Senior Planner, presented the Executive Committee Election process to the Board.

L. Kuiper stated that 1 nomination was received for the position of Chair, Mr. Gordon Wolstenholme of the Town of Fort Macleod.

L. Kuiper inquired if there were any nominations from the floor for the position of Chair.

There were none.

L. Kuiper inquired a second and third time to if there were any nominations from the floor for the position of Chair, and there were none.

Mr. Gordon Wolstenholme was proclaimed Chair of the Executive Committee of the Oldman River Regional Services Commission Board of Directors.

L. Kuiper stated that 1 nomination was received for the position of Vice Chair, Mr. Don Anderberg of the Town of Pincher Creek.

L. Kuiper inquired if there were any nominations from the floor for the position of Vice Chair.

There were none.

L. Kuiper inquired a second and third time to if there were any nominations from the floor for the position of Vice Chair, and there were none.

Mr. Don Anderberg was proclaimed Vice Chair of the Executive Committee of the Oldman River Regional Services Commission Board of Directors.

L. Kuiper, Chief Administrative Officer, stated that Administration had received 5 nomination forms during the nomination period for the Executive Committee Members, 1 rural member and 4 urban members. L. Kuiper reviewed the list of candidates, Victor Czop of the Town of Nanton, Christopher Northcott of Vulcan County, Jesse Potrie of the Town of Coalhurst, Brad Schlossberger of the Town of Claresholm, and Neil Sieben of the Town of Raymond.

L. Kuiper stated that in accordance with Board of Directors and Executive Committee Bylaw 2021-01, Section 15.2 the Executive Committee is to be comprised of a minimum of 2 urban members and 2 rural members and noted that at this time only 1 nomination from a rural member had been received.

L. Kuiper stated that the Board could continue though acclamation to accept the nominations that were received notwithstanding Section 15.2 of Bylaw 2021-01, or nominations could be received from the floor.

The Board discussed Bylaw 2021-01 and the rural members present at the Organizational Meeting.

Allan Burton, Town of Cardston, nominated David Cody of the County of Warner as a member of the Executive Committee.

Roger Houghton, Cardston County, seconded the nomination of David Cody, County of Warner to the Executive Committee.

D. Cody accepted the nomination.

David Cody and Christopher Northcott were acclaimed to the Executive Committee to fulfill the rural membership requirements in accordance with Bylaw 2021-01, therefore they were not included on the election ballots.

ORRSC staff handed out ballots to eligible voting members of the Board, and completed ballots were collected.

The Board continued with the meeting as ORRSC Staff tallied the ballots.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by: Brad Schlossberger

THAT the Board approves the meeting minutes of September 1, 2022, as presented.

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

6. REPORTS

- a. Executive Committee Report**
 - **September 2022 – November 2022**

Chair Wolstenholme presented the Executive Committee Report to the Board

7. BUSINESS

a. Proposed 2023 Budget
- Proposed Budget for Consideration

L. Kuiper presented the proposed 2023 Budget, highlighting an increase to membership fees, subdivision fees, and a cost-of-living increase for staff salaries and wages.

L. Kuiper stated that the budget was reviewed by the Executive Committee at their October and November 2022 Meetings, and in November a resolution was passed to present the 2023 Budget to the Board of Directors and recommended that the Board approves the Budget as presented.

b. Proposed 5 Year Capital Plan
- 2023-2027

L. Kuiper presented the proposed 5 Year Capital Plan to the Board, highlighting that a third vehicle will be purchased in 2023, from funds that were budgeted in 2020 but not spent as a third vehicle was not needed during the pandemic.

Moved by: Richard DeBolt

THAT the Board approves the 2023 Budget and 5 Year Capital Plan, as presented.

CARRIED

4. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2023 - continued

a. Nomination Information – continued

M. Burla announced that the votes for the Executive Committee Members had been tallied.

M. Burla stated that the following candidates, in no specific order, were elected to the Executive Committee:

- Jesse Potrie
- Brad Schlossberger
- Neil Sieben.

The Board congratulated the 2023 Executive Committee Members.

Moved by: Christopher Northcott

THAT the Board approves the destruction of the 2023 Executive Committee ballots.

CARRIED

7. BUSINESS - continued

c. Subdivision Activity
- As of October 2022

L. Kuiper presented the subdivision statistics as of October 31, 2022, noting that they do vary from year to year depending on several economic factors.

d. Assessment Appeal Activity
- 2022 Assessment Appeal Board Statistics

L. Kuiper presented the 2022 Assessment Appeal Board statistics to the Board.

e. Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Statistics
- As of November 2022

L. Kuiper presented the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board statistics, as of November 2022 to the Board.

f. ORRSC Periodical & GIS Update

R. Dyck, Planner, presented the Winter 2022 edition of the ORRSC Periodical.

J. Thomas, GIS Analyst, presented an update on current and future GIS projects.

8. ACCOUNTS

a. Balance Sheet and Comparative Income Statement
- As of October 31, 2022

L. Kuiper presented the Balance Sheet and Comparative Income Statements as of October 31, 2022.

Moved by: Gerry Baril

THAT the Board approves Balance Sheet and Comparative Income State, as of October 31, 2022, as presented.

CARRIED

L. Kuiper presented 15 Year Service Awards to Bonnie Brunner and Gavin Scott.

9. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

10. NEXT MEETING – March 2, 2023; 7:00 pm

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further questions and nothing further to discuss, Chair Gordon Wolstenholme adjourned the meeting, the time being 8:20 pm.



Gordon Wolstenholme, Chair



Lenze Kuiper, Chief Administrative Officer

Barons-Eureka-Warner Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)
Minutes of Board Meeting – Wednesday, February 1, 2023
Coaldale Hub (2107-13th Street)
In-person and Online via Teams

Attendance (in-person)

Board Members:

Bekkering, Garth – Town of Taber
Chapman, Bill - Town of Coaldale
Degenstein, Dave – Town of Milk River
Feist, Teresa - Town of Picture Butte
Harris, Merrill – M.D. of Taber, Board Chair
Heggie, Jack – County of Warner
Jensen, Kelly – Town of Raymond
Kirby, Martin – Village of Warner
Nilsson, Larry – Village of Stirling
Plumtree, Margaret - Town of Vauxhall
Weistra, Ed – Village of Barons

Attendance (online) – Board Members

Montina, Lyndsay – Town of Coalhurst
Payne, Megan – Village of Coutts

Absent – Board Members

Foster, Missy – Village of Barnwell
Hickey, Lorne – Lethbridge County
Jensen, Melissa – Town of Nobleford

Staff (in-person):

Morrison, Zakk - Executive Director
Florence-Greene, Evelyn – Accounting Assistant
Hashizume, Linda – Executive Assistant

Call to Order

M. Harris called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Carried Unanimously:

Approval of Agenda

E. Weistra moved the Board approve the agenda as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Minutes

J. Heggie moved the minutes of the December 7, 2022, FCSS Board meeting be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously

M.H.
JM

Delegation

Petra DeBow, Manager, presented information on the Report to Municipalities – Family Services 2022.

The Board discussed the information provided in the Report to Municipalities – Family Services 2022.

M. Harris thanked P. Debow for her presentation and service to our communities and residents.

P. DeBow left the meeting at 4:33 pm.

M. Payne moved the Board approve the Report to Municipalities – Family Services 2022 as presented and requested Administration distribute the report to our Municipalities and Alberta Government funders.

Carried Unanimously

Correspondence

The following correspondence was presented for information:

- Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA) News December 2022
- Food Security & Donation Matching Grant

The Board discussed the Food Security and Donation Matching grant.

T. Feist moved the Board receive the correspondence as presented for information.

Carried Unanimously

Reports

Executive Director

Z. Morrison reviewed the Executive Director's report.

The following was highlighted:

- The month of February includes two nationally recognized days that aim to celebrate and promote kindness: February 17 is Random Acts of Kindness Day and February 22 is Pink Shirt Day.
- The 'Little Free Pantries' initiative was featured in the Globe and Mail.
- Applications for the Food Security and Donation Matching grant will be accepted until January 31, 2023 <https://www.alberta.ca/affordability-action-plan.aspx>

Bill Chapman asks that information regarding FCSSAA grants be shared with appropriate organizations within all our Municipalities.

E. Weistra moved the Board approve the Executive Director's Report as presented.

M.H.
JM

Carried Unanimously

Financial Report

Z. Morrison reviewed the Financial Report.

B. Chapman moved the Board approve the December 31, 2022 Financial Report including:

- Financial statement for December 31, 2022;
- Monthly accounts for November 1 -30, 2022;
- Monthly accounts for December 1 -31, 2022;
- Mastercard statement for November 11, 2022 to December 13, 2022.
- Mastercard statement for December 14, 2022 to January 12, 2023.

Carried

Professional Development Report 2022

Z. Morrison presented FCSS Employee Professional Development Report for 2022.

M. Plumtree moved the Board receive the FCSS Employee Professional Development Report for 2022 for information as presented.

Carried

New Business

All-Councils Meeting 2023

The Board discussed the date and location for the All-Councils meeting.

D. Degenstein moved the Board approve the All Council's meeting be set for April 5, 2023 at 6:00 pm at the Town of Coaldale's Civic Square with the Board meeting at 4:00 pm at the Coaldale Hub.

Carried

Strategic Planning

The Board discussed the date and location for the Strategic Planning.

The Board directed Administration to arrange the date(s) and location and report back at the March 2023 Board meeting.

Round Table

B. Chapman report the Town of Coaldale Council met with Taber Town Council to discuss mutual ideas. Coaldale is trying to be more collaborative with adjoining communities.

B. Chapman is now on the Southern Alberta Kanadier Association Board.

L. Montana gave a shout out to B. Chapman for running a great meeting. She also thanked Administration for the setting up the technology for the online meetings.

M.H.
M

M. Harris read aloud a letter received from Local Authorities Pension Plan (LAPP) regarding congratulations to E. Florence-Greene for being the 2nd employer in Alberta to close their LAPP year end.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next regular Board meeting will be March 1, 2023, at the Coaldale Hub (2107-13th Street) in-person and online (via Teams).

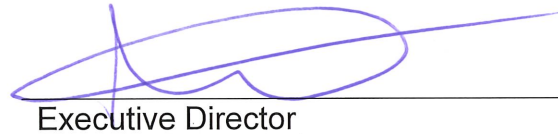
Adjournment

E. Weistra moved the meeting adjourn at 5:40 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

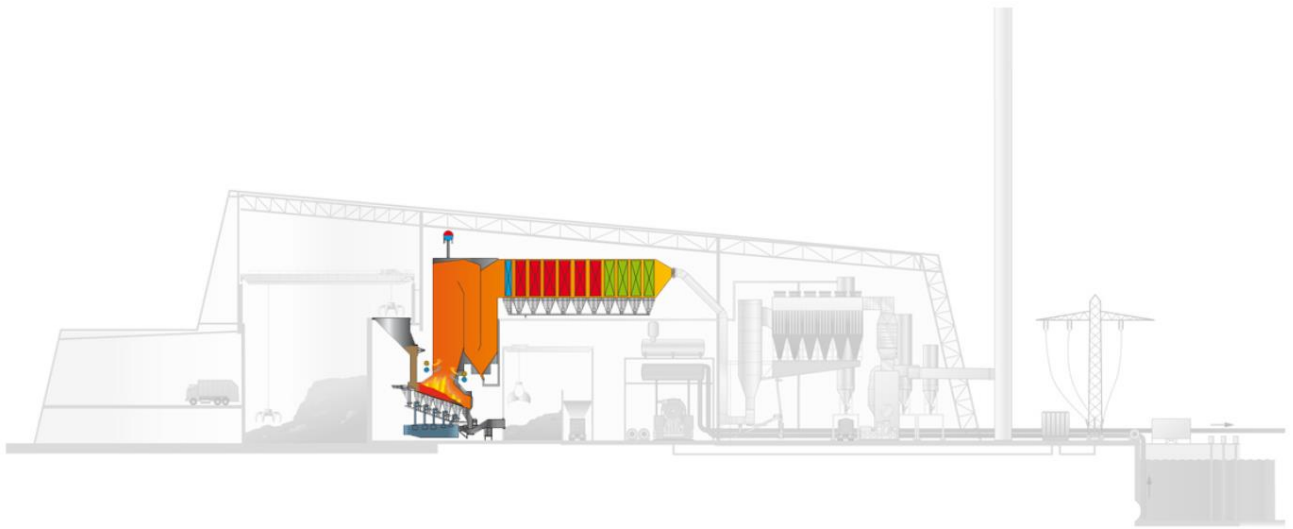
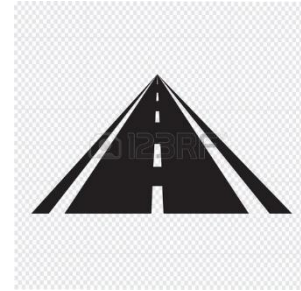


Chairperson



Executive Director

SAEWA ROADMAP



FEBRUARY 27, 2023



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association's journey in a word has been one of "patience" involving a step-wise engineering process to get to this point in our journey, with the announcement of a preferred proponent (*Energy from Waste Project Heats Up, January 30, 2023*) to move forward the Energy-from-Waste Facility development in partnership with Hitachi Zosen INOVA - "HZI".

Despite the disruptions created by the pandemic, immediately post the selection of a preferred site we managed to maintain course by pivoting to on-line meetings, engagement and managing monthly briefings to keep our stakeholders immersed in the progress being made, while still managing to make great strides that included taking the project to a public Request for Expression of Interest to host development of a 300,000 tonne Energy-from-Waste Facility.

SAEWA has a strong and collaborative history that we all can be proud of, as the original champions that formed Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Alliance in 2009 have continue to be engaged and supportive of the project. The original champions rallied to form Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association in 2012 registering the organization as a non-profit society. SAEWA since then has retained over 67% of the original membership maintaining a collaborative process in development of an Energy-from-Waste Facility that will provide a solution to landfilling waste in Southern Alberta within the member footprint.

It is very exciting and empowering knowing that we are now working on the development of a Memorandum of Understanding with Hitachi Zosen INOVA to move forward development of a 300,000 tonne Energy-from-Waste Facility that will reduce over 750 Million tonnes Greenhouse Gases and Methane over the 35 year lifecycle for the facility that will also produce green energy. - The facility will employ over 500 people during the construction phase and bring millions of dollars in revenue for the economic region.

The incredible future for SAEWA's vision includes seeing the reality of shovels in the ground in development of a 300,000 tonne energy from waste facility in Southern Alberta.

Thank you to our members, stakeholders, the Project Steering Committee, the SAEWA Executive and Board and our new partners, Hitachi Zosen INOVA for taking such a collaborative vision forward in the path of success!

Tom Grant, SAEWA Chair

OVERVIEW OF SAEWA'S PROJECT ROADMAP

Background

The Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association {acronym: SAEWA – also pronounced as Say-wah} was originally established prior to 2012 as the Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Alliance by a group of champions representing Southern Alberta municipalities and waste authorities that came together with the vision of finding a feasible solution to landfilling residential waste. In 2013 SAEWA was registered as a non-profit society and retitled Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association where a mandate was set in support of the vision. The bylaws were registered and the journey of SAEWA, the membership began. Moving forward this project has been a journey not always quick in process as it has been labored in scheduling delays as it worked tenuously through feasibility studies, planning and engineering work in conjunction with having to wait for grant intake opportunities in order to apply for funding at both the Alberta Provincial and Federal levels to move forward.

To date SAEWA has been successful in completing \$3.5 million in project development work which has been no easy feat given the need through this entire process to marry grant program intakes, applications and detailed step-wise engineering and planning processes to move forward this level of progress. Through all this, SAEWA has been very fortunate to have maintained the membership levels it has over the years given the challenges to schedules, the changes elections made to faces around the table, but through it all over 67% of the membership has been retained in their spirit of collaboration and commitment to a common goal in support of the SAEWA vision.

The entire Board recognizes how remarkable it is to arrive to this point given the amount of energy, time and perseverance that has been dedicated to this project. A true demonstration of the spirit of collaboration that thrives within the membership.

HOW DID WE GET HERE – CHRONOLOGICAL ROADMAP:

2009 – Champion Group formed Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Alliance with vision to find an alternative to landfilling residential waste.

2012 – Rebranded and registered Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association (SAEWA) as a membership society and non-profit.

2013 – With the support of AECOM Engineering Group initiated Feasibility studies with the support of the Vulcan Economic Development Association and funded by the Regional Collaboration Program.

2014 – 2015 HDR Engineering Corporation as Lead Engineering firm completed Project, Communication and Procurement Planning funded by the Regional Collaboration Program.

2015 – 2016 Brownlee LLP completed Governance Model Framework, Initial Memorandum of Understanding for Waste Agreements with member municipalities and waste authorities, and Registered SAEWA as a corporation as a holding account for future development funded by the Regional Collaboration Program – mid application program was restructured to the Alberta Community Partnership.

2016 – HDR Engineering Corporation as the Lead Engineering firm developed the Initial Business Plan funded by the Alberta Community Partnership Fund Program.

2017 – 2018 HDR Engineering Corporation as the Lead Engineering firm did oversee 2S Oilfield Consulting to complete a seasonal Waste Stream Characterization Study Analysis and Report that was funded by Southern Alberta Energy membership proceeds.

2019 – HDR Engineering Corporation as the Lead Engineering firm did oversee the Transportation Study completed by the University of Alberta Engineering Division and as well a third-party review and report of the Greenhouse Gasses Reduction (GHG) potential completed by The Pembina Group with both initiatives funded by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Greenfund Program,

2019 – HDR Engineering Corporation as the Lead Engineering firm developed a Detailed Business Plan and Executive Summary Report funded by the Alberta Community Partnership Fund Program.

2020 – 2021 HDR Engineering Corporation as the Lead Engineering firm did work with SAEWA on the Request for Proposal to Host the Energy-from-Waste Facility Site and the prequalification analysis as Stage One (1), and the geotechnical qualification screening and evaluation process as Stage Two (2) in review of the eleven (11) site

submissions that were received from nine (9) member municipalities resulting in the selection of the Newell County Landfill as the preferred site. The completion of the projects made possible by the Alberta Community Partnership Funding Program.

2021 – 2022 HDR Engineering Corporation as the Lead Engineering firm did initiate the Request for Proposal for Expression -of-Interest from an Energy-from-Waste (EFW) Development partner with SAEWA and as a result of receiving submissions from three (3) EFW consortia as COVANTA ENERGY CANADA, HITACHI Zosen INOVA, and SUEZ VEOLIA. The project was funded by the Alberta Community Partnership Fund Program.

2022 – 2023 HDR Engineering Corporation as the Lead Engineering firm, as well the Expression-of-Interest Steering Committee (appointed by the SAEWA Board) did screen submissions for completeness, evaluate and score the submissions, and provide a step-wise interview screening process to the consortia in supporting the Steering Committee to make a recommendation of a preferred proponent to the SAEWA Board.

2023 – SAEWA Board announced the selection of HITACHI Zosen INOVA as the preferred proponent to move forward in development of an initial Memorandum of Understanding to partner in development of the 300,000 tonne per year Energy-from-Waste Facility.

2023 FORWARD ROADMAP

SAEWA has submitted an application to the Alberta Community Partnership Fund Program Winter 2022 intake in request of \$200,000 to complete a detailed Memorandum of Understanding to move forward partnership in development of the 300,000 tonne per year Energy-from-Waste Facility.

The funding application was collaboratively and unanimously supported by the municipal membership, waste authorities, Members of Parliament, and Alberta MLA's within the member footprint including MLA Danielle Smith (Medicine Hat – Brooks). SAEWA expects the next steps to involve signing of a MOU to create the development partnership to move forward on a Joint Development Agreement assigning risk & responsibilities, and funding to move forward the development of the EFW Facility that will also include an environmental applications and public engagement process.

SAEWA AND IT'S PARTNER HITACHI ZOSEN INOVA VISION:

Shovels in the ground 2027 – 2028.



SAEWA ANNOUNCES PREFERRED PROPONENT, JANUARY 30, 2023



MEDIA RELEASE

Energy from Waste Project Heats Up

January 30, 2023

The Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association – SAEWA is pleased to announce publicly that after a long and rigorous Expression-of-Interest and Evaluation Process – that the SAEWA Board on January 27, 2023 did approve the Steering Committee's recommendation of an Energy-from-Waste Partner, identified as HITACHI ZOSEN INOVA - HZI with a view to establishing a formal project development agreement for implementation of SAEWA's vision for an energy from waste facility in Southern Alberta.

Statement from the SAEWA Chair, Tom Grant -

"As Chair of SAEWA, I am extremely proud of the progress made and to have received the Board's Motion in approval to establish a formal partnership agreement with HZI. "The process has been long but rewarding to the Board and our members to finally get here".

Statement from the SAEWA Vice Chair/Project Lead, Paul Ryan –

"It has taken a long time to get to where we are today, and we could not have done it without the full support of the SAEWA Board of Directors and the Steering Committee. I look forward to leading the Project with the Steering Committee to the next level and establishing a formal partnership agreement with HZI."

Statement from HITACHI ZOSEN INOVA – HZI

"HZI is delighted to have been selected by SAEWA to deliver a cost effective world-class Energy from Waste facility for the communities, businesses and municipalities of Southern Alberta" said Stuart Mander, Director of Project Development at HZI.

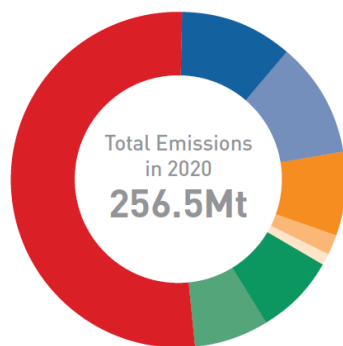
"When operational the new plant will be equipped with HZI technologies such as HZI's own reciprocating grate and our state-of-the art boiler whilst ultimately being designed to fully comply with the most stringent emission limit requirements to satisfy the high demands placed on modern Energy from Waste facilities"

*Media Contact: Paul Ryan, SAEWA Vice Chair / Project Lead

(403) 609-7465

ENERGY-FROM-WASTE EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS:

Summary of Estimated GHG Annual Emissions	Refuse Derived Fuel with Combustion	Mass Burn Combustion	Gasification	Plasma Arc Gasification	Landfill
Disposal (MTCO ₂ /yr)	7,030	0	7,030	7,030	58,587
Combustion (MTCO ₂ /yr)	84,140	78,116	84,140	84,140	0
Transportation (MTCO ₂ /yr)	2,483	2,456	2,483	2,474	1,635
Facility Fuel Usage (MTCO ₂ /yr)	244	228	244	238	532
Electrical Purchase and Sales (MTCO ₂ /yr)	-92,276	-104,265	-76,894	-45,650	0
Ferrous & Non Ferrous Recovery (MTCO ₂ /yr)	-31,906	-31,906	-31,906	-31,906	0
Net GHG Estimated Emissions (MTCO₂E/yr)	-30,300	-55,400	-14,900	16,300	60,800
GHG Emissions Reduction Relative to the Landfill (MTCO ₂ E/yr)	91,100	116,200	75,700	44,500	-
Percent Reduction	150%	191%	125%	73%	-



Alberta's GHG Emissions Profile (Mt CO₂e) 2020 Data

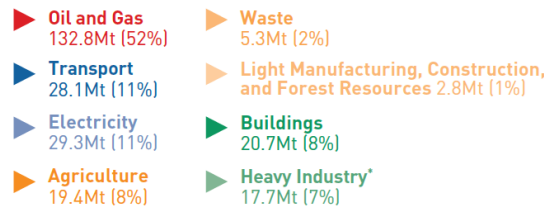
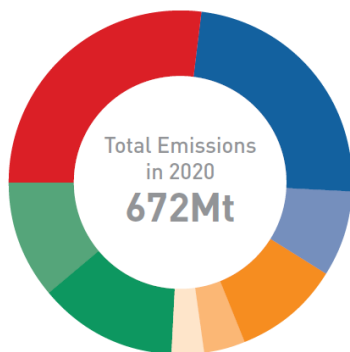


Figure 1: Alberta's GHG Emissions Profile per industry based on Canada's 2020 National GHG Inventory Data



Canada's GHG Emissions Profile (Mt CO₂e) 2020 Data

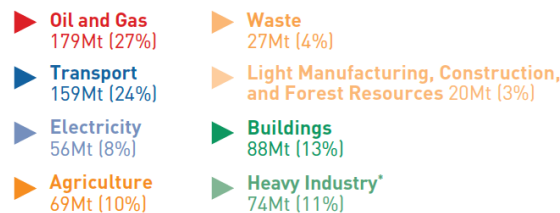


Figure 2: Canada's GHG Emissions Profile per industry based on Canada's 2020 National GHG Inventory Data

ENERGY-FROM-WASTE FACILITY OUTPUTS:

Attraction of Innovation

Carbon Sequestration Credits

Steam – co-location generation

Metals

Bottom Ash - commodity

Sale of green Energy

Table 1 summarizes historical price statistics over the 10-year period between 2012 and 2021.

TABLE 1: Annual market price statistics

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Pool price (\$/MWh)										
Average	64.32	80.19	49.42	33.34	18.28	22.19	50.35	54.88	46.72	101.93
On-peak average	84.72	106.13	61.48	40.73	19.73	24.46	59.28	64.12	54.72	122.61
Off-peak average	23.51	28.29	25.28	18.55	15.37	17.64	32.47	36.40	30.71	60.58

EFW ECONOMIC OUTPUTS:

A Better Waste Management Alternative

- The proposed Energy-from-Waste facility to be located in Newell County, is planned to process a maximum of 300,000 metric tonnes of municipal solid waste per year from various SAEWA member municipalities and other waste generators across southern Alberta.
- The primary purpose of the facility is to divert waste streams from landfill sites resulting in GHG emission reductions estimated at 7 million metric tons of CO₂-equivalents – equivalent to taking over 53,000 vehicles off the road, and currently valued at \$75 million over the lifecycle of the project.
- The facility would generate approximately 205,000 MWh of electricity per year – enough to power over 28,000 homes, resulting in annual revenues of at least \$11 million per year. Additionally, alternative energy sales opportunities such as selling steam to neighbouring industrial facilities could also prove to be even more valuable.
- The facility is also estimated to recover 5,400 metric tonnes of metal annually for recycling.
- Other waste streams could also be processed at the facility, including railway ties, specified risk materials, and other unique waste streams from local industrial facilities.

EFW ECONOMIC IMPACTS:

- Development of the 300,000 tonne scale EfW facility in Southern Alberta will stimulate the energy and value-add economy which directly represents key pillar priorities framed within the Province's Recovery Plan economic diversification and energy innovation goals.
- The construction of the facility will create approx. 490 high-paying jobs over 3 years (1,471 job-years) generating approx. \$108 million in employment income, generate approx. \$442 million in business revenues (mainly in Alberta), and add approx. \$183 million in GDP.
- The ongoing operations of the facility will create an additional approx. 57 direct permanent jobs and approx. 69 indirect jobs (for a total of 126), generating approx. \$11 million in employment income.
- The EfW facility will spur additional economic development. The facility has the ability to use steam energy for district heating enabling co-location such as greenhouse, agricultural production, anaerobic digestion facilities and further providing energy to nearby industries such as meat packing plants.

Detailed Economic Impact Estimates

Table 1: Impact of Facility Construction, Cumulative over Construction Period

Type of Effect	Output, \$M	GDP, \$M	Employment Income, \$M	Jobs (Job-Years)	Average Salary, \$
Direct	\$281.1	\$89.5	\$60.2	762.4	\$78,927
Indirect	\$106.7	\$55.7	\$33.6	435.4	\$77,146
Induced	\$54.3	\$38.1	\$14.0	273.4	\$51,337
Total	\$442.2	\$183.3	\$107.8	1,471.3	\$73,272

Note: monetary values are in 2015 dollars.

Table 2: Impact of Facility Operations, Average Annual

Type of Effect	Output, \$M	GDP, \$M	Employment Income, \$M	Jobs	Average Salary, \$
Direct	\$24.7	\$12.2	\$5.9	56.8	\$104,429
Indirect	\$14.0	\$6.9	\$3.5	42.6	\$81,355
Induced	\$5.3	\$3.7	\$1.4	26.6	\$51,389
Total	\$44.0	\$22.8	\$10.8	126.0	\$85,421

Note: monetary values are in 2015 dollars.

WASTE TO ENERGY: GREEN SOLUTIONS FOR EMERGING MARKETS

(Article: KPMG)

New solutions for new imperatives

WTE technologies convert non-recyclable waste into usable forms of energy. The heat from the combustion of waste generates superheated steam in boilers, and the steam drives turbogenerators to produce electricity.

Waste management has become an imperative given that most cities are running out of landfill sites – the traditional method of disposing waste. With increasingly limited land availability and the steady growth of cities, governments need to implement effective and sustainable waste management solutions including WTE technologies.

WTE is only one part of a comprehensive, waste management plan,” says Edwin Yuen, Senior Private Sector Operation Specialist at the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. “Projects should begin with waste minimization as a public policy, followed by waste recycling and WTE incineration, and ending with the remaining ash delivered to local landfills.”

WTE systems provide a highly valued source of renewable energy, but perhaps the greatest benefit of WTE today comes from its ability to convert waste into ash, reducing by up to 90 percent the volume of waste going to landfills.¹ This reduction in waste can also help contain the amount of methane emissions from landfills with decomposing organic materials.

WTE is one of several imperatives for sustainable waste management. WTE systems can be an effective supplement to fossil fuel-based power sources while also reducing landfill requirements in urban environments, generating renewable energy and producing revenue for municipalities and governments.

Proven technologies

WTE technology has been developed and implemented for decades. The most robust technology is 'moving grate, mass burn' technology featuring a moving grate that burns Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) on a grate travelling from a feed shaft to the ash pit. The moving grate technology does not require pre-treatment or sorting of MSW, allowing it accommodate large quantities and variations of waste

composition and calorific value. The technology has been used for over a century, with a proven track record of operation for mixed MSW treatment.

Between 2003 and 2011, at least 106 moving grate incineration plants were built worldwide for MSW treatment.⁴ One of the world's largest moving grate incineration plants was installed in Singapore by Mitsubishi in 2000, providing a capacity of 4,300 tons per day (tpd) of waste.⁵

A wide range of technology solutions for WTE – some already used in developed markets – is expected to be implemented in Southeast Asia in the years to come. 'Fluidized bed' is a cleaner and more efficient technology for converting waste to electricity, but the process needs a more uniform waste size to operate, making it more complicated and expensive compared to moving grate systems. 'Gasification' plants use plastic and organic solid waste in a chemical conversion process that creates and burns synthesis gas at high temperatures.

The economics of WTE

The WTE market is projected to grow at an annual rate of over 15 percent and reach a value of US\$13.66 billion by 2023.⁶ Tapping into this market is a variety of commercial banks, multilateral development banks, financial sponsors, and private equity firms. In general, financial equity is less available in emerging markets but more common in developed markets such as Australia.

In a typical PPP structure for WTE projects, the developer undertakes the development of the project under the Design-Build-Own-Operate (DBOO) model. In the DBOO model, the developer secures its own financing and builds, owns, maintains and operates the WTE facility to meet the contracted WTE capacity over the lifespan of the facility, which is about 25-30 years. WTE facilities require significant upfront investments and developers and their financiers require assurances from the government agency commissioning the project that enables the investment to be recovered over time.

Yuen points out that any development strategy involves the basic economics of how a WTE facility makes money. Along with government incentives, WTE is based mainly on two sources of revenue. The first source is a gate fee charged when municipalities, businesses or other organizations deliver their waste to the facility for disposal. The second source is the generation of electricity that is sold to local power grids. (End products of WTE incineration like ash represent a third but smaller source of revenue.)

Yuen explains that the gate fee is driven by the volume of waste, and electricity sales are driven by the heat produced. This fact, in turn, can influence the business model of the WTE project. The more waste that is combustible, like plastics, paper or wood, the hotter the furnaces burn and the higher the caloric value (CV) produced. The more non-combustible waste, like bricks or glass, the lower the CV. This mix determines the facility's revenue streams.

In addition, safety regulations require that the facility is designed for a certain thermal capacity. If the percentage of combustible waste is too high, the CV value will be above the designated level, and the operator will have to reduce the amount of waste going through the facility. This reduces gate fees. However, if the CV is too low, the facility generates less electricity that it can sell.

“The single biggest challenge for WTE,” says Yuen, “is to balance the right CV and quality of the waste to optimize both waste volumes and electric sales.”

MOVING GRATE INCINERATION: POWERING A GREENER FUTURE

Moving Grate Incineration: The Most Common WTE Technology

By Rachael Lew | November 29, 2022 - 9:30 am |

Incineration is the most popular waste treatment method that transforms waste materials into useful energy. The incineration process converts waste into ash, flue gas, and heat. The type of thermal WTE technology most commonly used worldwide for municipal solid waste is the moving grate incineration. These moving grate incinerators are even sometimes referred to as as the Municipal Solid Waste Incinerators.

There are more than 1500 Waste-to-Energy plants (among 40 different countries) there is no pre-treatment of the MSW before it is combusted using a moving grate. The hot combustion gases are commonly used in boilers to create steam that can be utilized for electricity production. The excess energy that can't be used for electricity can possibly be used for industrial purposes, such as desalination or district heating/cooling.



Benefits of Moving Grate Incineration

The moving grate incineration technology is lenient in that it doesn't need prior MSW sorting or shredding and can accommodate large quantities and variations of MSW composition and calorific value. With over 100 years of operation experience, the moving grate incineration system has a long track record of operation for **mixed MSW treatment**. Between 2003 and 2020, it was reported that at least 200 moving grate incineration plants were built worldwide for MSW treatment. Currently, it is the main thermal treatment used for mixed MSW.

Compared to other thermal treatment technologies, the unit capacity and plant capacity of the moving grate incineration system is the highest, ranging from 10 to 920 tpd and 20

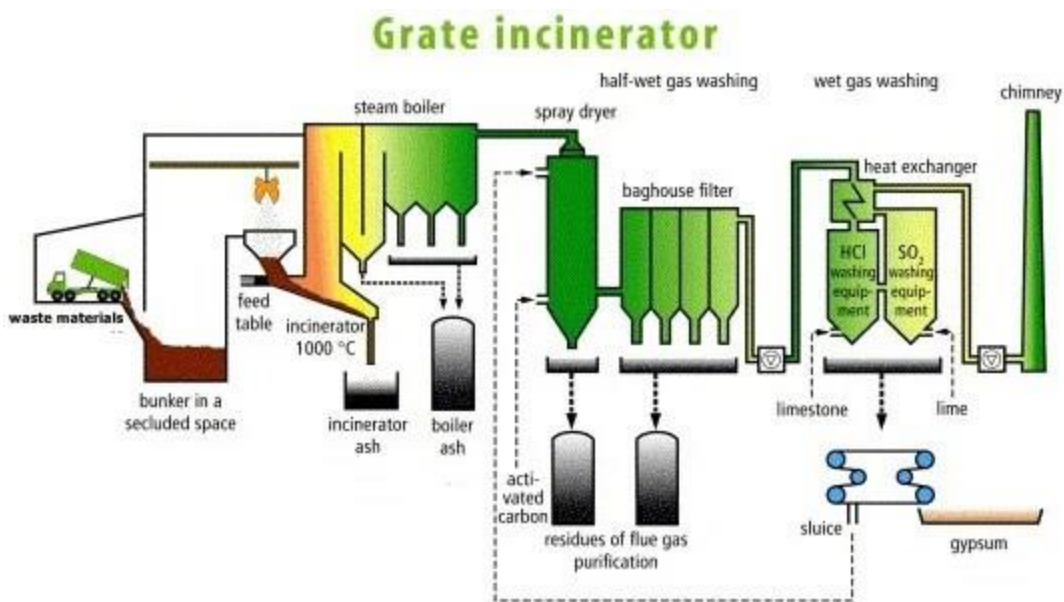
to 4,300 tpd. This system is able to operate 8,000 hours per year with one scheduled stop for inspection and maintenance of a duration of roughly one month.

Today, the moving grate incineration system is the only treatment type which has been proven to be capable of treating over 3,000 tpd of mixed MSW without requiring any pre-treatment steps. Being composed of six lines of furnace, one of the world's largest moving grate incineration plants has a capacity of 4,300 tpd and was installed in Singapore by Mitsubishi in 2000

Working Principle

Moving grate incineration requires that the grate be able to move the waste from the combustion chamber to allow for an effective and complete combustion. A single incineration plant is able to process thirty-five metric tons of waste per hour of treatment.

The MSW for a moving grate incinerator does not require pre-treatment. For this reason, it is easier to process large variations and quantities. Most of these incineration plants have hydraulic feeders to feed as-received MSW to the combustion chamber (a moving grate that burns the material), a boiler to recover heat, an air pollution control system to clean toxins in the flue gas, and discharge units for the fly ash. The air or water-cooled moving grate is the central piece of the process and is made of special alloys that resist the high temperature and avoid erosion and corrosion.



Working principle of a grate incinerator

Preliminary Analysis of Alberta's 2023 Budget



 **Alberta
Municipalities**
Strength
In Members

March 1, 2023

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Introduction

Budget 2023 is a pre-election budget. It focuses on items that are front and center in Albertans' minds at this moment, such as increased investments in healthcare, education, and policing.

There is also other good news for municipalities. The province has heeded Alberta Municipalities' (ABmunis) advocacy for a freeze to the education property tax requisition. It has also committed to remove the 50 per cent limitation on the growth of the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) Capital funding that will begin in 2024. Plus, the doubling of the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) Operating fund will be welcome news, particularly for small communities, while the expansion of low-income transit passes will benefit several mid-sized cities. Libraries, Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) programs, and Regional Economic Development Alliances (REDAs) will also see increases in funding.

Still, structural challenges to the province's long-term fiscal outlook remain. While any government welcomes a surplus, this budget reinforces the fact that the financial health of the province is tied to the ups and downs of the energy sector. In addition, overall municipal infrastructure funding remains below historical averages, meaning that the infrastructure deficit will continue to deepen.

What you will find in this document

This document includes ABmunis' preliminary analysis of Alberta's 2023-24 budget as it relates to municipal priorities, municipal financial plans, and the financial future of Alberta's communities. In addition, it summarizes the province's fiscal outlook and includes highlights of individual ministry business plans that most impact our communities.

Priorities for Alberta's Municipal Governments

Stable and long-term predictable revenue

MSI to LGFF

Over the past several years, the transition from the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) to the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) has been ABmunis' top advocacy priority. Our efforts have been informed by innumerable hours of number crunching, member resolutions and feedback at events, along with guidance from our Board and committees. Thanks to this advocacy, Budget 2023 signals some important wins. However, gaps remain.

The most significant win is the removal of the 50 per cent cap on the growth of the LGFF funding pot. As a result, infrastructure transfers will better match the increases in population and economic growth that drive the need for community infrastructure. It also means that when provincial revenues fall some years, the LGFF Capital funding pot will decline at the same rate, but to enhance predictability for municipalities, it will apply to municipalities three years later. We have accepted this as part of being partners with the province in the Alberta's overall financial health.

Municipalities will also benefit from a doubling in MSI Operating from \$30 million to \$60 million this year and this will continue under the new LGFF Operating program. The increase is in recognition of "rising costs and other external factors, which include recent government decisions". This increase will particularly benefit small communities with limited fiscal capacity to adjust to inflation and other fiscal pressures. Recent research as part of ABmunis' Future of Municipal Government project has highlighted the need to consider the viability of small communities and provide financial support that addresses their unique needs.

The increase in MSI Operating also acknowledges the strain downloading has placed on the finances of municipalities of all sizes. For example, mid-sized municipalities were particularly hit by unexpected billing for RCMP/police biology case work and a reduction in the municipal portion of traffic fine revenue from 73.3 per cent to 60 per cent in 2020, which together account for an estimated annual loss of \$45 million per year. Given the impact of downloading, ABmunis will remain vigilant in our advocacy for the province to reverse and avoid shifting costs onto municipal property taxpayers.

It is also notable that the province has committed to providing a on-time top up in funding to ensure no municipality will receive a year over year decrease as a result of the shift to a new allocation formula under LGFF. We appreciate the recognition that any change to allocations will result in increases and decreases to different municipalities. At the same time, this top up would not be as important if the starting base amount of LGFF funding was increased as ABmunis has advocated for.

In meetings with Ministers and other provincial officials, ABmunis has set out a strong case for increased infrastructure funding based on:

- Downward trends of infrastructure funding on a per capita basis and as a percentage of provincial expenditures,
- The replacement costs of aging infrastructure,
- The need for infrastructure investments to keep pace with population, economic growth, and inflation, and
- Meeting previous funding commitments.

As we head into the provincial election, advocacy on infrastructure funding will continue to be a top priority.

Property Taxes Frozen

Budget 2022 forecast that the Government of Alberta planned to increase the provincial education property taxes in 2023-24 by 1.5 per cent. ABmunis advocated for a freeze and is therefore pleased that Budget 2023 holds the

Preliminary Analysis on Alberta's 2023 Budget

education property tax requisition at the 2022-23 level of \$2.5 billion for 2023-24. ABmunis applauds the province's restraint and hopes it will be maintained in subsequent budgets.

Partners in economic growth and recovery

Regional Economic Development Alliances

In 2019, the Government of Alberta applied a 50 per cent reduction to regional economic development alliances (REDAs). In 2021-22 and 2022-23 the province continued that operational funding at \$50,000 for each of the nine REDAs. ABmunis advocated for funding to be restored and enhanced and is pleased to see funding set at \$125,000 per REDA in 2023-24. We are also pleased to see an increase in funding for the Northern and Regional Economic Development (NRED) program.

Investments in Immigration and Newcomer Integration

\$50.3 million funding over three fiscal years is devoted to settlement and integration initiatives, responses to emerging issues and newcomer needs, and support for recognition of newcomer qualifications from outside of Canada. The Alberta Advantage Immigration Program will receive an additional \$21 million over three years to attract newcomers to support economic growth and the province's labour market needs. There is \$8.3 million in funding to assist Ukrainian evacuees to settle and integrate into Alberta. Overall, funding for newcomer supports and multiculturalism increases to an estimated \$32.5 million in 2023-24 from a forecast of \$22.8 million in 2022-23.

ABmunis welcomes these investments as research conducted by The School of Public Policy for ABmunis' Future of Municipal Government initiative highlighted that immigration is central to maintaining Alberta's population given increasingly low fertility rates. The research also pointed to the importance of intermunicipal collaboration and provincial-municipal partnerships to create welcoming and inclusive communities for newcomers and Albertans of all backgrounds. ABmunis hopes to reinvigorate our own Welcoming and Inclusive Communities initiative over the coming year to support municipalities in their efforts strengthen the social fabric of their communities.

Avoid downloading

Policing

Budget 2023 provides considerable increases to the budgets for Justice (10%) and Public Safety and Emergency Services (13%) with an aim of improving access to justice and the courts as well as additional law enforcement resources. Specific steps to address crime in small communities include support for the Rural Alberta Provincial Integrated Defense (RAPID) Response program and an additional \$12 million in funding for the Victims of Crime Assistance Program. There is \$8.7 million in additional funding for policing grants with the new Policing Support Grant (PSG) replacing the Municipal Policing Assistance Grant (MPAG) and the Police Officer Grant (POG). ABmunis is encouraged by the focus of improving public safety as opposed to the narrow focus of creating a new provincial police force.

Affordable Housing

Released in 2021, Alberta's affordable housing strategy maps out the changes needed to provide affordable housing for an additional 25,000 households over the next 10 years, an increase of more than 40 per cent. To meet this target the province aims to support the creation of 2,300 new affordable housing units and new low-income rental subsidies per year each of the next three years.

Budget 2023-24 allocated \$342.5 million for affordable housing, including rent supplements. Of the \$342.5 million, \$34.3 million is allocated to help grow the supply of affordable housing in priority areas through the Affordable Housing Partnership Program.

Libraries

Preliminary Analysis on Alberta's 2023 Budget

In 2023-24, \$33.4 million is budgeted for public library operating grants, an increase of \$2.9 million. Public library funding has been frozen at \$30.5 million annually since 2016. Many municipalities have been pressing the province for funding increases over the last few years. While this increase will be appreciated by municipalities, additional funding will be required to meet the needs of municipalities given the current regulatory hiring requirements (i.e. librarians) and the central and multifaceted role that libraries play in many communities. In addition, municipalities are looking forward to the province following up on consultations it conducted over the last several years on the *Libraries Act* and *Libraries Regulation*, as updates are required to ensure the legislative environment supports a thriving library system throughout the province.

Family and Community Support Services

Budget 2023 allocates \$105 million through Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) to communities and Metis Settlements to develop and deliver preventative social services programming, an increase of \$5 million from the 2022-23 forecast amount and \$15 million from the 2022 budget amount. Increased support for FCSS is an ABmunis priority and something we advocated for in our pre-budget submission to the province.

Mental Health and Addictions

The budget for mental health and addictions will rise to \$275 million, nearly \$75 million above the 2022-23 forecast. Spending on treatment and support for recovery-oriented systems will increase from \$84 million to \$132 million, comprising the bulk of the increase.

ABmunis supports the increase in accessible recovery spaces but notes that investment in harm reduction programs essentially remains flat at \$30.4 million, an increase of only \$410,000 despite the province's commitment to providing a comprehensive continuum of care including prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery supports.

Emergency Medical Services

The province plans to spend an additional \$196 million over three years for operating Emergency Medical Services (EMS) with the goal of improving ambulance response times. \$148 million of this funding increase will occur in 2023-24. Alberta Health Services intends to hire more staff and implement the recommendations made by the Alberta EMS Provincial Advisory Committee. Hiring more staff will present challenges given the shortage of paramedics in Alberta, so the province will need a sound strategy to recruit and train new paramedics, and to retain current paramedics.

Budget 2023 indicates that \$15 million over three years will be allotted for new EMS vehicles and to replace or upgrade related equipment.

Additional funding for EMS operations is an important component of improving the delivery of these services in Alberta. Current funding primarily focuses on ground ambulance services; air ambulance (i.e. helicopter and fixed wing plane) services are also a necessary component of first response services for Albertans living in rural and remote communities. The province needs to consider a broad spectrum of EMS supports and the impacts to communities when one type of support is defunded in favour of funding another.

Health Care Practitioner Attraction and Retention

Budget 2023 allocates \$158 million in 2023-24 to workforce planning with the aim of increasing the number of health care professionals in Alberta, by means which include:

- Expanding physician training, and
- Recruiting more internationally educated physicians and nurses.

Further, funding in Budget 2023 will be allocated for additional seats for physician training at Alberta's medical schools (through Advanced Education), and attraction of internationally educated nurses by addressing barriers they face, such as navigating complex regulatory requirements, assessment and licensing processes, and access to clinical placements.

Preliminary Analysis on Alberta's 2023 Budget

Under the new agreement with the Alberta Medical Association, signed last fall, more than \$250 million over four years, beginning in 2022-23, is to be targeted for recruitment and retention programs and specific funding for programs to support physicians, particularly family doctors in regional communities. Additionally, \$15 million annually will specifically be dedicated to the recruitment and retention of physicians who practice full-time in underserved areas, a \$12 million increase for the existing Rural Remote Northern Program.

It is encouraging that the province is acknowledging the urgent need to recruit and retain health care professionals, such as doctors and nurses, especially in rural and remote areas; however, Budget 2023 fails to identify funding for Nurse Practitioners, who are a valuable and immediately available pool of highly educated primary care providers that could enhance and modernize the health care system in Alberta, while at the same time providing primary health care for thousands of Albertans.

Grants in Place of Taxes

Budget 2023 includes an increase of \$6 million to the Grants in Place of Property Taxes (GIPOT) funding to reflect “rising property values and construction of new government infrastructure.” Despite the 20 percent increase from last year, GIPOT is still well below past funding levels of \$60 million before the province cut the program budget in 2019-20. This gap is exacerbated by the impact of inflation and the growth of provincial government infrastructure in the villages, towns and cities that act as regional service hubs. The gap in GIPOT funding also points to the need for the province to recognize the essential role that day-to-day municipal services play in supporting provincial buildings and services.

PLANNING FOR YOUR COMMUNITY'S FINANCIAL FUTURE

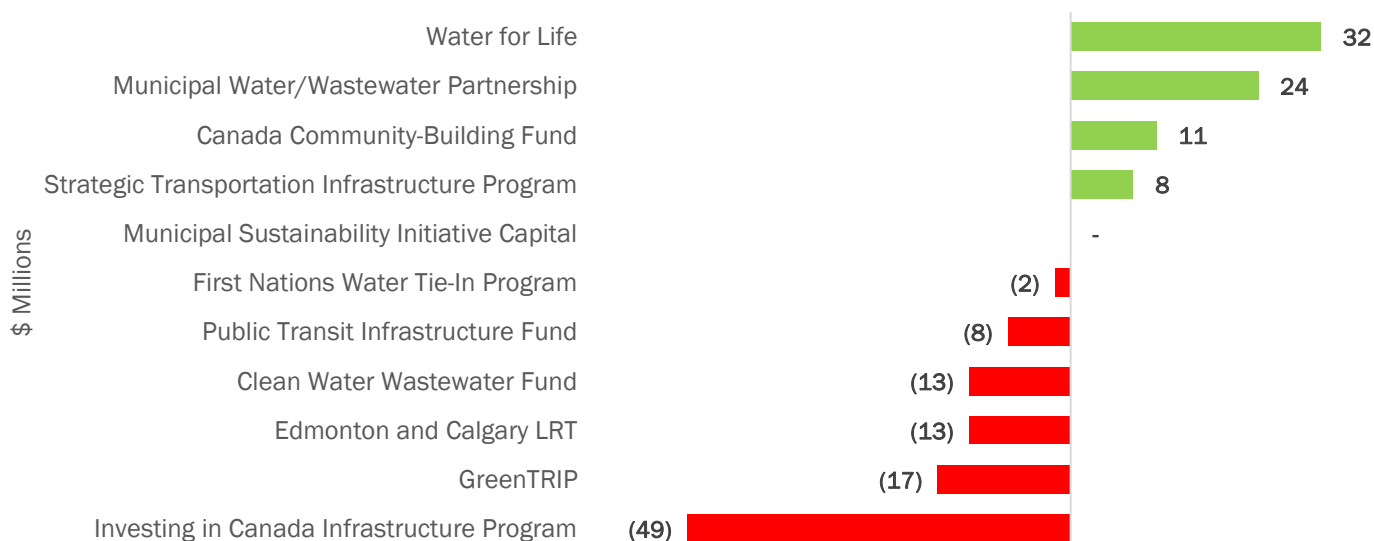
**HOW BUDGET 2023
SUPPORTS
MUNICIPAL
GOVERNMENTS**

How Budget 2023 Supports Municipalities

Core Capital Funding for Municipal Governments

\$ millions	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2023 vs. 2022
Provincial Capital Funding					
Municipal Sustainability Initiative – Capital	485	485	-	-	-
Local Government Fiscal Framework	-	-	722	813	-
Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership	62	86	63	62	24
Water for Life	37	69	50	50	32
Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program	35	43	25	25	8
Green Transit Incentives Program (GreenTRIP)	18	1	-	-	(17)
First Nations Water Tie-In Program	30	28	-	-	(2)
	667	712	860	950	45
Year-over-year change (%)		6.7%	20.8%	10.5%	
Federal Capital Funding Delivered by the Government of Alberta					
Canada Community-Building Fund (Gas Tax Fund)	255	266	266	266	11
Clean Water Wastewater Fund	13	-	-	-	(13)
Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program	152	103	23	12	(49)
Public Transit Infrastructure Fund	8	-	-	-	(8)
Edmonton and Calgary LRT (incl. provincial funds)	707	694	1,176	1,136	(13)
	1,135	1,064	1,465	1,414	(71)
Year-over-year change (%)		-6.3%	37.7%	-3.5%	
Total Provincial & Federal Capital Funding	1,802	1,776	2,325	2,364	(26)
		-1.4%	30.9%	1.7%	

Year-over-year change in municipal capital funding: Budget 2023 vs. Budget 2022



Preliminary Analysis on Alberta's 2023 Budget

Budget 2023 increases provincial capital funding for municipalities by 6.7 per cent over the 2022-23 fiscal year. This is primarily driven by re-profiling of unspent budget from 2022-23 plus new funding investments in the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership, Water for Life, and the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program.

In terms of federal capital funding, most municipalities will see an increase in their Canada Community-Building Fund allocation this year unless they receive the minimum amount. All other federal funding programs are fully committed or are now closed meaning no new dollars available for municipalities.

Provincial Capital Funding

Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership (AMWWP)

- AMWWP was forecasted to be \$17 million but is budgeted at \$86 million.
- The \$69 million increase over last year's forecast appears to be a combination of \$42 million in new funding plus \$27 million from the 2022 budget that is unspent and is being re-profiled for projects in the 2023-24 year.
- This benefits municipalities under 45,000 population.

Water for Life

- Water for Life was forecasted to be \$43 million but is budgeted at \$69 million.
- The \$26 million increase over last year's forecast appears to be a combination of \$11 million in new funding plus \$15 million from the 2022 budget that is unspent and is being re-profiled for projects in the 2023-24 year.
- This benefits municipalities under 45,000 population.

Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP)

- STIP funding was forecasted to be \$25 million but is budgeted at \$43 million.
- The \$18 million increase over last year's forecast appears to be a combination of \$8 million in new funding plus \$10 million from the 2022 budget that is unspent and is being re-profiled for projects in the 2023-24 year.
- This increase will primarily benefit municipal districts through the maintenance and replacement of bridges and resource roads.

GreenTRIP

- The 2023 budget represents the remaining amount to be spent from this program, which closed to applications in 2016.

First Nations Water Tie-In Program

- Zero amount of the 2022 budget was spent in 2022-23 so ABmunis assumes that the 2023 budget represents a re-profiling of the 2022 planned projects.

Federal Capital Funding Delivered by the Government of Alberta

Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF)

- The \$11 million increase in the 2023 Budget is due to the federal government's two per cent indexation of CCBF each year, which is delivered in \$100 million increments and allocated across all provinces and territories.

Clean Water Wastewater Fund (CWWF)

- CWWF was fully spent in 2022-23 and is now closed.

Investing in Canada Infrastructure Fund (ICIP)

- Alberta's ICIP funding is fully allocated so the change in budget is driven by the timing of expenditures for the approved projects.

Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (PTIF)

- PTIF was fully spent in 2022-23 and is now closed.

Edmonton and Calgary Light Rail Transit (LRT)

- The change in budget is based on project status and timing of expenditures related to this multi-year funding agreement between Canada and Alberta.
- Figures represent the provincial and federal contribution amounts.

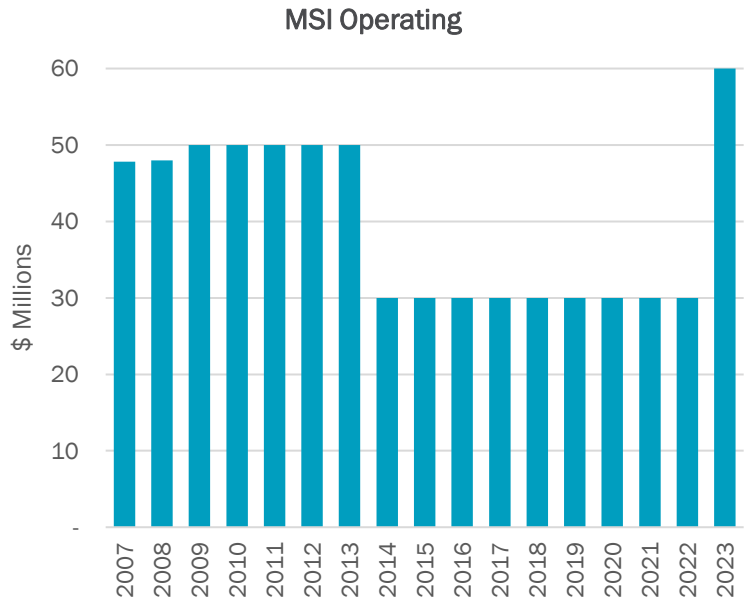
Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI): The Final Year

Doubling of MSI Operating

In response to municipal concerns about inflationary pressures and historical downloading onto municipalities, Budget 2023 announces that MSI Operating is doubled to \$60 million.

With the exception of Calgary and Edmonton, all other municipalities will benefit from this announcement. MSI Operating has been fixed at \$30 million annually since the 2014-15 fiscal year so the doubling of the program will be welcome news, particularly for small municipalities with limited fiscal capacity.

Municipalities can expect their 2023 allocation to be exactly twice the amount of their 2022 MSI Operating allocation.



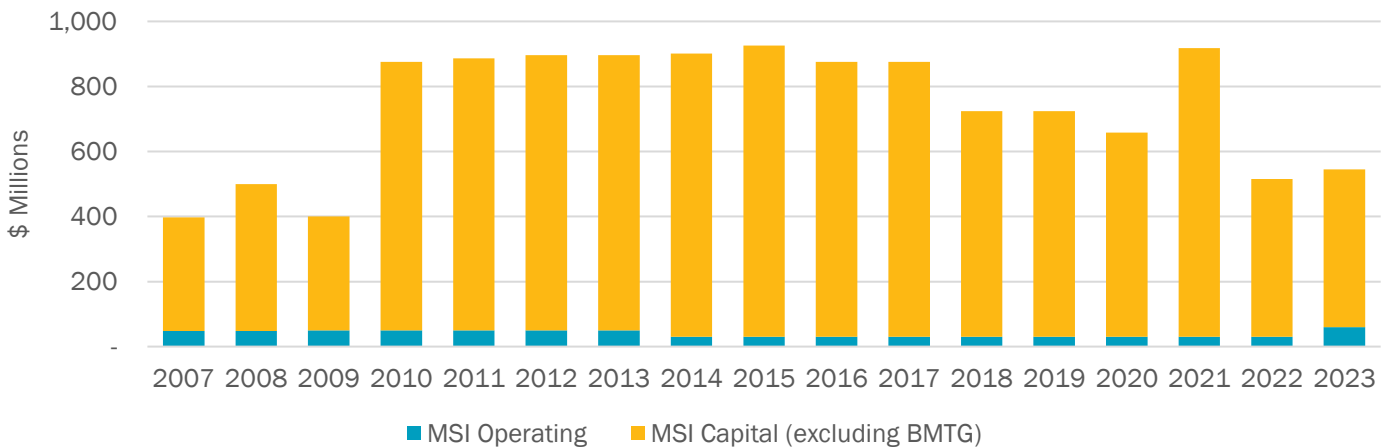
Plan for MSI Capital is Unchanged

Budget 2023 continues the three-year plan for the phase out of the MSI Capital program before it is replaced by LGFF Capital. The three-year plan involved front-loading of MSI Capital in 2021-22 resulting in reduced levels of \$485 million in 2022-23 and 2023-24. Municipalities will receive the same MSI Capital allocation as last year.

The End of the MSI Program

After 17 years, 2023 represents the final year of the MSI program. MSI was created in 2007 under the leadership of former Premier Ed Stelmach and has been continued by each government since. Between 2007 and 2023, MSI delivered a total of \$11.84 billion in capital funding that has allowed municipal governments and Métis settlements to build and maintain key community infrastructure such as roads, water lines, fire services, recreation facilities, and other local needs.¹ MSI also delivered a total of \$676 million in operating funding to support municipalities with day-to-day operations, which has been particularly impactful for small municipalities with limited property tax bases.

MSI Funding Over the Life of the Program (excluding BMTG)



¹ Figure excludes the Basic Municipal Transportation Grant, which was rolled into the MSI program in 2014, because it was not part of the original MSI funding commitment of \$11.3 billion.

Preliminary Analysis on Alberta's 2023 Budget

While MSI set a new standard for offering municipalities flexibility in spending priorities, municipalities also experienced challenges with the MSI program.

- The lower than promised levels of capital funding led to the program being extended from 10 years to 15 years before the original \$11.3 billion commitment was met in 2021.
- MSI Capital has trended downwards since 2015 despite Alberta's continued rise in cost inflation, population and infrastructure needs.
- Municipal leaders have been challenged to prepare accurate long-term financial plans due to the lack of assurance that future funding capital funding forecasts would be delivered by the province.

For these reasons, ABmunis looks forward to the introduction of the Local Government Fiscal Framework as it will offer municipalities greater predictability and an assurance that funding levels will follow Alberta's economic growth instead of political priorities of the day.

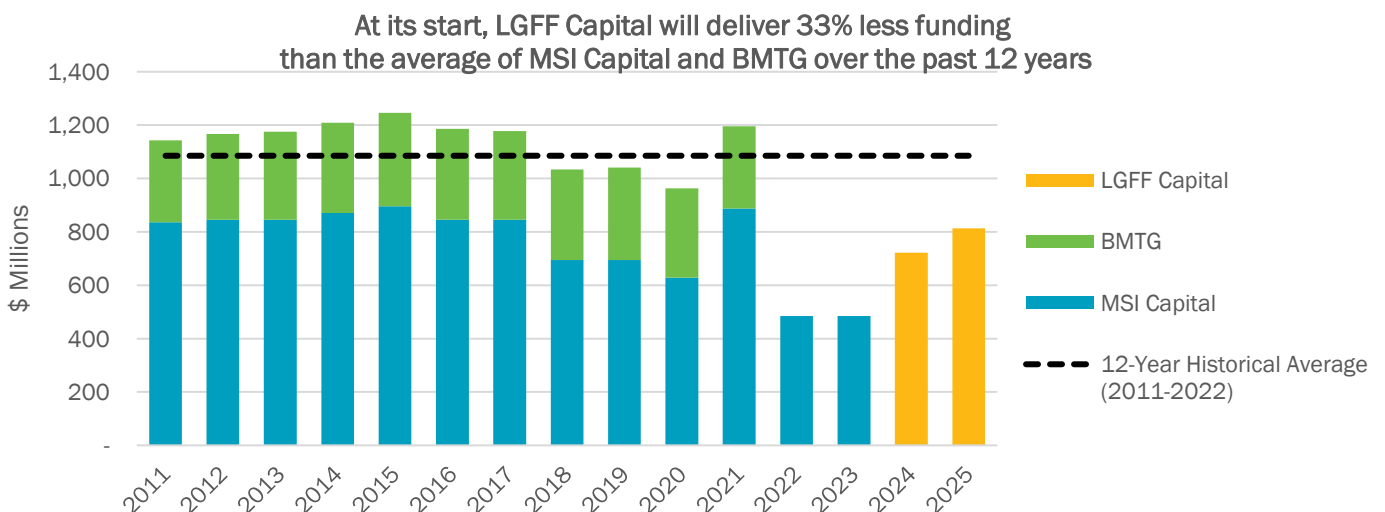
Local Government Fiscal Framework

Budget 2023 reaffirms the province's commitment to replace MSI and BMTG with the new LGFF Capital program in 2024-25. Recognizing that infrastructure funding is one of the most important issues to municipalities, ABmunis has been pushing for the province to make critical improvements to LGFF before the program starts.

Municipalities have called for...	Budget 2023 delivers...
1 The starting 2024 amount of LGFF Capital to be increased to reflect local infrastructure needs.	✗
2 The removal of the 50 per cent cap on the growth of the LGFF funding pot.	✓

New Infrastructure Funding Program Does Not Meet Funding Expectations

ABmunis is disappointed that Budget 2023 does not propose an increase in the starting amount of LGFF Capital. MSI Capital and BMTG have collectively averaged around \$1.1 billion per year over the last 12 years, while the replacement program, LGFF Capital, will start in 2024 at only \$722 million. This represents a 33 per cent reduction in investments in community infrastructure, meaning that without change to the funding level, Albertans will need to accept higher municipal property taxes or lower quality infrastructure over the years ahead.



Preliminary Analysis on Alberta's 2023 Budget

\$ millions	2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast
Capital Component						
MSI Capital (including BMTG)	963	1,196	485	485	-	-
LGFF Capital	-	-	-	-	722	813
Operating Component						
MSI Operating	30	30	30	60	-	-
LGFF Operating	-	-	-	-	60	60
Total	993	1,226	515	515	782	873
Year-over-year change		133	(611)	-	267	91

The 2023 Fiscal Plan forecasts that MSI Capital will end in 2023 and LGFF Capital will start in 2024 at \$722 million and then increase to \$813 million in 2025. The increase is based on LGFF's design where the funding pot will increase or decrease annually based on changes in the Government of Alberta's actual revenues from three years prior. Therefore, the increase in the 2025 LGFF Capital will be calculated based on the change in the Government of Alberta's revenue from 2021-22 to the 2022-23 fiscal year. The 2025 amount for LGFF Capital will be confirmed once the province closes its books for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Province Acts on Call for LGFF Capital to Match Changes in Provincial Revenue

When the *Local Government Fiscal Framework Act* was passed in 2019, ABmunis and our members expressed concern that the 50 per cent limitation on the revenue index factor calculation would mean that the funding would not keep pace with inflation and Alberta's economy. ABmunis is pleased to see the province's commitment to amend the legislation so that the LGFF funding pot will increase or decrease at the same rate as provincial revenues on an annual basis. While this will mean more fluctuation in year-to-year funding amounts for municipalities, this approach ensures that funding for community infrastructure is not left behind from the growth in Alberta's economy and provincial government revenue over the long term. This has been a problem of the MSI program, which is why ABmunis advocated for this approach under LGFF.

LGFF Capital Allocation Formula

The Government of Alberta continues to review options for the design of the LGFF Capital allocation formula for the non-charter municipalities. Recommendations on the allocation formula put forth by ABmunis and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta would potentially lead to a decrease in funding for some municipalities compared to past funding levels. Budget 2023 makes a commitment that the province will provide one-time top-up funding to ensure that no municipality will receive a year-over-year decrease in funding as part of the shift from MSI to LGFF Capital.

LGFF Operating

Budget 2023 reaffirms that MSI Operating will be replaced with an LGFF Operating program starting in 2024. The province has increased MSI Operating funding to \$60 million and ABmunis is pleased that this funding level is forecasted to continue under the LGFF Operating program in 2024 and 2025. Once the allocation formula for LGFF Capital is finalized, ABmunis expects to engage with Municipal Affairs about the design for the LGFF Operating allocation formula.

Core Operating Funding for Municipal Governments

\$ millions	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	% Change	Note
Alberta Community Partnership	25.4	15.4	15.4	-	
Emergency Management Preparedness Program	0.2	0.2	0.2	-	
Family and Community Support Services	100.0	100.0	115.0	15%	1
Fire Services Training Program	-	-	0.5	Reinstated	2
Grants in Place of Taxes	30.0	30.0	36.0	20%	3
Low Income Transit Pass Grants	9.0	9.0	16.0	78%	4
Policing Support Grant (formerly MPAG & POG)	89.2	89.2	98.8	11%	5
Municipal Sustainability Initiative – Operating	30.0	30.0	60.0	100%	6
	283.8	273.8	341.9		

Notes on Core Operating Funding for Municipalities

1. The \$15 million increase in Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) represents \$10 million for Food Banks and \$5 million in additional support for FCSS programs. ABmunis supports this increase after the program's funding has been fixed since 2015 despite inflationary pressures.
2. In 2020-21, the Government of Alberta discontinued the \$500,000 Fire Services Training Program. Fortunately, after advocacy by ABmunis and other municipal stakeholders, the province [reinstated the program](#) in late 2022.
3. The Grants in Place of Property Taxes (GIPOT) funding is increased by 20 per cent to reflect “rising property values and construction of new government infrastructure.” Despite the increase, GIPOT is still well below past funding levels of \$60 million before the province cut the program budget in 2019-20. ABmunis continues to advocate that the province should cover the full cost of municipal services to provincial buildings just like any other property owner.
4. Calgary and Edmonton will continue to receive \$4.5 million each under the Low-Income Transit Pass program. The \$7 million increase in the program budget represents a temporary increase to begin pilot projects with ten municipalities in other regions of the province.
5. The Municipal Policing Assistance Grant and Police Officer Grant have been amalgamated under a new name of Policing Support Grant and the budget has increased by 11 per cent. This budget increase will be welcomed by municipalities over 5,000 population as policing grants have been unchanged for many years.
6. The 100 per cent increase in MSI Operating is designed to support municipal governments to address inflationary pressures and compensate for past decisions that have impacted municipalities.

Provincial Education Property Tax

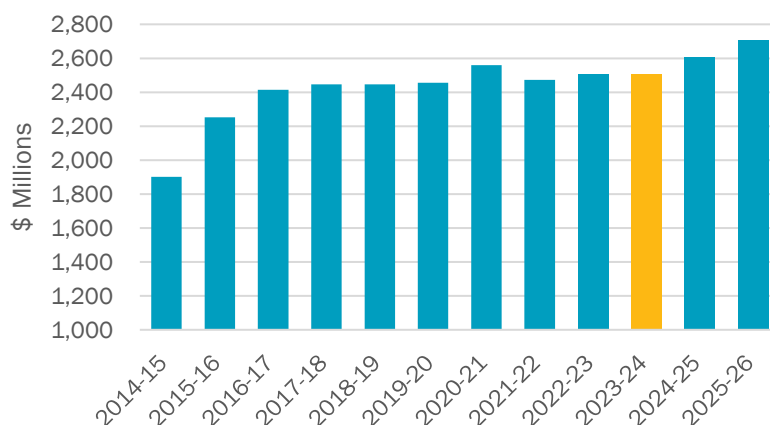
Over the last decade, the Government of Alberta has frequently changed its approach to how it determines the amount of provincial education property taxes to be collected from Alberta's property owners.

- ↓ **2015-16** – Set at 32 per cent of Alberta Education's budgeted operating expense
- ↓ **2016-17** – Set at 32 per cent of Alberta Education's budgeted operating expense
- ↓ **2017-18** – Maintained the 2016-17 mill rates resulting in a 1.3% increase in the tax revenue amount
- ↓ **2018-19** – Frozen at the 2016-17 tax revenue amount
- ↓ **2019-20** – Maintained the 2018-19 mill rates resulting in a 0.5% increase in the tax revenue amount
- ↓ **2020-21** – Planned to link to changes in population plus inflation but abandoned due to the pandemic
- ↓ **2021-22** – Frozen at the 2020-21 tax revenue amount
- ↓ **2022-23** – Linked to percentage change in Alberta Education's budgeted operating expense
- ↓ **2023-24** – Frozen at the 2022-23 tax revenue amount
- ↓ **2024-25** – Forecast to return using population plus inflation to determine the total tax revenue amount

Prior to the release of Budget 2023, ABmunis met with provincial ministers and advocated for the 2023 provincial education tax to be frozen at the 2022 amount. This request was based on understanding the affordability challenges that Albertans currently face as well as the fact that municipal councils consistently bear the blame for any increase in provincial education property taxes.

ABmunis is pleased to see that the Government of Alberta agreed with our recommendation and froze the 2023 provincial education property tax amount at the 2022-23 level.

Provincial Education Property Tax
(budgeted figures)



\$ millions	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast
Provincial education property tax	2,478	2,504	2,504	2,604	2,703
Year-over-year change (%)		1.0%	0.0%	4.0%	3.8%
K-12 education operating expense	7,846	8,390	8,836	9,036	9,162
Year-over-year change (%)		6.9%	5.3%	2.3%	1.4%

Despite this year's freeze in education property taxes, Budget 2023 announces that the Government of Alberta plans to return to linking future education tax increases to changes in Alberta's population plus inflation. The budget forecast suggests that property owners could collectively face a 4.0 per cent increase in education property taxes in 2024 and an additional 3.8 per cent increase in 2025.

Notable Funding to Community Entities

\$ millions	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	% Change	Note
Agricultural Service Boards	8.5	8.9	11.9	34%	
Agricultural Societies and Exhibition Grants	11.5	11.5	11.5	-	
Agricultural Societies Infrastructure Revitalization	-	-	3.0	New	1
Community Facility Enhancement Program	18.5	38.5	50.0	30%	2
Community Initiatives Program	37.1	20.7	20.0	-3%	
Ground Search and Rescue Training Grant	0.2	0.2	0.2	-	
Library Services – Operating	37.0	37.0	39.7	7%	
Legal Aid	94.3	94.3	134.6	43%	3
Northern and Regional Economic Development	-	2.0	3.0	50%	4
Regional Economic Development Alliances	0.5	0.5	1.1	120%	5
	207.6	213.6	275.0		

Notes on Funding for Community Entities

1. The Agricultural Societies Infrastructure Revitalization program represents new funding for major repairs, renovations, and energy upgrades at trade and exhibition centres, fairgrounds, and multi/agri-plexes.
2. The budget increase for the Community Facility Enhancement Program is part of a three-year plan to deliver \$50 million annually to support non-profits to build and maintain community facilities.
3. The increase in Legal Aid funding represents a \$24 million increase over estimated expense in 2022-23 and is intended to “maintain high quality legal counsel and provide all Albertans with access to the services they need”.
4. The Northern and Regional Economic Development program will deliver \$9 million over the next three years to support municipalities, Indigenous communities, and non-profit organizations across Alberta. As part of our enquiries, ABmunis learned that the former Community and Regional Economic Support (CARES) program has been replaced by NRED after CARES was zero-funded and subject to review in the 2019-20 year.
5. On December 14, 2022, [the Government of Alberta announced](#) that funding for the nine Regional Economic Development Alliances (REDA) was being increased to \$125,000 for each REDA. This decision re-establishes funding to levels seen before the province reduced REDA funding to \$50,000 per organization in 2019.

GOOD TO KNOW

AN OVERVIEW OF ALBERTA'S 2023 FISCAL PLAN

An Overview of the 2023 Fiscal Plan

The Government of Alberta is projecting a \$2.4 billion surplus in 2023-24, following an estimated \$10.4 billion surplus in 2022-23. Total revenue for 2023-24 is forecasted to be \$70.6 billion, a 7 percent decrease from the prior year. The Government of Alberta is expecting to achieve year-over-year increases in personal tax income (2%), other tax revenue (15%), investment income (205%), premiums/fees/licenses (5%), other own-source revenues (4%), and federal transfers (7%). These increases will help to offset reductions in corporate income tax (-8%) and resource revenue (-33%). The declines in corporate tax income and resource revenue can be attributed to cooling commodity prices – last year's financial figures were the result of the geopolitical tensions which drove unexpectedly high oil and natural gas prices. It is also worth noting that only three years ago, resource revenue was \$3.1 billion compared to this year's budget of \$18.3 billion, which highlights how important resource revenue continues to be within the provincial budget.

Total expenditures are forecasted to be \$68.3 billion, a 4 per cent increase from the prior year. The Government of Alberta is projecting to spend more on health (9%), education (4%), and social services (19%). Debt-servicing costs will rise by 5 per cent due to higher interest rates. The increase in health spending can be partly attributed to \$559 million in additional transfers from the Government of Canada, via the Canada Health Transfer (CHT). Increases to education expenditures can be attributed to programs focusing on K-12, including increased staffing and classroom supports. And increases in social service expenditures can be attributed to additional funds being allocated for mental health supports, disability services, social housing, and seniors.

Beyond 2023-24, the Government of Alberta projects nominal increases (~2%) in total revenue and total expenditures along with declining surpluses year after year.

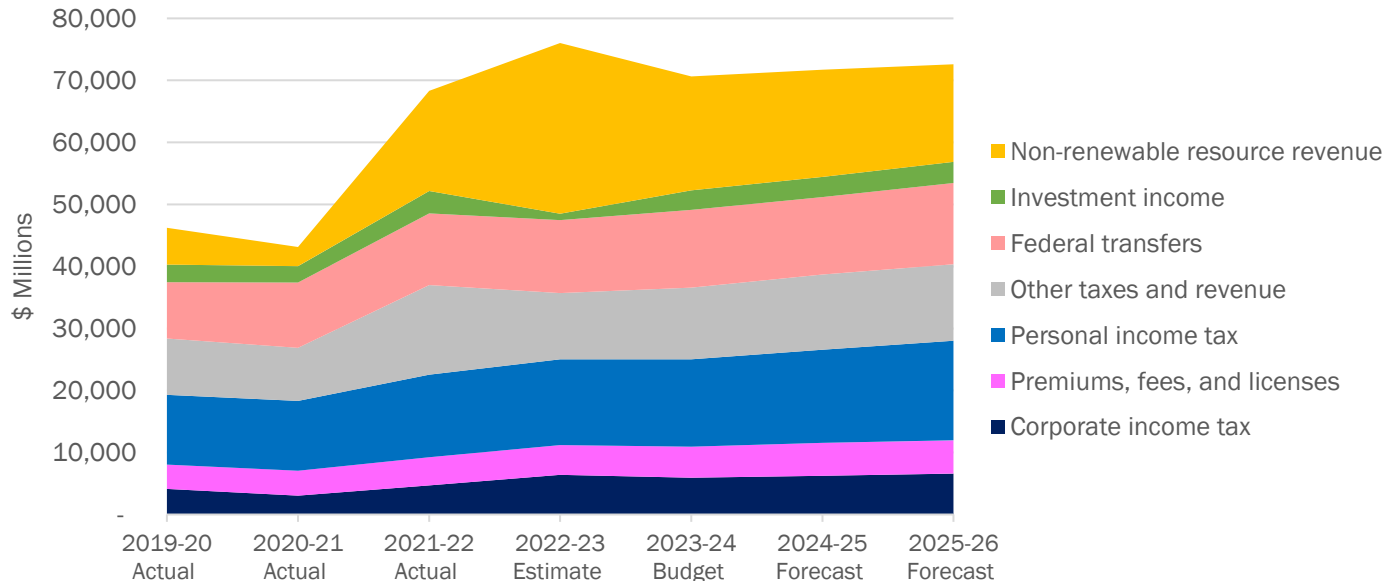
Statement of Operations

\$ millions	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Estimate	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast
Revenue					
Personal income tax	13,335	13,806	14,069	15,034	16,071
Corporate income tax	4,718	6,413	5,911	6,254	6,590
Other tax revenue	5,453	4,361	5,012	5,767	5,948
Resource revenue	16,170	27,544	18,361	17,284	15,742
Investment income	3,579	1,035	3,154	3,273	3,407
Premiums, fees, and licenses	4,520	4,796	5,040	5,289	5,360
Other own-source revenues	8,952	6,305	6,554	6,348	6,377
Federal transfers	11,595	11,765	12,552	12,475	13,113
Total revenue	68,322	76,025	70,653	71,724	72,608
Expenditures					
Health	25,131	24,421	26,681	27,733	28,199
Basic/Advanced education	14,296	15,360	16,033	16,335	16,601
Social services	5,989	6,961	8,259	8,059	8,443
Other program expenses	16,686	16,289	14,783	15,091	15,240
Total program expense	62,102	63,031	65,756	67,218	68,483
Debt servicing costs	2,641	2,715	2,848	2,805	3,103
Pension provisions	(365)	(111)	(322)	(336)	(347)
Total expense	64,378	65,635	68,282	69,687	71,239
Surplus / (Deficit)	3,944	10,390	2,371	2,037	1,369

Source: Alberta's 2023-26 Fiscal Plan, Schedule 25: Historical Fiscal Summary, 2008-09 to 2025-26, page 164.

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Despite a 33% reduction in resource revenue compared to the 2022-23 estimate, resource revenue continues to be Alberta's largest revenue source representing 26% of Alberta's total 2023 budgeted revenues

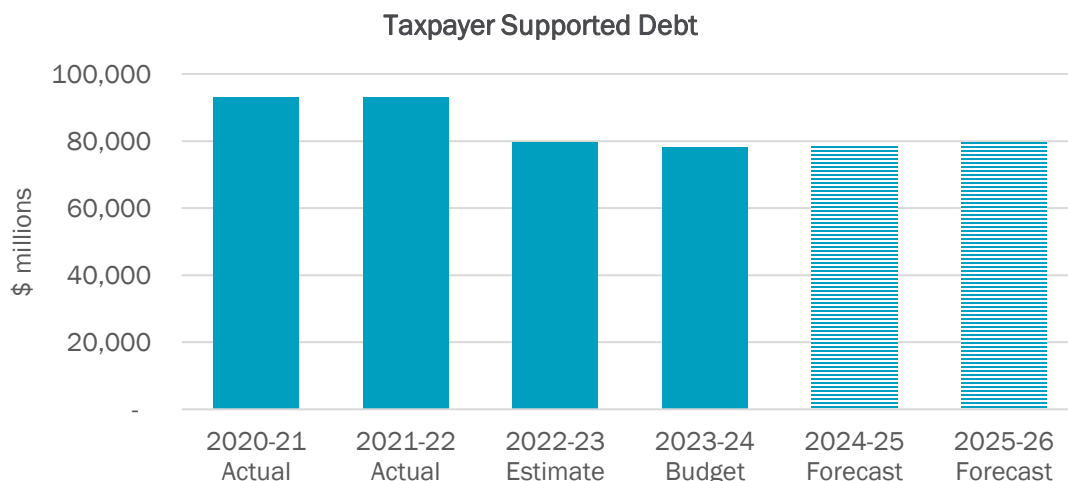


Taxpayer Supported Debt

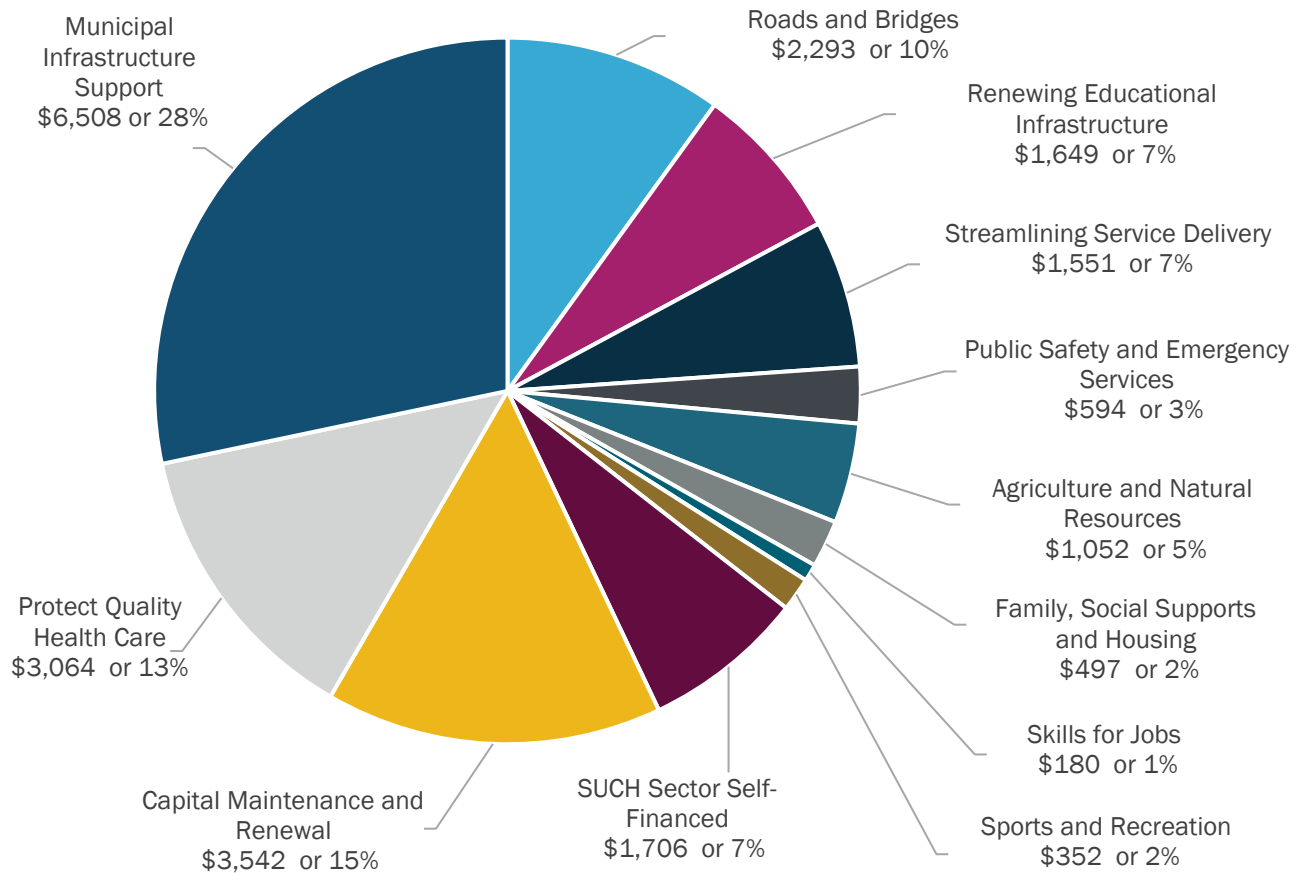
Total taxpayer supported debt is estimated to be \$79.7 billion at the end of 2022-23, and \$78.3 billion at the end of 2023-24.

Reducing and eventually eliminating the province's debt requires the budget to be in a surplus position. Since debt is also used to finance capital spending, the government will need to continue to produce surpluses while prudently managing capital budgets. In 2022-23, \$13.4 billion of maturing debt was repaid using surplus cash, and \$1.4 billion is expected to be repaid in 2023-24.

Over the next three years, the government is projecting to borrow \$27.8 billion in long-term debt, to refinance maturing debt, in order to manage debt servicing costs and its liquidity.



Budget 2023 – Capital Plan by Category



Key Energy and Economic Assumptions

\$ millions	2022-23 Estimate	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast
Crude Oil Prices				
WTI (US\$/bbl)	90.50	79.00	76.00	73.50
Light-Heavy Differential (US\$/bbl)	20.00	19.50	16.80	16.40
WCS @ Hardisty (Cdn\$/bbl)	92.60	78.00	75.90	72.10
Natural Gas Price				
Alberta Reference Price (Cdn\$/GJ)	5.10	4.10	3.60	3.80
Production				
Conventional Crude Oil (000s barrels/day)	497	497	497	490
Raw Bitumen (000s barrels/day)	3,281	3,345	3,436	3,529
Interest Rates				
10-year Canada Bonds (%)	3.10	3.60	3.40	3.40
Exchange Rate (US\$/Cdn\$)				
	75.7	76.2	78.2	79.5

Source: Alberta's 2023-26 Fiscal Plan, Energy and Economic Assumptions, page 11.

Ministry Highlights

Advanced Education

The ministry's budget will increase by \$188 million to \$6.3 billion in 2023-24. Notable initiatives include investing \$2 billion in operational funding for post-secondary institutions through the Operating and Program Support Grant and investing \$71.9 million in training in health care professions (particularly in regional communities). ABmunis knows that many of our members struggle to attract and retain healthcare professionals, and it will be monitoring this initiative to see how it impacts communities.

Based on our [active resolution](#) regarding the need for more veterinarians, ABmunis is pleased to see \$21 million allocated in 2023-24, with an additional \$27 million in 2024-25, for veterinary medicine expansion at the University of Calgary.

Affordability and Utilities

ABmunis has an [active resolution](#) regarding the disparity in distribution and transmission rates in Alberta. Budget 2023 has \$47.6 million budgeted for the Electricity Rebate Program, which provides targeted relief to homes, farms and small businesses. The ministry is also mandated to operate a safe, reliable, and affordable utilities system. As our members have pointed out, the disparity in transmission and distribution rates throughout the province leads to economic disadvantages between regions. ABmunis will continue to advocate to the province for regulatory reform to address this inequity.

Agriculture and Irrigation

The ministry budgets \$890 million for 2023-24, increasing to \$909 million in 2024-25 and \$920 million in 2025-26. New spending highlights focus on:

- using water more effectively, including \$25.8 million for water management infrastructure for continued supply of safe and secure water for municipalities and irrigated agriculture,
- \$33.5 million for modernizing irrigation infrastructure and increased water storage capacity, and
- \$13.5 million for the Irrigation Rehabilitation Program to improve water-use efficiency to allow more acres to be irrigated within existing water licences.

ABmunis advocates for sustainable water infrastructure funding and conservation efforts to maximize the use of our scarce water resources.

Children's Services

The province continues to focus on reducing childcare fees through implementation of the five-year Canada-Alberta Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement signed in November 2021. The ministry's budget increases by over \$250 million for the 2022-23 forecasted spend, almost exclusively to support Child Care Affordability and Access through the Agreement.

Culture

The ministry's budget increases in 2023-24 to \$307 million before decreasing to \$257 million in 2024-2025 and \$221 million in 2025-26. The ministry is focused on promoting our creative and cultural industries through \$4 million in additional funding available to eligible Alberta-made film productions. \$50.7 million is allocated to stewardship and operations of Alberta's heritage resources, such as the Royal Alberta Museum and the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology.

Notable efforts to expand participation in physical activity include \$8.5 million in operating grants for provincial sport, recreation, and physical activity organizations. To increase affordable access to sport, physical activity and recreation for kids and families, Culture budgets \$8 million in the Everybody Gets to Play program. Culture also

Preliminary Analysis on Alberta's 2023 Budget

budgets \$1 million for expanded support for rural sexual assault survivors and survivors of gender-based violence and increasing women's participation in Alberta's economy, including continued assistance for women pursuing careers in fields where they are underrepresented.

Education

Budget 2023 provides \$372 million for the design and construction of new and modernized schools. Funding has specifically been allotted for the planning and design of 14 potential future schools. These planning and design funds will be used for schools that will be located in communities across the province, including Stettler, Okotoks, High Prairie, Coalhurst, Edmonton and Calgary. Planning projects can include modernizations as well as new and replacement schools. These future projects will address larger than anticipated enrolment growth, particularly in metropolitan areas, preserve and modernize existing facilities and consolidate underutilized space, thereby reducing maintenance costs.

Capital funding included in the Budget will be used for the design of a new school in Glenridding Heights in Edmonton and construction of a replacement school in Valleyview. Other communities that will be supported by this funding include Taber, Airdrie, Lethbridge, Red Earth Creek, Breton, and Calgary.

Energy

Alberta Energy's key objectives include supporting the competitiveness of the energy sector by sustainably growing and protecting its energy resource sector, while enabling and accelerating opportunities in emerging resources. It also focuses on enhancing Alberta's investment climate through measures that improve the province's standing with investors. Funds collected from industry under the Orphan Fund Levy, which funds the Orphan Well Association, have an allocation of \$135 million in 2023-24.

Environment and Protected Areas

The ministry's budget significantly increases by \$106 million to \$553 million in 2023-24 before decreasing in subsequent years to \$499 million in 2024-25 and \$357 million in 2025-26. ABmunis advocates for better coordination at the provincial level for proactive air, water, land-use and biodiversity management, and there is a focus on completing high-level regional plans to better manage growth in these areas. \$15.5 million is allocated for land-use planning and stewardship tools. \$11 million for strategic partnerships in the shared stewardship of air, water, land, and biodiversity. \$22.4 million is allocated to conservation programs, including \$10 million from the Land Stewardship Fund. Finally, \$35.9 million is allocated for caribou recovery planning.

Climate adaptation is supported with \$65.4 million to effectively anticipate, respond to and mitigate the impact of environmental conditions and events, including floods, droughts and invasive species. Flood mitigation supports were also budgeted for Drumheller, Fort Macleod, High River and Calgary.

In keeping with the Budget's aim to increase recreational opportunities, \$49 million is allocated to the provincial fish stocking program in 2023-24 to improve angling opportunities.

ABmunis appreciates the ongoing partnership of the Government of Alberta through the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC).

Executive Council

Executive Council's budget will increase by 14% in 2023-24 to \$35 million. Notable objectives include leading the planning of official visits by foreign dignitaries to develop new markets in Alberta and collaborating with jurisdictions to reduce red tape and barriers to internal trade. This includes reviewing Alberta's exceptions under its trade agreements to reduce red tape and working with other governments to reconcile existing regulatory measures that act as a barrier to trade.

Forestry, Parks and Tourism

The ministry's budget modestly increases in 2023-2024 to \$435 million (+2%) with slight decreases to \$415 million in 2024-25 and \$408 million in 2025-26. Some new spending highlights include \$4 million for wildfire innovation plus \$71.9 million of stable funding for Travel Alberta and \$2.7 million to support softwood lumber litigation and negotiation.

Health

Budget 2023 is intended to support the province's Healthcare Action Plan (HAP) and provides \$24.5 billion in funding for health operating expenses in 2023-24, an increase of 4.1 per cent or \$965 million from 2022-23. Operating expense funding will further increase by 3.7 per cent in 2024-25 and 2.4 per cent in 2025-26. Two of the primary objectives of the HAP are to strengthen the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system and reduce surgical and emergency department wait times.

The new agreement between the province and the Alberta Medical Association (AMA), signed last fall, is supported by funding included in Budget 2023. \$6.2 billion is budgeted in 2023-24, increasing to over \$6.4 billion by 2025-26, for physician compensation and development programs which includes grants to post-secondary institutions for academic medicine programs. As per the AMA agreement, \$40 million over two years in lump sum payments will be made to Primary Care Networks.

Budget 2023 also includes nearly \$4.3 billion in combined operating support for Community Care, Continuing Care and Home Care programs, an increase of 15.3 per cent or \$570 million from 2022-23. The province plans to spend a total of \$1 billion over three years to begin transforming the continuing care system in response to the Facility-Based Continuing Care Review. The province's plan is to shift care to the community, enhance workforce capacity, increase choice and innovation, and improve the quality of care within the continuing care sector.

Alberta Health Services' (AHS) operating budget will increase to over \$16.7 billion in 2023-24, a 3.8 per cent or \$608 million increase from 2022-23.

AHS is expected to add nearly 3,600 new full-time equivalent positions in 2023-24. These staffing resources are intended to strengthen the EMS system, support key priorities such as the Alberta Surgical Initiative, the Continuing Care Capacity Plan and the CT and MRI Action Plan, as well as help address the health care deficit as health system activity returns to pre-pandemic levels.

See the detailed table below outlining the allocation of Alberta Health's 2023-24 \$24.5 billion operating budget.

Additionally, Alberta Health plans to expand and modernize hospitals and other facilities to enable the delivery of quality health care, grow system capacity and support front-line health care workers. Budget 2023 provides \$4.2 billion over three years for health-care-related infrastructure (with \$1.27 billion of that total amount allocated in 2023-24), including:

- \$105 million over three years for the Rural Health Facilities Revitalization Program, with \$75 million in additional funding to support new capital projects in regional Alberta; and
- \$310 million over three years in capital funding for continuing care facilities, providing culturally appropriate care for Indigenous peoples, and adding new spaces in priority communities having greatest need.

Preliminary Analysis on Alberta's 2023 Budget

Ministry of Health – Operating Expenses

\$ millions	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
	Actual	Estimate	Budget	Forecast	Forecast
Ministry Support Services	65	65	67	67	67
Physician Compensation and Development	5,351	5,857	6,052	6,283	6,273
Acute Care	3,881	3,984	4,318	4,497	4,614
Diagnostic, Therapeutic & Patient Services	2,457	2,474	2,717	2,793	2,892
Drugs and Supplemental Health Benefits	2,033	1,923	2,027	2,116	2,222
Community Care	1,719	1,701	2,002	2,119	2,180
Continuing Care	1,238	1,273	1,393	1,425	1,476
Home Care	750	744	893	974	1,061
Population and Public Health	567	589	733	756	784
Emergency Medical Services	588	585	723	770	781
Support Services	1,992	2,116	2,228	2,252	2,305
Information Technology	672	690	733	724	707
Administration	486	463	530	549	561
Research and Education	106	107	108	109	108
Cancer Research and Prevention Investment	11	11	10	10	10
COVID-19 / Recovery Plan	10	983	-	-	-
Total Operating Expense	21,927	23,568	24,533	25,443	26,041

Indigenous Relations

The total 2023-24 budget for Indigenous Relations is \$230 million, although numerous other ministries have additional funding allotted to programs and initiatives for Indigenous peoples and communities.

Indigenous Relations works to advocate and create capacity building opportunities for the key services needed in Indigenous communities. The ministry's work in this area involves leading the facilitation of cross-government collaboration with municipalities, water commissions, and industry in order to respond to, and engage in, federal Indigenous legislation and initiatives. These initiatives address access to safe and clean drinking water; child and family services; the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program; and disaster response and recovery.

Infrastructure

Alberta Infrastructure will be making a number of key investments in municipalities. These include \$51.6 million for the construction of the Red Deer Justice Centre, \$11.3 million for Canmore Nordic Centre infrastructure upgrades and \$375.5 million for capital maintenance on existing infrastructure with a focus on shovel-ready projects that will deliver immediate impacts to the economy. Alberta Infrastructure continues to partner with the federal government on the delivery of the Investing in Canadian Infrastructure Program (ICIP). While most ICIP funds are allocated, the delivery of some of the projects continue to be delayed.

Jobs, Economy and Northern Development

The newly constituted ministry sees a decrease in its budget, largely due to the winding down of COVID-19 support and retraining programs.

The Budget contains \$125,000 in funding for each of the nine Regional Economic Development Associations (REDAs) to support long-term economic prosperity in their respective regions. ABmunis has been advocating for the province to restore funding and this increased and enhanced support is welcome.

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The Northern and Regional Economic Development (NRED) program was introduced in 2022-2023 as a replacement for the Community and Regional Economic Support (CARES) program. The NRED will receive a \$1 million increase to \$3 million to support ABmunis, Indigenous communities and non-profit organizations across the province with projects that promote regional economic growth and diversification.

The Budget also sets aside \$100 million over three years in increased funding for the Film and Television Tax Credit, which will bring total funding for program to \$125 million, with a forecasted return of \$4.20 for every dollar invested.

Justice

Funding for the Ministry of Justice increases from a forecasted \$588 million in 2022-23 to an estimated \$649 million in 2023-24, with the bulk of the increase going to support the Legal Services Division and strategy development, as well as integrated initiatives to enhance online services and improve access to justice.

Alberta Justice is working with the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services to “review the delivery of policing services in the province, including further examination of an Alberta Police Service, to identify opportunities to increase frontline personnel in communities and better address the root causes of crime”.

Mental Health and Addiction

The budget for mental health and addictions, incorporated as a standalone ministry in October 2022, will rise to \$275 million, nearly \$75 million above the 2022-23 forecast. Spending on treatment and support for recovery-oriented systems will increase from \$84 million to \$132 million, comprising the bulk of the increase. \$14 million is being invested annually to expand access to mental health supports for children and youth in schools.

The investment in harm reduction programs essentially remains flat at \$30.4 million, as it was increased by only \$410,000. This spending is in addition to \$99.4 million in capital expenditure from 2021-2024 to establish Recovery Communities in Gunn, Red Deer, Lethbridge and Blood Tribe First Nation.

Municipal Affairs

Municipal Affairs total budget for 2023-24 is \$1.01 billion. This total represents a \$46 million increase over the ministry's 2022-23 budget.

Alberta's education property tax will remain at approximately \$2.5 billion in 2023-24, the same amount as for 2022-23. Given the growth in 2023 equalized assessment, this results in reduced provincial uniform tax rates returning to rates from 2021-22. Each municipality's share of the provincial education tax requisition is determined by applying the provincial uniform tax rates to the municipality's 2023 equalized assessment. The 2023 uniform tax rates are \$2.56 per \$1,000 of equalized assessment for residential and farmland property and \$3.76 per \$1,000 of equalized assessment for non-residential property.

Budget 2023 increases the funding for the Grants in Place of Taxes program (GIPOT) which provides financial support to municipalities for provincial properties that are exempt from municipal taxes. The funding allocation for this program in 2023-24 is \$36 million, up from about \$30 million in 2022-23. The Ministry plans to further increase this amount to \$40 million in 2025-26.

In 2023-24, \$600,000 will be allotted to supporting municipal Assessment Review Boards with composite hearings (i.e. they include both municipal and provincial board members). This funding will be used to provide the provincial members for board hearings. Budget 2023 also includes an increase of \$800,000 in funding to the Land and Property Rights Tribunal, which will be used to expand capacity and potentially reduce the current delays within the hearing process.

Given the significance to municipalities of the strategies and initiatives delivered by Municipal Affairs, a few highlights from the ministry's 2023-26 Business Plan are included in this report.

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- Municipal Affairs plans to evaluate the feasibility of changes to the education property tax or other aspects of the overall framework of provincial financial supports to better assist municipalities with funding local priorities.
- The ministry is developing a program to measure the compliance by municipalities with the legislated five-to-one tax ratio between non-residential and residential property tax rates. Their perspective is that a competitive tax ratio is critical to ensuring economic growth for municipalities and stimulus for non-residential properties used by industry.
- Municipal Affairs supports enhancing municipal service delivery through regional cooperation and Growth Management Boards, and, as such, will review the structure and effectiveness of the Calgary and Edmonton Metropolitan Region Boards and the legislative provisions with respect to Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICF's). It is notable that there does not appear to be any extra funding in Budget 2023 to support regional collaboration.
- The ministry reported that 95 per cent of municipalities met or exceeded the minimum performance targets for financial and governance risk indicators in 2021-22 (which reflects the 2020 reporting year). This measure shows that most municipalities in Alberta were not facing potential long-term viability challenges at that time.

Public Safety and Emergency Services

Public Safety and Emergency Services is a new ministry formed by Premier Smith in 2022. This ministry is comprised of Correctional Services, Public Security, Financial Services, Strategy Support and Integrated Initiatives — and of note for municipalities, the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA). The AEMA was previously part of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

Public Safety and Emergency Services is responsible for provincial policing contracts with the RCMP. The ministry is engaged in ongoing work to tackle rural crime through initiatives such as the Rural Alberta Provincial Integrated Defense (RAPID) Response. Key investments include \$12 million for the Victims of Crime Assistance Program, and \$1.29 million for the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre's disaster response and coordination activities. The Policing Support Grant (PSG) will be replacing the Municipal Policing Assistance Grant (MPAG) and the Police Officer Grant (POG). Municipalities that are eligible include communities with a population greater than 5,000 that provide their own police service, and that were eligible for the MPAG and POG. Municipalities do not need to apply for this funding but do need to report on how the grant funds were spent. This grant increases the previous grant totals by \$8.7 million.

Seniors, Community and Social Services

In Budget 2023, \$105 million is allocated through Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) to communities and Métis Settlements to develop and deliver preventative social services programming, an increase of \$5 million from the 2022-23 forecast amount.

There is significant operation expenditure on housing, with \$342.5 million allocated for affordable housing, including rent supplements. Of the \$342.5 million, \$34.3 million is allocated to help grow the supply of affordable housing in priority areas through the Affordable Housing Partnership Program.

\$83.5 million is allocated to homeless shelters and \$101.6 million to provide safe housing and supports to those experiencing homelessness. Enhanced funding to deal with homelessness is something ABmunis has long advocated for.

The Budget also contains \$5 million in grants and \$5 million in donation matching allocated to food banks and civil society organizations supporting food security. There is \$16 million dedicated to the low-income transit program to help low-income Albertans afford transportation in 12 communities.

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Capital Investment in Affordable Housing (\$ millions)	2022-23 Estimate	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast
Affordable and Specialized Housing	6	10	17	19
Affordable Housing Partnership Program	7	34	40	127
Affordable Housing Strategy	9	10	15	43
Family and Community Housing Development & Renewal	3	1	-	-
Indigenous Housing Capital Program	14	18	15	20
Seniors Housing Development & Renewal	31	28	2	-
Total	70	101	89	209

Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction

Red Tape Reduction will support Municipal Affairs on the building codes review to ensure safety and affordability concerns are addressed. While Service Alberta was previously responsible for the province's work on broadband, this function has shifted to the new Ministry of Technology and Innovation.

Skilled Trades and Professions

The ministry will have a budget of \$175 million in 2023-24, which represents a \$12 million increase over 2022/23. This is the result of increased investments in notable initiatives such as \$41.6 million for the apprenticeship learning grant to respond to demand for training and allocating \$99.2 million to the Foundational Learning Assistance Program that will help pay for education and living costs for students in foundational learning or skills development programs.

Technology and Innovation

The Ministry of Technology and Innovation is responsible for the implementation of the Alberta Broadband Strategy and the investments into broadband internet. Announced in 2021, Alberta has committed to invest \$390 million by the end of fiscal year 2026-27. With matching federal funds, the amount invested will total \$780 million for broadband projects in Alberta. The ministry has forecasted that \$229 million of this funding will be allocated in 2023-24. ABmunis is hopeful that this commitment means more broadband projects will be approved in 2023.

Trade, Immigration and Multiculturalism

\$45 million over three years is provided in Budget 2023 to the Investment and Growth Fund to elevate Alberta's competitiveness. This is in addition to \$17.3 million allocated to Invest Alberta in 2023-24 and \$1 million to support the Alberta Export Expansion Program.

\$50.3 million funding over three years is devoted to settlement and integration initiatives, responses to emerging issues and newcomer needs, and support for recognition of newcomer qualifications from outside of Canada. The Alberta Advantage Immigration Program will receive an additional \$21 million over three years to attract newcomers to support the province's labour market needs and economic growth by issuing nomination certificates towards permanent residence. \$8.3 million in funding is allotted to assist Ukrainian evacuees to settle and integrate into Alberta.

Transportation and Economic Corridors

Transportation and Economic Corridors will be allocating \$44.5 million from the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program and GreenTRIP for bridge improvements, roads, airports and public transit projects. Notable projects include \$184.4 million for the Springbank Offstream Reservoir (SR1) project to protect communities along the Bow River from flooding, and \$30 million has also been allocated for an expansion to the Red Deer Airport.

Treasury Board and Finance

For the period of 2023-2026 Treasury Board and Finance plans to focus on:

- Introducing a responsible approach to balance debt reduction, savings, and attraction of investment.

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- Bringing per capita spending in line with British Columbia, Ontario, and Quebec.
- Providing recommendations for the potential creation of an Alberta Revenue Agency to collect all Alberta taxes.
- Advocate for reform of fiscal transfers with the Government of Canada.
- Providing recommendations on the potential creation of an Alberta Pension Plan.

Despite advocacy by ABmunis, Budget 2023 does not offer any change to the province's policy on pricing of municipal loans at a premium based on what the Government of Alberta can borrow for capital in the bond market.



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