



Strathcona County

LIVING



Summer 2013

A look back and powering ahead...

A special thank you from your Mayor and County Council

Donating to the High River flood relief

What is the measure of a person? Is it the choices they make when life is easy? Is it the choices they make when life is hard? Or rather, is it the actions they undertake when life is hard for others?

In the last month, our neighbours in the southern half of the province have undergone tremendous hardships. Homes ruined. Neighbourhoods destroyed. Lives lost. Calgary, High River, Banff, Canmore, Medicine Hat and many other areas had their world turned upside down. Yet in the midst of these tragedies, we saw the measure of so many Albertans.



People unaffected personally by the floods dropped everything to assist those who were suffering.

Help came from all around, often unasked for, and freely given. And though I appreciate every individual who gave of themselves to help others in this last month, I would like to especially thank our community. Strathconians leapt readily to the aid of our neighbours.

More than 45 members of our staff from Strathcona County Emergency Services, Information Technology Services, Transportation and Agriculture Services, and Utilities put in countless hours as well, assisting with relief efforts.



Your elected officials voted unanimously to make a donation to High River of one dollar per resident, a total of \$92,490. And we opened the doors for you to contribute as well. And you have. We have been flooded with emails, phone calls and requests to join in. To help out. To give. We are pleased to pass the donations along to High River.

Until July 31, you can make your donation to:

Strathcona County
Attention Linda Vallie
Financial Services
2001 Sherwood Drive
Sherwood Park, Alberta T8A 3W7

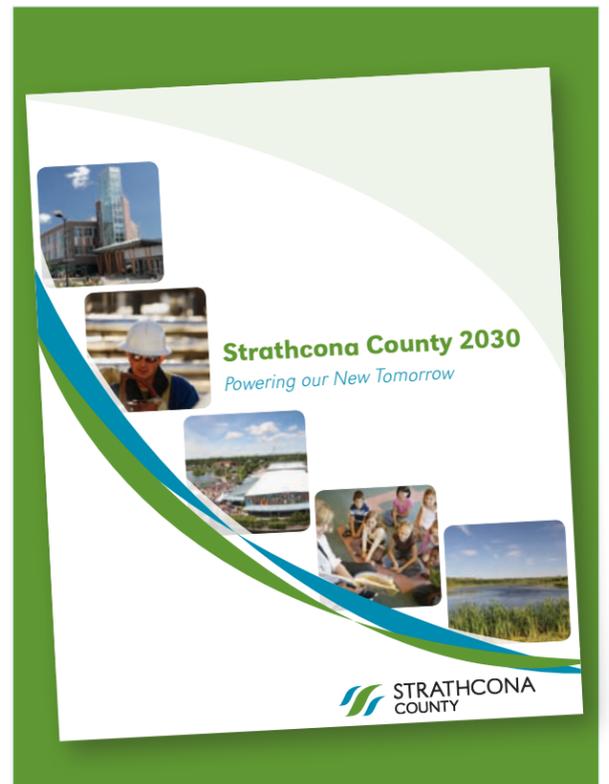
A tax receipt will be issued for all donations of \$20 or more; please just write "flood relief" on the front of your cheques. Or to donate through Visa and MasterCard – call Linda at 780-464-8187.

Residents wishing to donate to flood relief in Southern Alberta may also do so through the Canadian Red Cross, by calling 1-800-418-1111 or going online at www.redcross.ca.

So I thank you. On behalf of Strathcona County, thank you for being so willing, so ready and able to help those in need.

If anyone needs to take the measure of Strathconians, it is pretty clear to me. We are indeed a caring and proud community. Thanks to you.

Mayor Linda



Strathcona County Council presents its new strategic plan

Powering our New Tomorrow

Strathcona County Council was proud to share and formally adopt its new strategic plan, Powering our New Tomorrow, on April 23. Council recognized the need and took the initiative as governors of this municipality to develop a new vision and strategic plan.

This plan guides the County's governance, community development, and infrastructure and service delivery.

It directs the long-term planning for the County and serves as a foundation on which to build a Corporate Business Plan, Sustainability Plan, division and department plans and annual budgets. These together will guide staff as they carry out their responsibilities to realize the vision.

Community review of the strategic plan included focus groups, ongoing interactions with business, industry and residents, as well as existing public engagement input.

Pages 2 and 3 present the new strategic plan.

The organization review, Pursuit of Excellence, (available at www.strathcona.ca/FarmerReport), was an important step in developing a new strategic plan. It outlined how Strathcona County can be strengthened to respond to future challenges and move forward on the strategic plan.

Our new tomorrow will be powered through the strong, strategic foundation now in place ... all powered toward being Canada's most livable community!

humble beginnings
leadership

strong
values

"can do" spirit
community

LIVING. REFINED.

Our Vision

Living in Strathcona

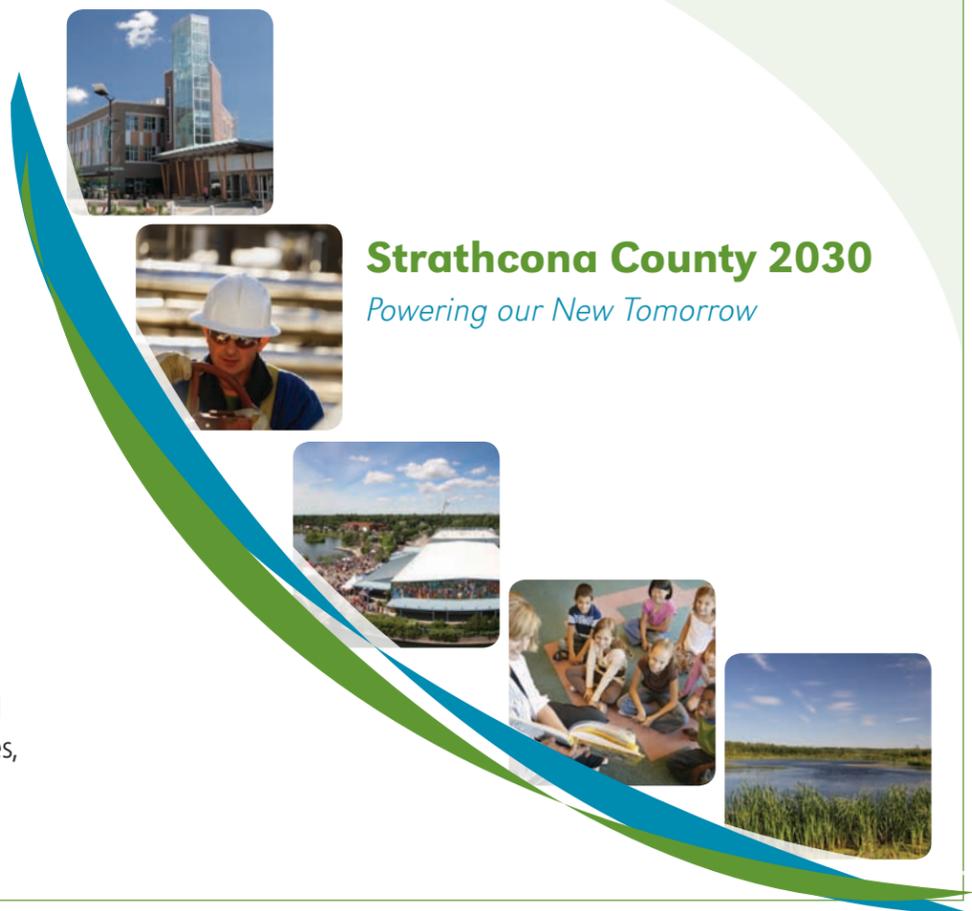
Strathcona County, located in the heart of Alberta, is an energetic and thriving community. A leader in North America's petroleum industry and a champion for advancing diverse agricultural business, we use our energy to power our new tomorrow.

We are a specialized municipality, and work cooperatively with our urban and rural residents to govern as a single municipality. Proud of our distinct governance model, we promote and demonstrate our achievements.

We are a welcoming place to live and attract people of all ages, cultures and walks of life to join us. Families thrive in our dynamic, caring and safe community.

We strive to be a model of ecological integrity, protecting our environment and preserving our agricultural heritage. Investment in infrastructure, quality services, cultural and recreational programs and facilities is a priority and sets us apart.

We are Canada's most livable community.



Strathcona County 2030

Powering our New Tomorrow

County-wide priority areas

To focus the County's efforts and realize its vision, Council identified areas of strategic priority, based on an analysis of the opportunities and challenges facing the County, as well as on its ability to manage and deliver on its desired goals. The priority areas are broad directions for realizing the aspirations and qualities desired by the County. Through a strategic planning process, Council conceptualized specific futures, set goals to achieve these futures, and defined quantitative indicators to measure success while remaining true to the newly established vision statement.

Eight priority areas, grouped under five pillars of sustainability, were identified to guide strategy development. The five pillars of sustainability are:

Economy

- World leader in petrochemical cluster
- Effective and efficient municipal infrastructure
- Diverse agricultural business

Governance

- Cooperative partnerships with community, business, industry and neighbouring governments

Social

- Helping, caring and safe community
- Healthy and active community

Cultural

- Vibrant, creative community

Environment

- Protect our environment and preserve our agricultural heritage

Council's Strategic Planning Framework

Council's strategic planning framework shows how Strathcona County activities align to achieve its vision. Council's strategic plan, *Powering our New Tomorrow*, is the County's principal guiding document for governance, community development, infrastructure and service delivery. This document directs the long-term planning for the County and serves as a foundation upon which the County's Corporate Business Plan, Sustainability Plan, division and department plans and annual budgets are developed. Together, these tools guide staff to act on their responsibilities and implement Council's vision.

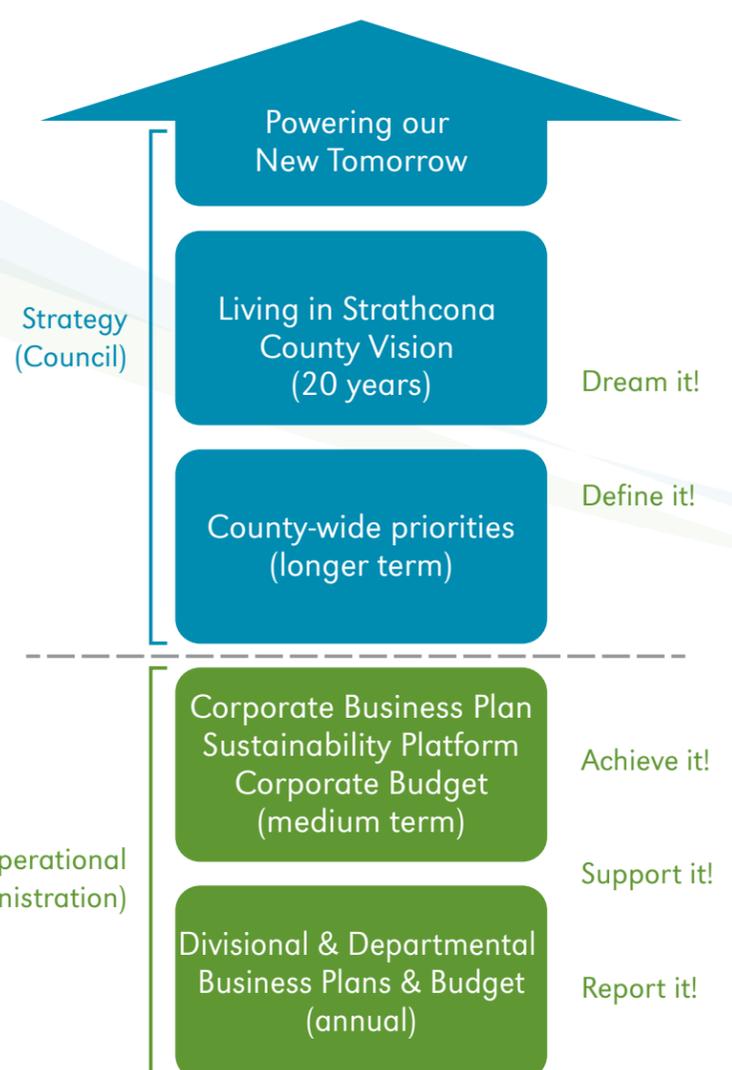
Our vision and priorities in 2030

Living in Strathcona County is a statement about what we aspire to be and paints a picture of what the community will look like in the future. Our vision has eight priorities, grouped into five pillars of sustainability, and represents the elements of our livable community. It describes the County-wide priority areas necessary to achieve our vision.

Measuring success

To drive continuous improvement and enhance decision-making, we have built a chain of accountability into each step of the planning process; we track both strategic and operational performance. To attain our vision, we measure and monitor our performance at the strategic priority level. To determine operational performance, we also monitor and report against our sustainability plans and Corporate Business Plan goals. We are accountable to the community for our progress, as well as for the associated fiscal costs and resources used to achieve our desired goals and objectives.

Council's Strategic Planning Framework shows how Strathcona County activities align to achieve Council's vision. Together, Council and administration will align the organization and shape our community around the priorities outlined to realize the vision.



Our five pillars of sustainability and eight priority areas.

Economy



As a centre of petrochemical development in energy, agricultural business and future technologies, Strathcona County promotes a diverse economy. By stimulating innovation and investment, as well as attracting large and small business into our community, the County enriches the overall living standard of our residents.

The strength of our economy is the foundation supporting our entire community. A healthy and sustainable economy allows us to invest in infrastructure and provide the quality programs and services residents and businesses value.

Priority area: World leader in petrochemical cluster

As a world leader in the petroleum industry, we create favourable conditions in our County to enable and stimulate economic growth. Through our policies, civic alliances and private partnerships, we support a positive business climate in which to advance petrochemical development in our community.

We make sure critical infrastructure (such as transportation, water and sewer) is available, ensure land is zoned for industry and use efficient permitting processes to encourage industry investment and expansion. We support workforce education and training and work collaboratively with local educational institutions to meet future economic needs. To help position our County for long-term success and gain real momentum in the global era, we advocate to all levels of government and the public to raise awareness of the growing demand for our petrochemical products.

Priority area: Effective and efficient municipal infrastructure

A community's health and vitality is linked to its ongoing investment in critical infrastructure. To ensure our modern economy remains competitive, healthy and vibrant, we consciously invest in efficient and effective municipal infrastructure to meet the needs of our growing community. We also strive to optimize and rehabilitate existing investment to ensure the County's infrastructure is in good repair and development programs are adequately funded.

Priority area: Diverse agricultural business

To help diversify the economy, ensure prime agricultural land is available for future generations and preserve our agricultural heritage, we encourage diversification of agriculture business and future technologies. We invest in our natural capital and promote locally produced food and sustainable practices.

Strategic goal

Increase and diversify the petrochemical business

Strategic goal

Promote Strathcona County locally, nationally and internationally as a place that is open for business and investment

Strategic goal

Strategically manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure

Strategic goal

Diversify agricultural business and technologies

Governance



Governance Strathcona speaks to our unique status as a specialized municipality in the province. We work cooperatively with both urban and rural residents to govern as a single municipal government. Good governance covers service excellence, planning, strong fiscal management of programs and organizational capacity. As well, we employ effective

processes to engage residents, business and industry in decision-making. We strengthen our ties with neighbouring governments and civic organizations and work cooperatively to deliver services and tackle common issues that impact the success of our community.

Priority area: Cooperative partnerships with community, business, industry and neighbouring governments

We build trust; we create relationships and develop processes to engage residents, business and industry, and to assist in decision-making. Together, we own and help shape the future of our community. Our partnerships with neighbouring municipalities and civic organizations are built on mutual respect, common goals and a desire to move forward together to achieve long-term success.

Strategic goal

Increase public involvement and communicate with the community on issues affecting the County's future

Strategic goal

Advance the community's interests by developing and maintaining strong relationships with our neighbouring municipalities and civic organizations to ensure long-term prosperity

Social



Social Strathcona considers individual and community health and well-being, and how we relate to and care for one another. In short, it's about creating and sustaining a positive lifestyle for our residents. Social Strathcona:

- Considers effective design: how the design of new developments and redevelopment of existing areas encourage community interaction and cohesion
- Partners with other governments and community agencies to ease economic and social disparities
- Strengthens the self-sustaining capacity of individuals, families and communities by promoting healthy and active lifestyles
- Ensures fundamental needs (e.g. affordable housing, safety and security in our homes, and a sense of belonging) are met

Priority area: Helping, caring and safe community

A strong community is made up of community members who support the fundamental needs of individuals and families, while promoting livable and inclusive neighbourhoods.

Strategic goal

Build strong neighbourhoods/communities to support the diverse needs of our residents

Strategic goal

Increase the safety of our residents and their property

Priority area: Healthy and active community

Healthy and active communities are promoted through well-designed infrastructure that adapts to meet our changing needs and desires. By providing quality facilities and a range of sport, leisure and recreational programs and opportunities, the County connects people and communities through healthy and active lifestyles.

Strategic goal

Facilities and activities are available, accessible and used by residents

Culture



Culture Strathcona celebrates our community connections. This topic covers the issues of diversity and inclusivity, cultural heritage, festivals and events, intangible cultural assets, cultural spaces and facilities, and the arts community. Cultural assets and activities fuel cultural vitality and help define our unique cultural identity and sense of place. Our County's cultural

activities generate and sustain economic and social benefits for all, and contribute to Strathcona County being a welcoming and attractive community in which to live.

Priority area: Vibrant, creative community

Cultural attractions and resources are vital assets that connect our County's distinct communities and give us a sense of place.

To help reflect our community's heart and soul, the County takes a leadership role in creating and providing opportunities for its residents to access a variety of cultural attractions and resources.

Strategic goal

Define and strengthen the community's understanding of and appreciation for its identity and heritage

Environment



Environment Strathcona includes the natural areas both within and around Strathcona County, along with our commitment to protect and preserve our natural environment and to live sustainably. Growth pressures, development and environmental changes and threats to our biodiversity challenge the County. Our goal is to ensure services are in place

to address land, air, water, energy and material use, and to care for our parks. We recognize the inherent responsibility of every individual and organization to work together to protect and preserve our natural environment. We live in balance with our environment and decrease the use of our finite natural resources by living sustainably.

Priority area: Protect our environment and preserve our agricultural heritage

The promotion and protection of our natural environment is integrated into every aspect of civic life, guiding our decisions and public policy. The County manages the land, air, water, energy, material use, biological diversity and parks to ensure we live in a healthy ecosystem. We recognize that being good stewards of our land and natural resources is everyone's responsibility.

Strategic goal

Improve the efficiency of resource usage; minimize the volume of waste and its impact on the community

The Strategic Plan poses initial measures for each strategic goal. These measures will be confirmed or changed as the business planning process progresses to align with chosen key performance indicators.

BrandNew

leadership
humble beginnings
innovation can do spirit
strong values
community
LIVING. REFINED.
creativity

2012 Annual Report

Financial Statements Overview and Outlook for the year ended December 31, 2012



A glance at ...

2012 Annual Report – Brand New

Strathcona County's Annual Report provides an opportunity to share our financial performance results with community stakeholders, residents, businesses and industry. From the new brand ... to words from the Mayor and Council, and Strathcona County's new Chief Commissioner ... to our many accomplishments over the last year including new directions in transportation ... to sharing the County's financial picture for the year ended December 31, 2012, this summarizes what you will find in the 2012 Annual Report.

View it online at www.strathcona.ca, or call, 780-464-8053 for a copy.

The annual report also shares and describes the many programs and services that were New for You in 2012. Here's a glimpse:

New for You

plans and facilities

- the "renewed" **Ardrossan Recreation Complex** opened



- new **bike skills park** built



- new **Aquatic Strategy** approved



- major **water supply system additions and upgrades** completed



- new **Recreation Master Plan for Josephburg** approved



- new **Emergency Services Master Plan** completed



- 116 **historic sites identified**, with 25 now being reviewed in 2013 for potential protection or municipal designation



programs and partnerships

- new **intermunicipal cooperation agreement**, called **Common Bonds**, signed between the City of Fort Saskatchewan and Strathcona County



- new **South Contact Office** opened as pilot to better serve rural residents in southern areas of Strathcona County



- Elder Abuse 24-hour Line** launched: 780-464-7233



- new location for **Seniors Outreach** at the Child and Youth Community Centre (CYCC)

- UnlimitED** program started to provide social and educational opportunities for isolated older adults



- new **RCMP domestic violence unit** created to address concern of increased domestic violence in our society



- RCMP Drug Unit** efforts heightened; drug trafficking charges increased by 56 per cent



- Community Partners in Action Committee (CPAC) hosted **Dinner and Dialogues**, and Desert and Dialogues as a venue for community participants to discuss and promote using alcohol in moderation



- a new **Youth Mentoring Program** piloted, matching Strathcona County staff with youth ages 15 to 19, to help the youth gain skills and work experience



- tax clinics** offered for the first time to assist residents on a low income in filing their taxes

- the County's first custom-built app launched, the **Green Routine app for iPhones**

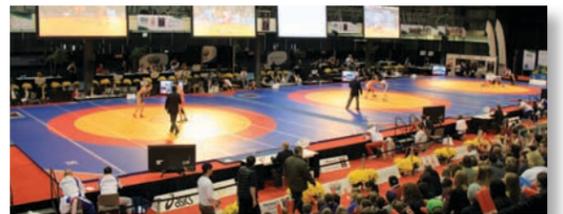


events



- Strathcona County awarded honour of hosting **Canada 55+ Games**, to be held August 27-30, 2014

- Strathcona County became the only Canadian municipality to ever host the **world championships in women's wrestling**, which were nationally broadcast at Millennium Place over three days, hosting competitors from more than 30 countries



- A new summer-long series, **Art in the Plaza** ran for the first time in 2012, featuring local art and artists — check out page 8 for this year's details

2012 awards



- Strathcona County cream of the crop as **2012 winner of Communities in Bloom – Class of Champions**



- County's **Sustainable Plan-it** program won **2012 Award of Planning Merit** in the Education or Special Study from the Alberta Professional Planners Institute

- Strathcona County's **Everybody gets to play[®]** earned the **Alberta Recreation and Parks Association's Community Innovation Award**, and the program was also acknowledged for "Playing it Forward" with The Case for Accessible Recreation in Alberta resource kit for municipalities



- Strathcona County Traveller** brochure won the **2012 Marketing Alberta Award** in the Creative Innovations category (large community) at the Economic Developers Alberta Awards of Excellence



- Emergency Services new medal program** created to publically acknowledge outstanding performance of duties in response to exceptional emergency events

From the Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2012

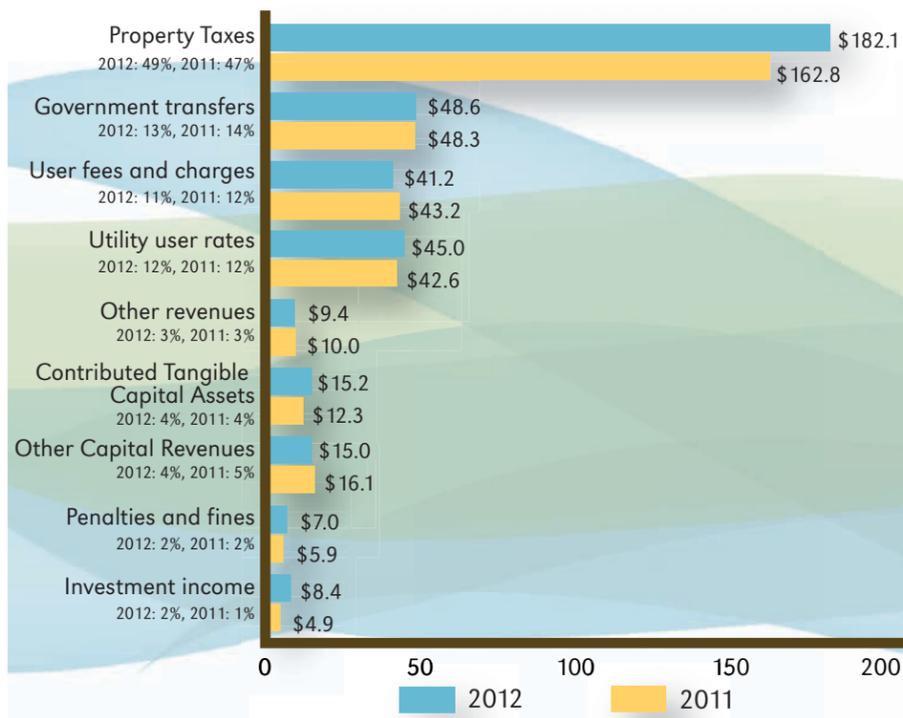
Managing financial resources is a key priority of the County's strategic plan and a key contributor to the achievement of the community vision.

2012 Consolidated Revenues

Consolidated revenues for 2012 are \$371.9 million (2011: \$346.3 million), an increase of \$25.6 million or 7.4% from the prior year.

Consolidated Revenues by Type

(in \$ millions and as a percentage of total consolidated expenses)

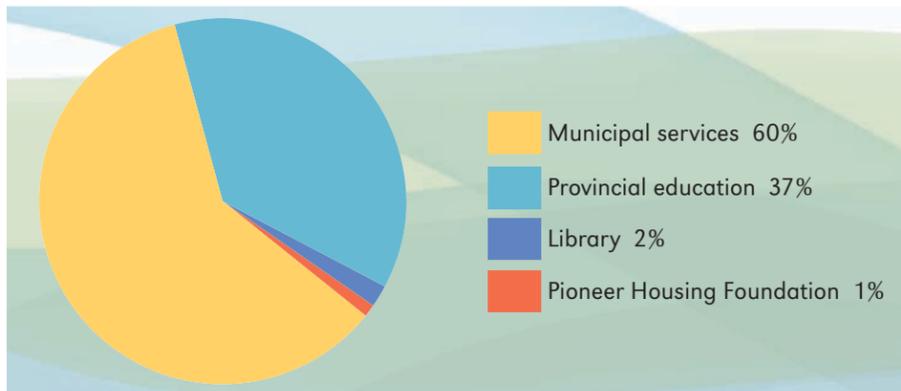


2012 Property tax revenues have increased by \$19.3 million to \$182.1 million (2011: \$162.8 million) and represent the primary revenue source for municipal, library and Pioneer Housing Foundation operations.

In addition to supporting municipal, library and affordable seniors housing services, property taxes are levied to meet provincial education requisitions submitted to the County for payment. In 2012, the County levied total property taxes (excluding local improvement levies and other taxes) of \$234.2 million (2011: \$210.7 million), of which \$52.1 million (2010: \$47.9 million) was collected for remittance to the provincial education authorities.

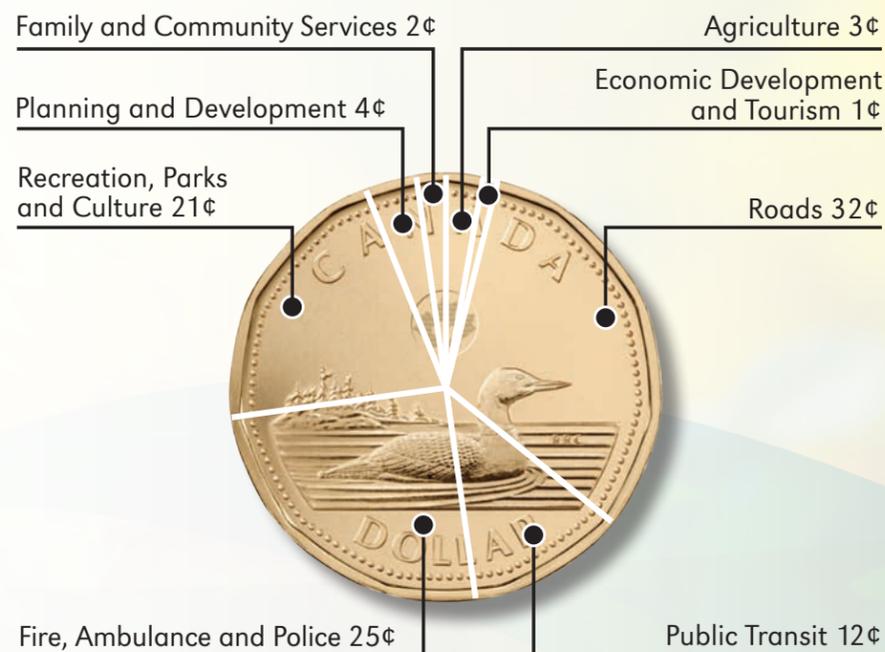
2012 Residential Property Tax Distribution

Did you know... 60 per cent of total residential property taxes supported municipal services in 2012?



Where the municipal tax dollar was spent

Did you know... approximately 69 cents of every municipal tax dollar supported roads, public transit, fire, ambulance and police services in 2012?



Note: Utility operations are self-sustaining (i.e. do not receive property tax support) for all program areas except recycling stations and Enviroservice events.

Coin image © 2013 Royal Canadian Mint - All Rights Reserved

2012 Consolidated Expenses

Consolidated expenses for 2012 were \$336.0 million (2011: \$269.8 million), an increase of \$66.2 million or 24.5 per cent from the prior year.

Consolidated Expenses by Service

(in \$ millions and as a percentage of total consolidated expenses)

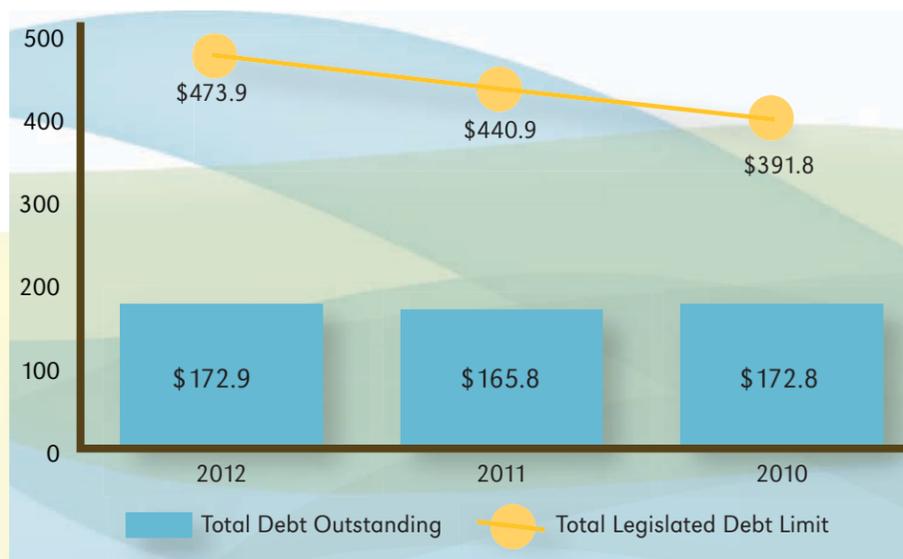


As the County continues to grow, the demand for services also grows.

- The growth in Community Services has resulted in increased expenses of \$2.4 million or 7.1% for Recreation, Parks and Culture, \$2.2 million or 9.2% for Emergency Services, and \$1.5 million or 9.0% for RCMP and Enforcement Services over the prior year.
- Fiscal Services included financial activities that are not specifically associated with the operations of any one division or department. These activities include, among others, property taxation revenues, grants and requisitions and municipal debt repayment. Fiscal Services expenses have increased \$58.2 million (137%) over the 2011 mainly due to an unbudgeted loss on tangible capital asset disposals. Loss on tangible capital asset disposals in 2012 was \$55 million (2011: \$1.3 million), an increase of \$53.7 million. The loss in 2012 was primarily due to the disposition of land under roads as part of the North East Anthony Henday Drive Project in the amount of \$53.4 million. The land was transferred to the province, which resulted in a loss on tangible capital asset disposal equal to the historical cost value of the land disposed.

External Debt Capacity

Total Debt Outstanding versus Debt Limit (in \$ millions)



At December 31, 2012, the County was well within the provincial debt capacity guidelines and its own policy.

Of the \$172.9 million debt outstanding at December 31, 2012, \$104.8 million is non-tax supported. Non-tax supported debt is supported by local improvement and development levies, as well as user fees and other income. Debt, per the Municipal Government Act, includes debentures, capital leases and demand loans.

At the end of 2012, the consolidated net debt balance is \$37.1 million (2011: \$62.9 million), a decrease of \$25.9 million from the prior year. The decrease in net debt is primarily a result of the annual surplus and the net change in tangible capital assets for the year which resulted from capital expenditures and contributions for the year, less annual amortization and losses on tangible capital asset disposals.

Current updates ...

First ever Age-Friendly Alberta Award goes to ... Strathcona County

You may have noted in the list of 2012 accomplishments several new programs and services geared to support seniors. Because of these efforts and many more, the Government of Alberta presented Strathcona County with the first ever Age-Friendly Alberta Award on June 6 during the County's Seniors' Week celebration.

This award recognizes Strathcona County for its work to create an age-friendly community for residents.

Fred Horne, Minister of Health, said that Alberta's population is aging and with this award, the County has become a model for other communities across Alberta to follow as we prepare for a future where one in five Albertans is a senior.

Age-friendly communities promote healthy and active aging. People in age-friendly communities are supported in maintaining their independence, and can access public buildings and amenities, participate in community events and initiatives, and acquire the supports and services they need.

Strathcona County's Older Adults Plan is one of the steps the County has taken to outline strategies to become more age friendly. Find Family and Community Services' list of all services for older adults at www.strathcona.ca/fcs.

Phone: 780-464-4044

Fax: 780-449-1220

Email: familyandcommunity@strathcona.ca

More information on how other Alberta communities can pursue age-friendly initiatives is available at www.health.alberta.ca.



Schedule a safety visit today!

Are you interested in learning more about cooking, heating, candle and electrical safety in your home?

Rural residents, would you like to learn more about ways to help protect your property from wildfire?

Emergency Services would be pleased to visit your home to discuss home safety on rural properties. We can also conduct a free hazard assessment and show you easy ways to reduce or remove identified hazards.

Contact Emergency Services to book an appointment today.

Phone: 780-464-8468

Email: safety.educators@strathcona.ca



Are you mowtivated to assist our seniors?



Be a Lawn Buster!

For some older adults in our community, lawn care can be challenging, dangerous and a huge source of stress.

Lawn Busters matches eligible seniors with volunteers who will help them with their yard maintenance.

There are two ways you can help.

1. Take some extra time when caring for your own yard to give a neighbour a helping hand.
2. Register as a volunteer with the Lawn Busters program.

Volunteers can be individuals, families, teams or groups, who enjoy working outside, want to make community connections and enjoy a flexible volunteer schedule.

To register in the program, seniors must meet the following criteria:

- Strathcona County resident aged 65 or over
- physically unable to perform yard maintenance tasks
- have an annual income that does not exceed \$25,100 for an individual or \$40,800 for a couple

To request help with your lawn or to become a volunteer, call Family and Community Services at 780-464-4044. More information is available at www.strathcona.ca/fcs.

CountyWorks

NEW interactive construction map

Find out more about road, trail and parking lot construction projects in Strathcona County.

www.strathcona.ca/countyworks



STRATHCONA COUNTY

LIVING. REFINED.

Transit – new look, new terminal, new routes, new buses

2013 is an exciting year in the world of transit, starting with our new look. Strathcona County Transit has almost completed the process of repainting all of our buses to display the new County brand. The green and blue swishes have really brightened and updated the look of the fleet.

Construction began on the Bethel Transit Terminal, located at 700 Bethel Drive, Sherwood Park, in early May. With more than 20 bus bays, 1,200 parking spots and a comfortable, heated waiting area for customers, this will be the Capital Region's largest bus terminal. This \$23-million transportation hub will anchor intermunicipal transit service between Strathcona County and Edmonton, while serving as the core base for local bus service within Sherwood Park.

In anticipation of the terminal's opening, Transit proposed a new route structure to the community. Once the new terminal is fully functioning, service will be centralized to the Bethel Transit Terminal; the Sherwood Park Transit Centre will become a satellite terminal. With the new terminal will come improved pedestrian and bike access too.

Strathcona County Transit's exciting new arrivals – two double-decker buses – are expected in July, and should be on the road soon after. They'll be in full

demand come September; back-to-school is always a busy time in transit.

This fall will be especially busy with the decommissioning of Strathcona County Accessible Transit (SCAT) and the introduction of Transit's new Mobility Bus. This new and improved accessible transit service will provide most customers with increased hours of service and fewer restrictions on travel within our standard service area. Along with the new service will come three new specialized buses, for a total of nine specialized transit buses in the fleet.

With the ongoing construction at what is currently Strathcona Station and the future site of the Bethel Transit Terminal, back-to-school and park and ride will likely be challenging. Transit is currently looking for other options for park and ride, including the three satellite lots and maximizing local service.

The new terminal is expected to open in December 2013. With the new service plan beginning at that time, it looks like 2014 will be a big year for transit!

Questions?

Email: transit@strathcona.ca

Phone: 780-464-7433



Bus with **Brand New** look at the site of the Bethel Bus Terminal



Certainly Alberta's had more than its fair share of water this year. Most often we think water restrictions will occur in the summer during long periods of hot, dry weather. But did you know water restrictions can happen any time and can be planned and unplanned?

Water restrictions can occur because of:

- periods of hot, dry weather
- construction on water pipes and facilities
- an unexpected water emergency (i.e. water pipe break, etc.)

During a water restriction, residents are asked to reduce their non-essential water use:

- reduce washing vehicles, driveways and house exteriors
- reduce watering lawns, trees and gardens
- postpone non-essential laundry and dish washing
- reduce long showers or baths
- postpone filling hot tubs, pools or large aquariums

Saving as much water on a daily basis as you can (turning the tap off when you shave or brush your teeth, etc.) will help to preserve water supply levels.

A **water ban** will be put in place if:

- there is an unexpected emergency with a major water system component resulting in a sudden shortage of water supply
- the demand for water exceeds availability after water restriction has been in place
- storage reservoirs need time to replenish
- water quality emergency

Water ban notifications will be posted on road signs and the County's website, Facebook and Twitter accounts. As part of emergency preparedness, residents are encouraged to [sign up for Alberta Emergency Alerts to receive updates](#) in case of serious water disruptions or other emergency events that may affect residents.

Visit www.emergencyalert.alberta.ca

Questions?

Email: scutilities@strathcona.ca

Phone: 780-467-7785



IMAGINE BREMNER

Residents engaged to plan new community

Strathcona County community members have been invited to help design a new 4,000-hectare community located northeast of Sherwood Park.

With limited space in Sherwood Park for development, the County is preparing a Growth Management Strategy for a new community currently being referred to as "Bremner." This new urban area was designated an Urban Reserve Area in the County's 2007 Municipal Development Plan and will accommodate growth over the next 50 years.

Imagine Bremner launched Wednesday, June 12, and was hosted by Ryan Jespersen, co-host of City's Breakfast Television. A once in a lifetime opportunity to shape the future of the County in a significant way, residents were asked for their thoughts and ideas, and community leaders shared their unique perspectives on this new community.

Strathcona County hopes to inspire residents to consider where they would like their children and grandchildren to live and work. The goal is to plan neighbourhoods and places that are even better than what we enjoy today.

Following the launch, two community visioning sessions were held to discuss topics such as environment, jobs, housing and transportation.

Imagine Bremner will continue for the next year. In the fall, the public will be asked to comment on development scenarios for the new community.

Expected completion for the project is June 2014; however, development in Bremner is not expected to start for several years.

Strategically planning for future growth today gives us the opportunity to be innovative, ensuring Strathcona County continues to be a great place to live and work.

Want to get involved?

There are many ways to let us know what you think are the best ways forward to enjoy a high quality of life in Bremner.

Post your comments to the project blog, view upcoming events and project timeline, read the Citizen's Bulletin, participate and give us your input.

Visit: www.strathcona.ca/imaginebremner

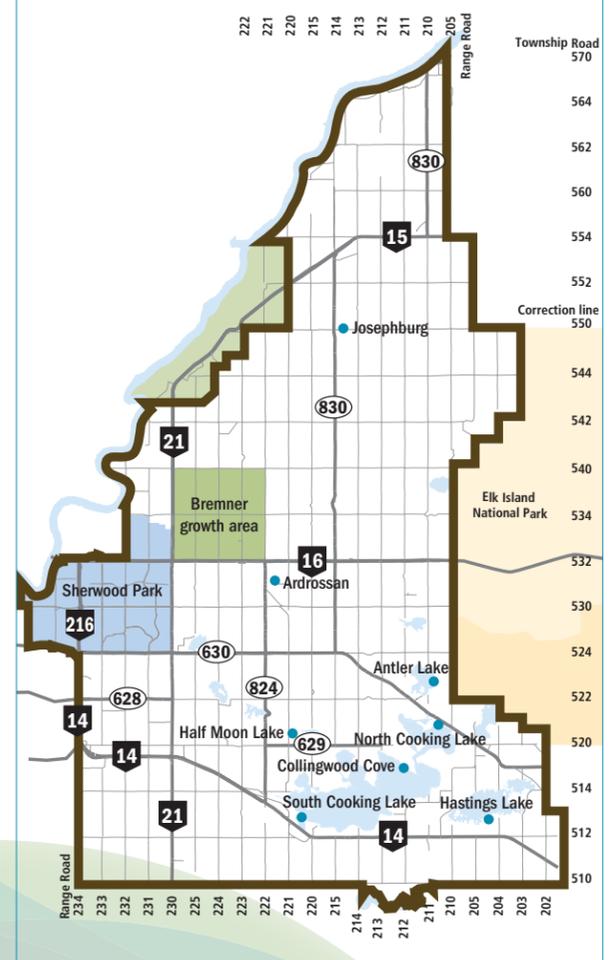
Call: 780-464-8295

Email: imaginebremner@strathcona.ca

Where is Bremner?

- North of Highway 16
- East of Highway 21
- Northeast of Sherwood Park
- Northwest of Ardrossan

It is four square miles (16 sections).



Up and coming ...

Art in the Plaza

SUMMER 2013

Enjoy local art and artists —
original works for sale!

A summer-long series...

Saturdays, June 15 - September 28

12 noon to 5 p.m.

Community Centre

2001 Sherwood Drive, Sherwood Park

780-410-8505

www.strathcona.ca/artintheplaza

SHARE in COMMUNITY...

in the VIBRANT Centre in the Park



Neighbourly Connections

As our lives become busier, we sometimes feel less connected to others in our community.

Why do we need to connect? Research shows that the relationships people have with their neighbours builds the foundation for strong communities that promote tolerance, respect and understanding. Residents in connected neighbourhoods experience reduced crime, fewer neighbour disputes, improved health, and an overall better quality of life.

Do you have a great neighbour or have you seen some random acts of neighbourliness? We would like to hear about them and feature them on our promotional materials, such as our website, to encourage others to be community minded. Send us a photo or story about your great neighbours to: neighbourstories@strathcona.ca.

Another way to celebrate great neighbours is to attend or host a Neighbour Day event.

Neighbour Day celebration

Sunday, September 15

1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Community Centre, Agora
401 Festival Lane, Sherwood Park

Enjoy live music, refreshments, and fun activities for all ages. This free event celebrates the great neighbours that make our community safe, friendly and fun.

www.strathcona.ca/neighbourday

780-464-4044



Join the celebration!
August 24, 2013



Strathcona Celebrates...

its history, its people, its military

August 24, 2013

FREE family friendly activities starting at 8 a.m. at the Community Centre (401 Festival Lane) and the former Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School Fields (160 Festival Way).

- Celebrating Strathcona County's 120th anniversary
- Free pancake breakfast at **8 a.m.**
- Key to the County is at **11:30 a.m.** with Military Parade and Lord Strathcona's Mounted Troop performance to follow
- Family activities all day long
- Outdoor family movie event begins at **6 p.m.**, with movie starting at **9:30 p.m.**



www.strathcona.ca/celebrates
780-467-2211



Rural Play Day

Wednesday, July 31, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Ardrossan Recreation Complex

Come enjoy a FREE play day hosted by Everybody Gets to Play. Play days provide children with free and active play options that appeal to all of their senses. Each activity celebrates getting back to the basics – digging in the sand, building forts, playing games; the kind of activities that come naturally to kids!

www.strathcona.ca/recreation

780-467-2211



www.strathcona.ca/tourofalberta



Official Host Community

Join the action
on Sept. 4 at 9 a.m.
at Festival Place!

STRATHCONA COUNTY
Election 2013

choice
democracy
freedom.
right **VOTE**
October 21
strathcona.ca/election

Now hiring - Election workers

Apply to be an election worker for the 2013 municipal and school trustee elections

Go online for complete job and application details.
Competitions will remain open until all positions are filled.

www.strathcona.ca/election or call 780-400-2013



Twitter: @StrathcoCounty



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eNewsletters: strathcona.ca/enews

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STRATHCONA COUNTY

LIVING. REFINED.