

# ANNUAL REPORT



20

23



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# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear fellow citizens of Vegreville,

On behalf of Town Council, it is my pleasure to present to you our annual report, highlighting the achievements and developments that unfolded in our community in the past year. 2023 was a storied year for Vegreville, with the Town further working towards the goals set out in Council's Strategic Plan.

Reflecting on everything that unfolded in 2023, it brings me great pleasure to acknowledge the advances we've made on the economic development front. While working towards attracting new investment and business throughout the year, Prosperity Industrial Park also continued to progress, signifying a step forward in our community's expansion. Council also recognized 23 new businesses, affirming our progress and commitment to fostering a business-friendly environment.

In the last year, the Town also continued to increase its recreation and tourism offerings and welcomed over 60,000 visitors to our town. This focus on expanding event and activity opportunities ensures there's something for both residents and visitors to enjoy, while growing our local economy.

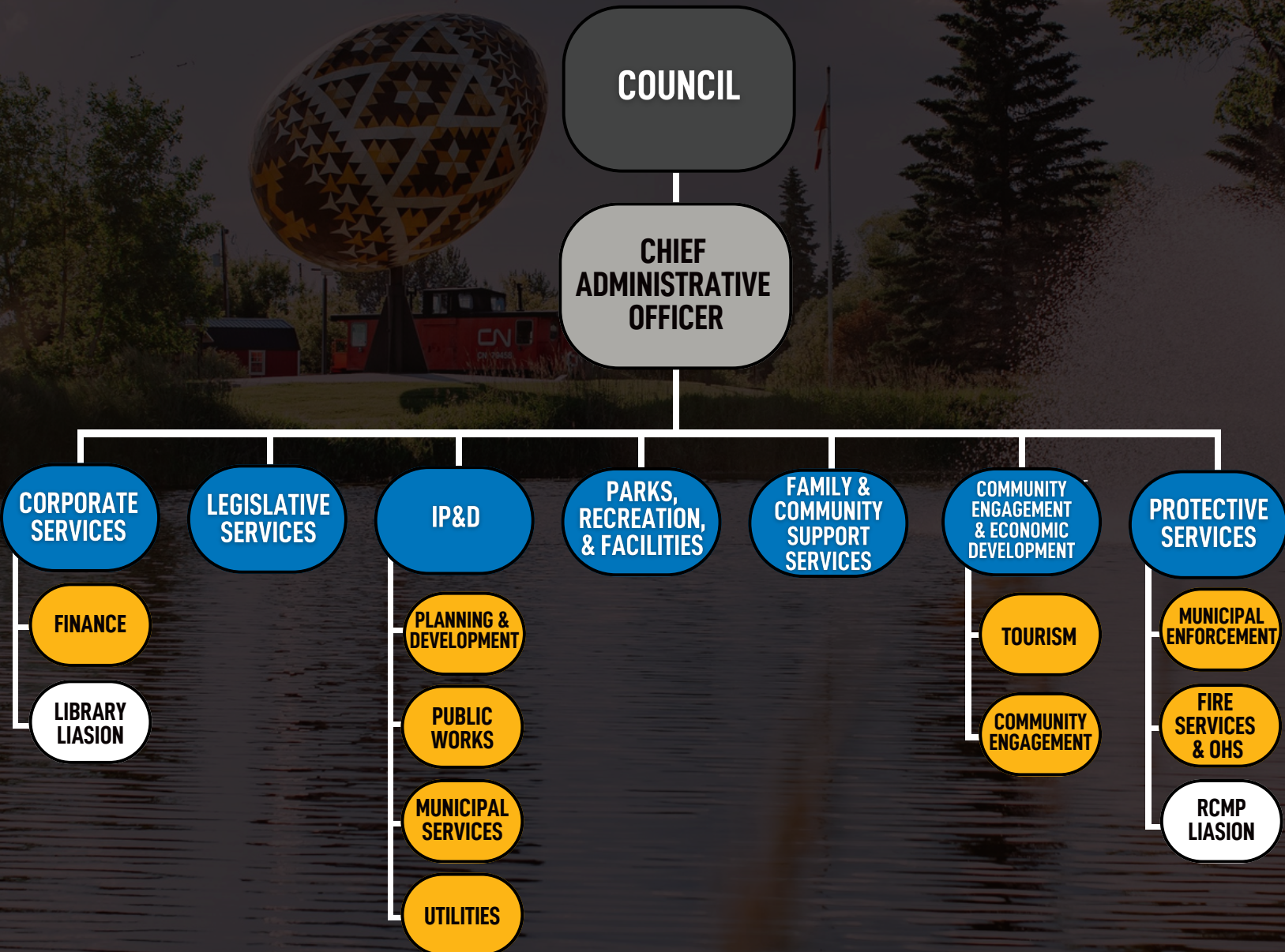
As we continue to progress, we remain steadfast in our commitment to maintaining vital infrastructure. Through ongoing projects and strategic investments, we ensure that our roads, utilities, and public amenities meet the needs of a growing population while laying the groundwork for future generations.

In closing, I thank each and every one of you who has contributed to the success of our community. With excitement for what is to come in 2024, Town Council will continue to build upon our achievements and work to improve our community even further.

**Tim MacPhee**  
Mayor, Town of Vegreville



# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE







# MEET YOUR VEGREVILLE TOWN COUNCIL



**Tim MacPhee**  
MAYOR



**Taneen Rudyk**  
COUNCILLOR



**David Berry**  
COUNCILLOR



**Jerrold Lemko**  
COUNCILLOR



**Tina Warawa**  
COUNCILLOR



**Len Bullock**  
COUNCILLOR



**Justin Curtis**  
COUNCILLOR



# MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES



## **Vision Statement**

People our core, innovation our strength, community our intention.



## **Mission Statement**

Embracing change to create an enhanced quality of life by engaging our citizens in building a vibrant community.



## **Core Values**

- Adaptability
- Inclusivity
- Integrity
- Teamwork
- Vibrancy



# LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The Legislative Services Department acts as the liaison between Town Council, Administration, and the community. Legislative Services provides support for Council's decision-making processes and guides the organization in meeting its legislated requirements. This department schedules and prepares for all meetings of Town Council, oversees the Town's Record Management processes, and assists in developing, reviewing, and updating Town policies, procedures, and bylaws.

Legislative Services also provides several key municipal functions such as the facilitation of municipal elections and by-elections, council orientation, intergovernmental relations, requests made under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP), and property assessment complaints. At the request of Council, Legislative Services will provide administrative support to Council committees.

## LEGISLATIVE SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS

- 12 Policies written/reviewed/adopted
- 7 Bylaws written/reviewed/adopted
- Development of the Ad-Hoc Transportation Committee
- Responded to 3 FOIP requests
- Successfully applied for the Alberta Community Partnership grant funding for the Regional Recreation Feasibility Study
- Submitted grant applications for accessibility and transportation projects – notification by summer 2024
- Successfully applied for the Tree Canada Edible Orchard grant for new additions at Pysanka Park.

**Council attended a minimum of 57 meetings in 2023. Of these meetings, minutes and agendas were created for the following:**

- 1 Organizational Meeting
- 4 Special Council Meetings
- 20 Council Meetings
- 21 Legislative Committee Meetings
- 1 Meeting with MLA Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk
- Numerous budget, bylaw, and planning workshops as well



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Community Engagement & Economic Development Department plays a crucial role in the growth of the Town of Vegreville. This function focuses on communications and marketing by managing vegreville.com, choosevegreville.com, social media platforms, and increasing brand visibility. In the tourism sector, this department organizes and assists with events, oversees the Visitor Information Centre, and promotes attractions like the World's Largest Pysanka. Additionally, the department actively contributes to economic development through business investment initiatives, grant programs, and strategic projects.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

**Continued to work with Vegreville Town Council on 'Welcome to Vegreville' New Business Recognition Photos. 23 New Businesses were highlighted on Town of Vegreville social media accounts in 2023.**

**Welcomed 'Invest Alberta' for a Community Profile Tour/Information Sharing Seminar in February 2023.**

**Launched 'The Ec. Dev. Discourse' – a monthly newsletter distributed via email to local businesses with updates from the Economic Development department and information specifically geared for local businesses including potential grant streams and training opportunities.**

**Worked collaboratively with the Vegreville & District Chamber of Commerce to host the 'Multi-Industry Career Fair'**

**Completed Wayfinding Masterplan for enhanced directional signage in Vegreville. Implementation of plan expected to commence in 2024.**



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Hosted 'Duke of Edinburgh's Global Leaders Visit'

The Town of Vegreville hosted a contingent of young leaders from around the world on June 8, 2023. The twenty delegates that came to Vegreville were a small study group of the three hundred total Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conference attendees that had traveled to Alberta from all over the globe. Each delegate that visited Vegreville boasted impressive resumes, including an award-winning tech entrepreneur from India, an air traffic control officer from Nigeria, the head of a farming software company from the United Kingdom, and the director of a medical health center in Ghana. After officially being welcomed to Vegreville by Mayor Tim MacPhee and members of Council at the World's Largest Pysanka, the group was taken to Innotech Alberta for presentations and a brief tour.



### Awarded nearly \$30,000 in Grants to Local Businesses:

- Five - \$2,000 'Small Commercial Business Revitalization' Grants to Vegreville Denture Clinic, Vegreville All Clean Car Wash, Regent Health/Blinds Unlimited, Loco Burro, and Brickhouse Fitness.
- Two - \$2,000 'Local Business Signage Incentive' Grants to Vegreville Denture Clinic & Vegreville Suites. (Newly Introduced Grant in 2023)
- One - 'Non-residential Development Incentive Program' Grant to Breanne Rattray, owner of the property located at 5205 50 Avenue, home to three local businesses Envy Boutique, HeyDay Studio, and Sole Train.

### Former Trans-Canada Building Now Home to Local Business

The Town of Vegreville sold the property located at 6620 Highway 16A West, formerly known as the 'Trans



Canada Building', to Shawn Grykuliak, owner/operator of Veg Auto and Industrial Supplies and Full Throttle Truck and Trailer Repair in March of 2023. After a massive renovation to the property, Veg Auto & Industrial Supply/Full Throttle Truck and Trailer Repair officially opened the doors at their new location on Tuesday, October 31, 2023.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Double A Trailers Comes to Vegreville

Double A Trailers announced that it had selected Vegreville for the company's manufacturing expansion plans in May of 2023. Already a leading Canadian manufacturer in their field, Double A Trailers purchased the property once home to Buhler Industries/Ezee-On Manufacturing, located at 5110 62 Street. According to the company, the expansion project could see about one hundred employees on-site come the spring of 2024, once operations are fully online.



### Introduction of the 'Machinery & Equipment Tax Exemption' Bylaw

In what was another strong demonstration of the fact that the Town of Vegreville is 'Open for Business', Vegreville Town Council unanimously passed the Machinery & Equipment Incentive Tax Exemption Bylaw at their Regular Meeting held on Monday, May 8, 2023. This bylaw, in accordance with section 364.2 of the Municipal Government Act, allows Vegreville businesses, both present and future, that are, or would be, taxed on machinery and equipment by the municipality to apply for an automatic exemption of that tax, guaranteed for the next fifteen years.

## TOURISM HIGHLIGHTS



- Incorporated an online booking system for the Vegreville Municipal Campground
- Installed Phase One of the Pysanka Putt-Putt Mini Golf
- Integration & Installation of Quick Tourist Digital Kiosk at the Visitor Information Centre
- Installed Phase One of Winter Wonderland Lighting at Pysanka Park

## TOURISM HIGHLIGHTS

Hosted first-ever 'Party in the Park & Canada Day Colour Run' with a Kid Zone, Vendor Market, Food Trucks, Entertainment & Fireworks

**231** Colour Run Registrants



Hosted 'Alberta Day Event' with local market, bouncy castles, mini golf, and 'Movie in the Park' with roughly 200 attendees on-site. This event was made possible thanks to funding from a provincial Alberta Day grant.

Hosted 'A Very Vegreville Christmas' event with a Parade, Pictures with Santa, Public Swim, Letters to Santa, Christmas Crafts, & Colouring.



## VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE STATISTICS

**122**

Bikes 'Borrowed'

**393**

Boats 'Borrowed'

**64,078**

Visitors Tracked Roaming  
at Pysanka Park

**31,328**

Visitors Tracked Entering  
the Visitor Information  
Centre

**1,784**

Nights Camped





## COMMUNICATION & MARKETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Social Media & Website Management

- 2,022 posts across Town of Vegreville Social Media platforms.
- 2,426,785 Impressions (number of times posts appeared on someone's screen) across Town of Vegreville Social Media platforms.
- 1,516,937 Users Reached
- 5.18% Average Engagement Rate across Town of Vegreville Social Media platforms
- 635 Followers gained across Town of Vegreville social media accounts.
- 80,014 Total website views to vegreville.com
- 43 Paid Social Media Ad Campaigns
- 17,873 views to Town of Vegreville YouTube Channel in 2023



### Traditional Media & Advertising:

- 48 'Talk of the Town' Radio Segments
- 4 Radio Advertising Campaigns
- 22 Advertisements ran in the Vegreville News Advertiser
- Various print advertising campaigns
- 16 Media Releases written and distributed to local media contacts.

- **Completion and Implementation of Social Media Audit and Strategy**
- **Worked with Municipal Services Department on 'What Goes Where' Public Education Campaign for recycling and garbage.**
- **Creation & Distribution of 2022 Town of Vegreville Annual Report.**
- **Conducted a review and rewrite of the Town of Vegreville's Social Media Policy and Procedure.**
- **Development and Execution of Onboarding Plan for new social media management platform Loomly .**



# PROTECTIVE SERVICES

The Protective Services Department for the Town of Vegreville oversees various areas such as Municipal Enforcement, Emergency Management, Fire Services, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS), and RCMP Liaison.

## MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Community Peace Officers are responsible for the investigation and enforcement of Municipal Bylaws, Provincial Statutes, and investigations into business licensing and ensuring proactive policing. As Officers, their overall duties are to protect people and to preserve and maintain public peace.

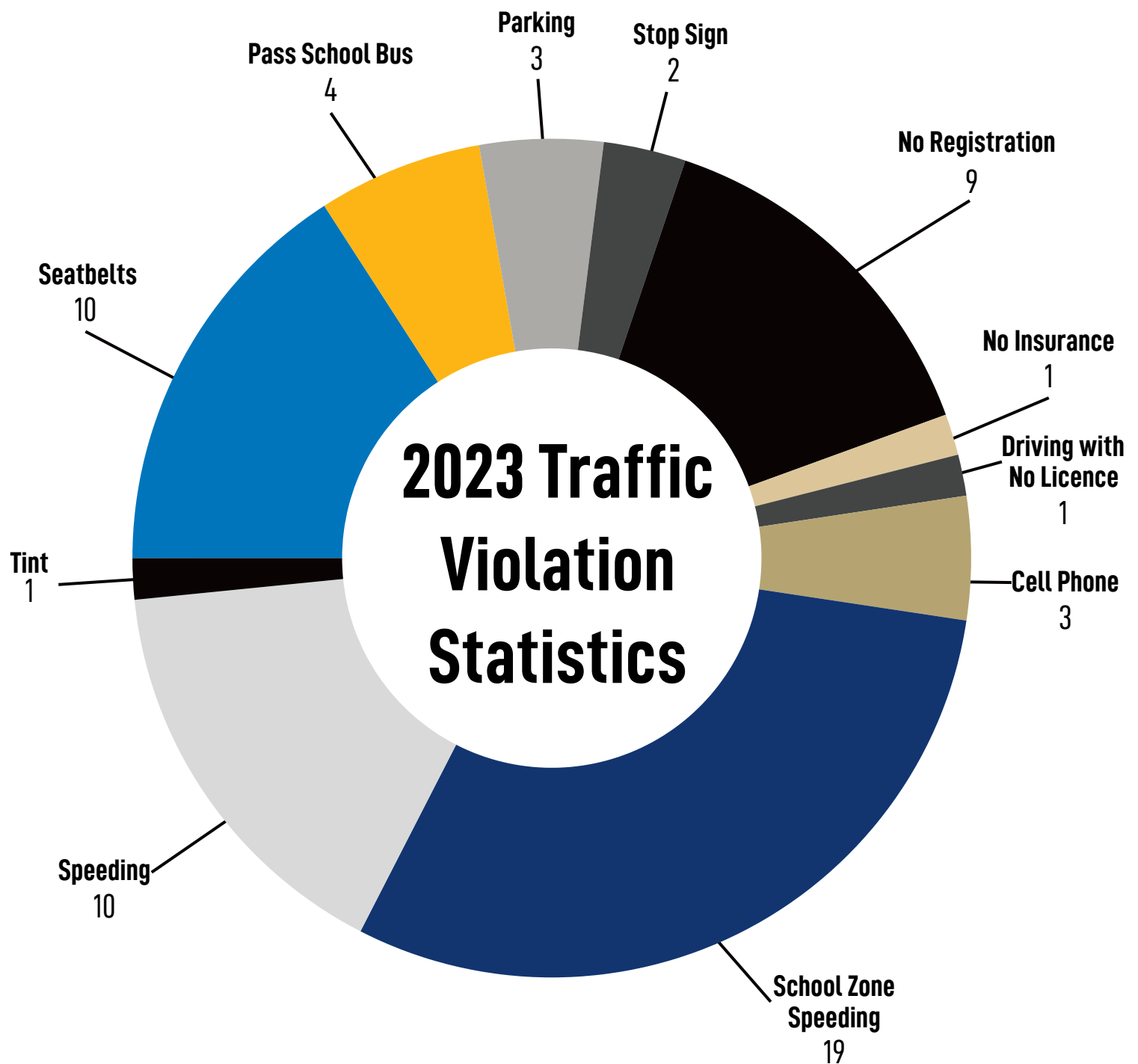
The Town of Vegreville contracts its Municipal Enforcement Services to the Town of Mundare, the Town of Tofield, and the Town of Lamont. Each community is unique with the number of different calls that occur and Officers approach each community with this in mind. Community Peace Officers also engage in community outreach activities including performing foot patrols in schools, handing out candy at Halloween, attending Remembrance Day ceremonies, and serving a Christmas meal to high school students.

- **Updated Municipal Enforcement Logo**
- **Purchased new patrol vehicle**
- **In total for all the communities we serve, 79 tickets were issued for bylaw violations and provincial violations, 63 of which were for provincial violations.**





## MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



## FIRE SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

# 226 Incident Responses

The Vegreville Fire Service responded to 226 Incidents in 2023 including one mutual aid. The following is a breakdown of the calls:



167 Town



59 Rural



94

False Alarms



46

FMR/Medical



4

Public Assist/  
Investigations



26

Motor Vehicle  
Response



17

Structure/MV Fires



14

Other



25

Wildland Fires



## FIRE SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

With the extreme wildfires across Alberta in 2023, requests for assistance came from the Province of Alberta and the Vegreville Fire Service was able to send apparatus as well as personnel on deployment to the following locations:



**Yellowhead County/Grande Prairie:** May 20 – June 1 & June 2 – 5



**Northwest Territories:** September 1 – 13



**High Level:** September 23 – 28

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## Public Relations

- Texas 4000 – Prepared supper/breakfast – July 6 & 7
- Fire Fighter Stair Challenge in Calgary – 6 Members
- Muscular Dystrophy Boot Drive – August 12
- Assisted with Alberta Day Event on September 1
- Assisted with Vegreville Corn Maze – September 23 & 24
- Home Alone Safety Program
- Attended CALS Event and Job Fairs
- Open House and Recruitment Drive
- First Aid Coverage for Chariot/Chuck Wagon Races – June 2023
- First Aid Coverage for Chuck Wagon Races – August 2023
- Set up of Canada Day Fireworks
- Control burns at Vegreville Gun Range
- Demolition Derby First Aid Standby
- Legion BBQ – assistance with monthly steak supper
- Public Fire Education with elementary schools including Fire Hall tours
- Family Day Event
- Tim Horton's Smile Cookie Fundraiser



## FIRE SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

### Training

In addition to regular practice nights, members of the department took extra training during the evenings and weekends. Senior/Training officers spend numerous extra hours ensuring firefighters become confident in their skills.

Members put in 3,114 training hours in 2023 and completed the following courses:

- NFPA 1002 Pump (7 FF)
- Grain Rescue Course (20 FF)
- NFPA 1072 (9 FF)
- Instructors Symposium (Captain Steve Mervin and Captain Amanuel Webeshet attended)

**A Mutual Aid Training exercise with the County of Minburn Fire Department for a large structure fire was also conducted in August.**



### Training Centre

**The members of the Vegreville Fire Department have spent many hours and years working to raise funds for a new Fire Training Centre. Along with funds from the Town of Vegreville, this goal has been achieved and the Training Centre was ordered in 2023 and arrived in February 2024.**



This training facility will be utilized for:

- Fire courses
- Live fire training exercises
- Confined space training
- Search and rescue training
- High angle training
- Hose laying advancement
- Ventilation scenarios with/without fans
- Gaining roof access
- Forcible entry



## FIRE SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

### Staffing



During 2023, the department brought on 11 new recruits, including a few junior firefighters. As of December 31, 2023, there are 41 paid on-call firefighters that include 1 Deputy Chief, 3 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 34 firefighters, and 1 Fire Prevention Officer. 7 Members also Retired from the Fire Service.

Members were recognized for Long Term Service Awards as a combination in the Fire Service and as Town Employees for 2023.

With the promotion of former Fire Chief Mitch Newton to Protective Services Manager, Vegreville Fire Service veteran Gary Faas was hired as the permanent full time Fire Chief in October 2023. Additionally, Steve Mervin was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief in November 2023.







# PARKS, RECREATION, & FACILITIES

The Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Department is responsible for overseeing the maintenance and inspection of all town-run facilities and parks.

Specific tasks include doing plumbing, carpentry, small electrical, and any other tasks that help in the maintenance of our facilities. This department is also in charge of sports fields and sport surfaces. This includes all baseball diamonds, tennis courts, basketball courts, and playground equipment throughout Vegreville and operations, scheduling, and programming at the Aquatic & Fitness Centre and Wally Fedun Arena.

## PARKS HIGHLIGHTS

### **Parks is responsible for:**

- Concrete pours and bench mounting
- Landscaping and resurfacing roads and trails
- Spraying, weed removal, weed trimming, and grass cutting
- Garbage collection throughout the town
- Watering all flower beds based on a weekly schedule
- Pumping water at various locations
- Picnic table welding and board replacement
- Staining tables and sweeping grass areas post-snow removal
- Signage maintenance in parks
- Sod laying, tree planting, removal, and trimming
- Stump grinding and tree inspection for insects and disease
- Bug trap placement for Dutch Elm disease control
- Maintenance of aeration units
- Community garden upkeep including manure and peat moss application
- Wood splitting and gopher control
- Cultivation of planters in preparation for flowers
- Snow removal on trails, parking lots, and outdoor ponds
- Installation of fountains at specific parks
- Equipment maintenance
- Ice melt application as needed
- Placement of Christmas decorations downtown along Highway 16A, and at Rotary Rendezvous Park
- Banner change-outs for winter and summer seasons

## 30 Kilometers

Of Trails Maintained

## 400 Acres

Of Grass Cut and Maintained

## AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE HIGHLIGHTS

The Aquatic & Fitness Centre has so much to offer such as a 25 meter x 6 meter lane pool which is wheelchair accessible and contains a toddler area, diving board, rock climbing wall, twister water slide, whirlpool and dry sauna. Programs offered are: morning and evening Aquafit, lane swim, parent and tot swim, adult and senior swim, swim lessons, swim club, swim camp, private pool rentals, family swim, public swim and so much more. The facility also has a dance studio, weight room, cardio room and a racquetball/squash court.



### Swimming Pool Programs

- 240 Students enrolled in After School Lessons
- 376 Students enrolled in Summer Swim Lessons
- 520 Students enrolled in School Lessons
- 34 Students enrolled in Speciality Programs (Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross, NL etc.)

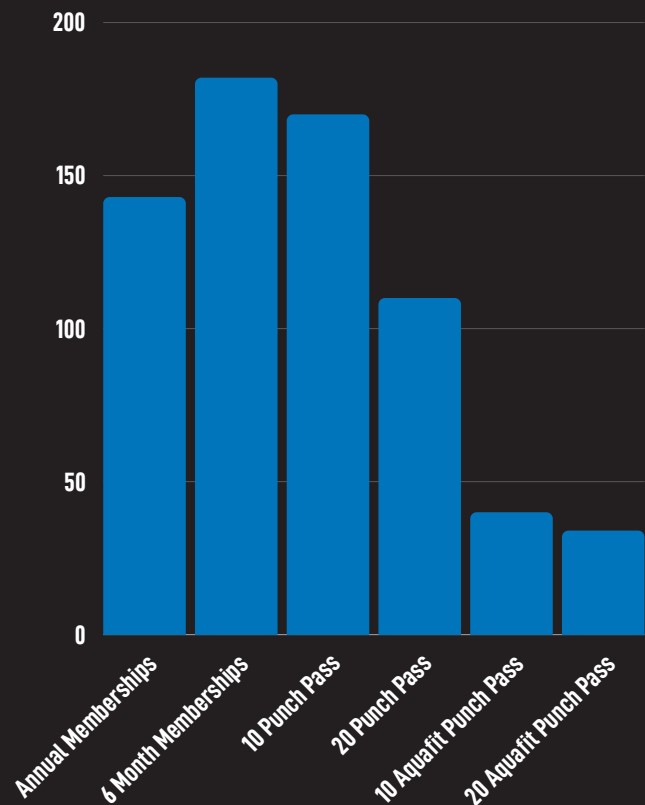
### Drop-In Count

- 2,580 Children (4-12 yr old)
- 1,500 Students (13-17 yr old)
- 3,900 Adults (18-54 yr old)
- 813 Seniors (55+)
- 1,482 Families

**600** Hours of Studio Rentals

**117** Birthday Party Rentals

### Recreation Pass Sales



## FACILITIES HIGHLIGHTS

Facilities is responsible for maintenance of all town-owned and run buildings. Ball diamond setup and maintenance, as well as ice installation at the Wally Fedun Arena and outdoor rinks also falls under Facilities. Maintenance of the following structures is also included:

4

seasonal built outdoor ice surfaces and 1 year-round outdoor rink that is used for ball hockey during the summer.

4

full size tennis courts which also include lines to convert them to pickleball courts. There is also a self return board that can be used for a single player.

7

playground structures owned by the Town as well as 2 outdoor workout equipment areas located at Pysanka Park and the Vegreville Lion's Community Spray Park.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The Spray Park is a self-contained water filtering system, thus very little water is used to maintain it for the summer months.



### Wally Fedun Arena

Operating the Wally Fedun Arena includes putting in and removing the ice during the hockey season and running the arena operations during evenings and weekends. Times for installing ice vary depending on other work that is required during our ice making process. Generally, from the time the ice plant is turned on until completion is 8 continuous days including weekends, although it can be done in a shorter amount of time if need be.



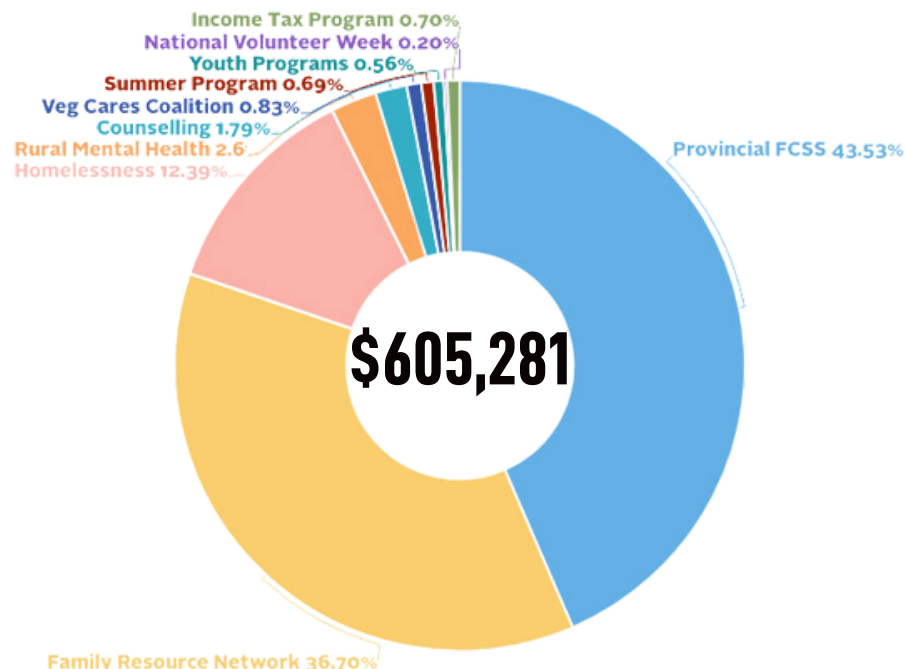


# VEGREVILLE & DISTRICT FCSS

The Vegreville & District Family & Community Support Services Department provides early and later stage preventative services to the residents of Vegreville. There are a range of roles or responsibilities they may have in the community from capacity building, bringing people together to address social issues, to coordination of a committee or project.

In 2023, the FCSS Department successfully completed its Strategic Plan for 2023 to 2026, marking a significant milestone. Engaging over 44 community members from diverse local organizations, government entities, and businesses, an afternoon workshop was held to explore perceptions, prevention strategies, Provincial FCSS Strategic Directions, and identify community challenges. This initiative equipped the FCSS department with essential tools to adopt a more balanced approach to prevention and community development. By integrating this document into daily decision-making process, it has revolutionized FCSS operations and the capacity to make a positive difference.

## GRANTS BROUGHT TO VEGREVILLE IN 2023



## FCSS HIGHLIGHTS

### 47 Trained volunteers support our FCSS programs



Number of volunteer hours: **1098**

1. Meals on Wheels
2. Community Volunteer Income Tax Program
3. Junior Leadership Program with Sizzlin' Summer

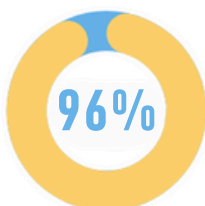
### Total economic contribution of volunteers

Hours x \$23.91 (avg Vegreville wage Census Canada) = the economic value of volunteers:

**\$21,208.17**

Did you know that paying for all reported volunteer hours in Vegreville in 2023 would cost

**\$234,875.20**



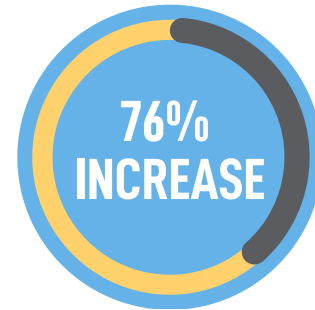
Survey results show the percentage of volunteers who believe volunteering makes Vegreville a better place to live.



4,809



**Meals were delivered  
in 2023 by 27  
volunteers.**



In meals delivered between  
2021 and 2023

## COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PROGRAM



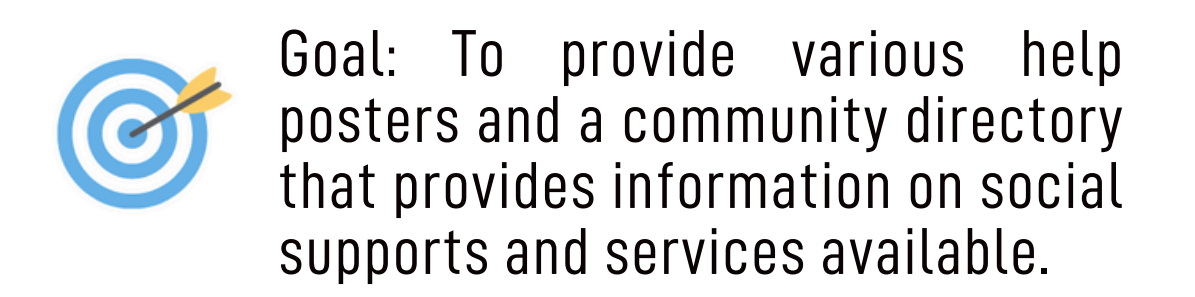
To qualify for the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) the CRA requires you to have a simple tax situation and if you're single your income needs to be below \$35,000. Couples need to be below \$45,000

**469 RETURNS WERE COMPLETED BY TRAINED  
VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PREPARERS**

Total benefit/tax  
refund coming back  
into the community

**\$11,668,274**

## IMPROVING SELF-DIRECTED ACCESS TO SERVICES



## FCSS Created 6 Help Posters

[illegible]

**ALBERTA SUPPORTS CONTACT CENTRE**  
**1-877-644-0992**  
**HOURS: 7:30 AM TO 8:00 PM MON - FRI**  
 When calling, please use the number that applies to you:  
 Press 1: General  
 Press 2: Income Assistance & Housing Needs  
 Press 3: Child Care Safety  
 Press 4: Health & Disability Income Benefits  
 Medical Support, Family Supports for Children with Disabilities or Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD)  
 Press 5: Cancer Employment & Job Search  
 Press 6: Agripreneurs  
 Press 7: All other inquiries  
 Press 8: Available supports for those who experienced loss within 48 hours of a recent security measure taken at home

**OUTSIDE OF BUSINESS HOURS**  
**EMERGENCY IN-HOME SUPPORT**  
**CONTACT CENTRE (AVAILABLE 24/7)**  
**1-866-644-5135**

*Feeling an emergency need for immediate support, please dial in to emergency help. For all other inquiries, please call 1-877-644-0992.*

**How to Use Apply for Supports**  
 Press 2: To find out what forms you'll require or receive  
 Press 3: To get an application form you'll require  
 Press 4: To get an application form you'll require  
 Press 5: To get an application form you'll require  
 Press 6: To get an application form you'll require  
 Press 7: To get an application form you'll require  
 Press 8: To get an application form you'll require

# Vegreville & Area Kinsmen Community Directory:

FCSS provides details on agencies, non-profits, child development, affordable housing, and more to make this resource possible

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# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LATER STAGE PREVENTION



Goal: To provide guidance and support to community initiatives that address later stage/complex social challenges in the community

| ISSUE BEING ADDRESSED                 | PARTNERSHIP WITH  |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Lack of Childcare</b>              | Community Childcare Committee (10 Members)  |
| <b>Access to Services</b>             | Community of Practice (COP) Multi-sectoral working group of professionals led by the Kalyna PCN                                 |
| <b>Family &amp; Domestic Violence</b> | Alberta Mental Health & Addictions Crisis Intervention Funding, the Vegreville Crisis Association, and various agency partners. |
| <b>Homelessness &amp; Poverty</b>     | Housing & Basic Needs Task Force (15-20 Members)  |



Sizzlin' Summer is a day camp program for children ages 6-11, for 6 weeks in July and August

In 2023, this program focused on developing the following skills:

- Planning & Decision Making
- Self-Esteem for internal assets
- Positive Peer Influences
- Adult Role Models for external assets

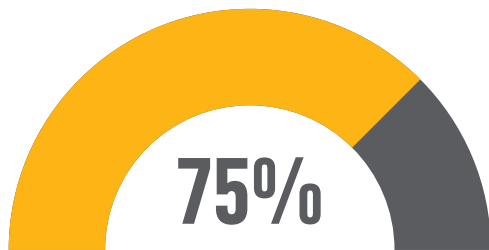
**60** Total Registrants

**15** Community Partnerships



## YOUTH VOLUNTEER & EMPLOYABILITY SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Junior Leaders program (ages 13-15) prepares youth for work and community volunteering, focusing on skills like empowerment, positive identity, responsibility, and interpersonal skills.



Of youth reported an increase in their ability to work well with others because of the Junior Leader program.

- Building trust
- Encouraging collaboration
- Fostering open communication
- Reducing the occurrences of conflict
- Boosting productivity

## AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS 2023

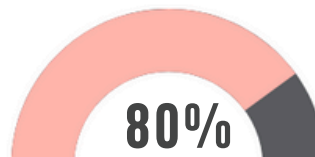
Delivered in partnership with the Kalyna Family Resource Network and Vegreville & District FCSS

### Friend Den

Skills Developed:

- Self-Awareness
- Choices
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Trust
- Responsibility

For children Grades 1-3 to develop social skills, friendships, and learn to process emotions.



Of respondents reported improved friend-making skills due to the program.

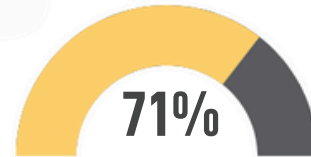
## FCSS HIGHLIGHTS

### After Hours

Youth reported that they:

- Learned to work well with others
- That they can make a difference
- Adults in the community value youth

Fostering connection, boosting self-esteem, and skill development for youth grades 7-12.



Of respondents felt more empowered to make a difference in the community



The Hub Facilitator is the primary contact for accessing Kalyna Family Resource Network programs, services, and support, assisting families in navigating programs within and outside the Network.

In 2023, this service focused on connecting families to services by:

- Providing information, facilitating referrals
- Leading, supporting, and developing collaborative practices with all FRN Partners

**74 REFERRALS PROVIDED**



Preventative supports & programs for parents/caregivers, children, and youth aged 0 to 18.

In 2023, FRN delivered 13 continuous programs and 5 special events focusing on:

1. Child Development & Well-Being
2. Social Connections & Support
3. Caregiver Capacity

**117**

**Families participating in programs**

# INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING, & DEVELOPMENT

The Infrastructure, Planning, & Development Department is responsible for roads, utilities, waste management, fleet services, Riverside Cemetery, Vegreville Regional Airport, Vegreville Sanitary Landfill, Vegreville Materials Recovery Facility, and overall land use planning and development activity in the Town of Vegreville. The primary goal of the Department is to build an increasingly sustainable community with an enhanced quality of life.

## PUBLIC WORKS HIGHLIGHTS

The Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance and repair of 61 kms of roads, 25 kms of rear lanes, 57 kms of water mains, 55.2 kms of sewer mains, 26.9 kms of storm sewer lines, valves, fire hydrants, and sidewalks. They are also responsible for the maintenance of Riverside Cemetery and the operation and maintenance of the Vegreville Regional Airport.

### Projects

- Paved the Pysanka Park Entrance
- Paved 53 Street between 51 and 52 Avenue
- Paved 54 Avenue east of 47 Street
- Replaced manhole at 49 Avenue and 52 Street
- New Columbarium installed and landscaping completed in the Columbaria Plaza





## **Began the Cemetery Bank Stabilization Project.**

**Utilizing wattle fencing and live staking to stabilize the riverbank and prevent future erosion.**



### **UTILITIES HIGHLIGHTS**

The Utilities Department is responsible for the distribution of water, the collection and treatment of sanitary sewer, and oversees the operation of these systems in other municipalities in our area.

#### **Contracted Utilities Services**

- ACE (Transmission Station – contract ended October 2023)
- Andrew
- Innisfree
- Lavoy
- Mundare
- Two Hills

#### **Projects**

- Both reservoirs were inspected with a Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV)
- Ordered the Motor Control Centre (MCC) cabinet for the West Reservoir
- Repaired the main feed line at the East Reservoir
- Installed Pump #4 at the Main Sewer Lift Station
- Removed solids from the lagoons

## MUNICIPAL SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS

The Municipal Services Department is responsible for the Town's fleet of trucks and equipment, garbage collection, recycling and compost collection, the operation of the Vegreville Sanitary Landfill, operation of the Vegreville Materials Recovery Facility, and the Central Recycling Drop-off Centre.

### Fleet

The Fleet Department completes the maintenance and repair on approximately 150 mobile equipment units. This includes vehicles, emergency response apparatus, heavy equipment, riding mowers and tractors, small engine units, and stationary gen sets. This department is responsible for sourcing and purchasing all additions to the Town Fleet for all departments.

### Landfill

- Finalized a redesign of the Landfill disposal areas to improve the operations.
- Installed new groundwater monitoring well.
- Hired a Commercial Shredder to shred mattresses.
- Completed the installation of the boundary fence to control litter and to discourage recreational vehicles from trespassing and damaging the landfill cells.

### Waste Reduction

**1,067,107.90** pounds of recyclable material was diverted from the Landfill in 2023

**That's the equivalent of 26.47 tractor trailer loads!**

The Household Hazardous Waste Roundup had another successful run where 20,100 pounds of household hazardous waste was collected and diverted from our Landfill.



## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Prosperity Industrial Park

While Prosperity Industrial Park has been an ongoing project since 2019, the Town of Vegreville is looking forward to the project officially coming to an end.

Prosperity Industrial Park has been zoned as a 'Business Industrial District - (M1)', the proposed layout below features 16 parcels ranging from 1.48 acres to 22.16 acres. This district is intended to establish an area of light industrial use and commercial use, which can create endless opportunities for the Town of Vegreville.



## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Lift Station: As of December 2023, the new Vegreville Lift Station is 95% complete and will start commissioning in the Spring of 2024.



Off Site: As of December 2023, Prosperity Industrial Park's 'Off Site' is 95% complete, the remaining 5% will be complete by the Spring of 2024.

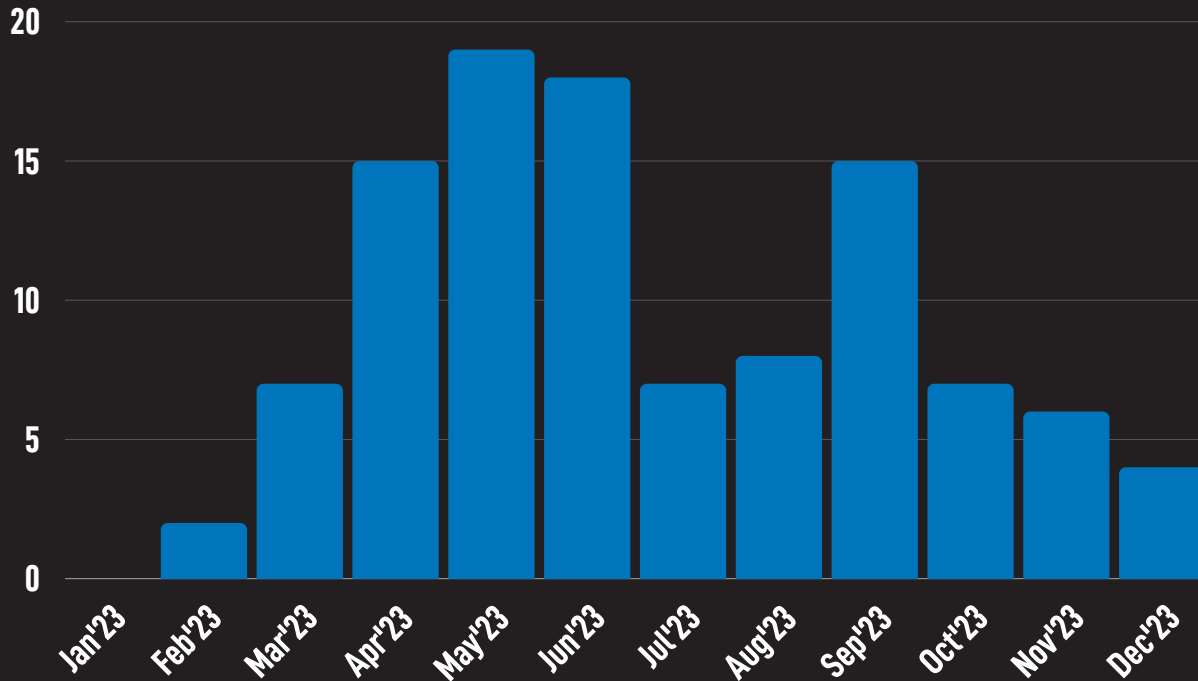
On Site: As of December 2023, Prosperity Industrial Park's 'On Site' is 90% complete. Shallow utilities are set to be installed in Q2 of 2024.



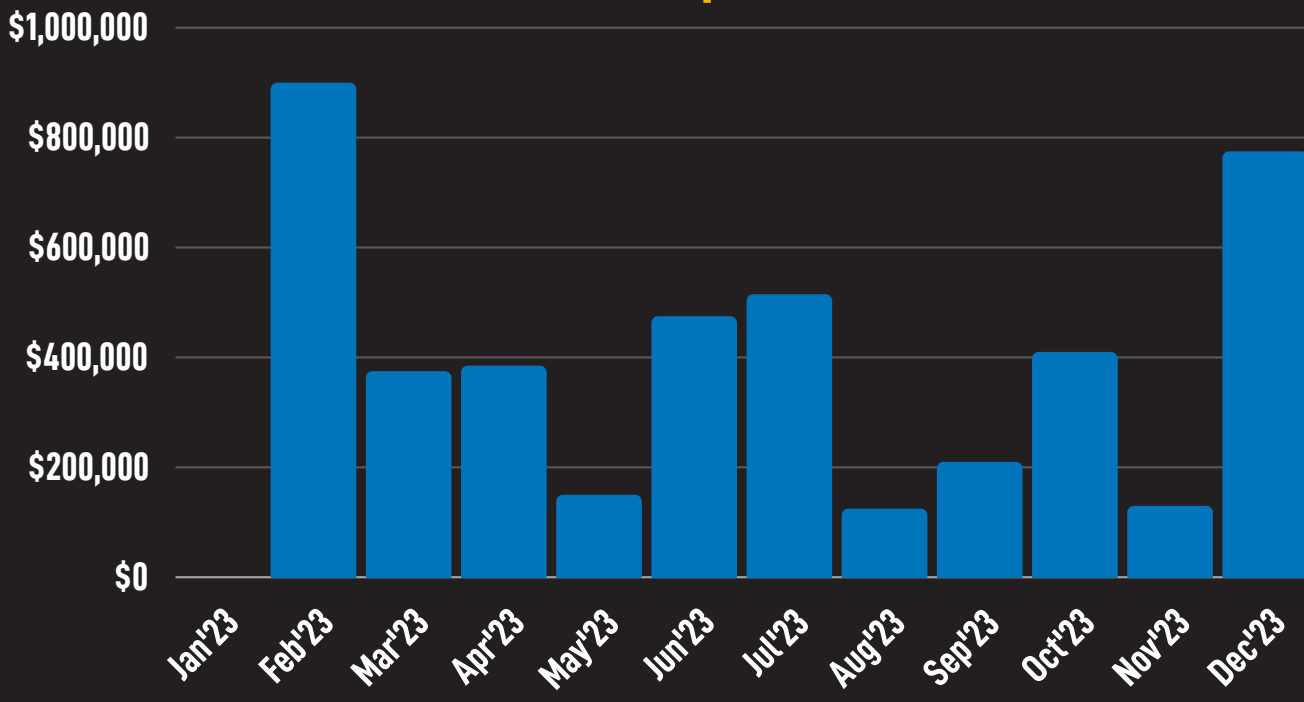
## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Development permits in 2023 were down from 2022, but the value of development permits stayed consistent throughout the entire year.

### Development Permits Issued

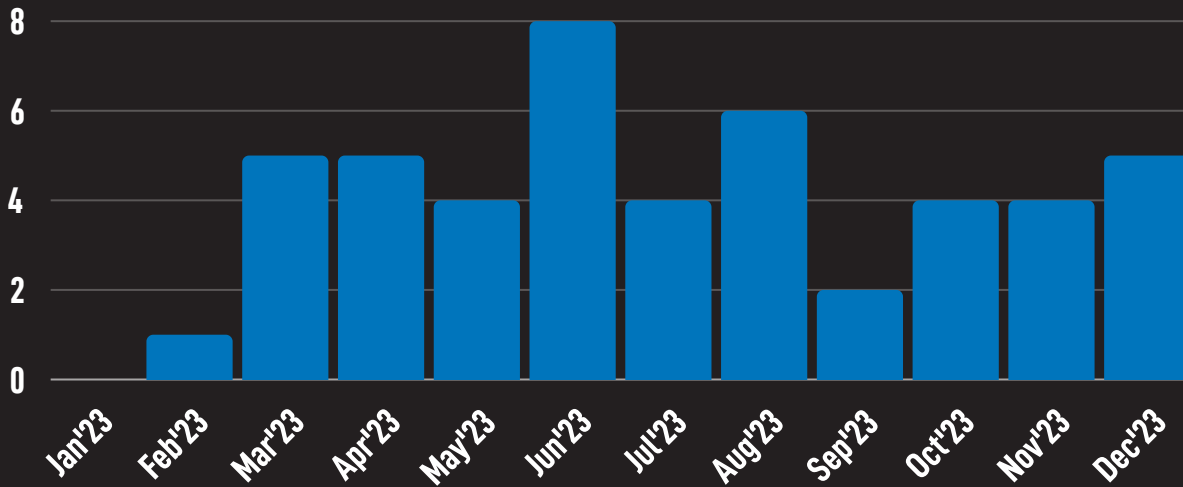


### Value of Development Permits

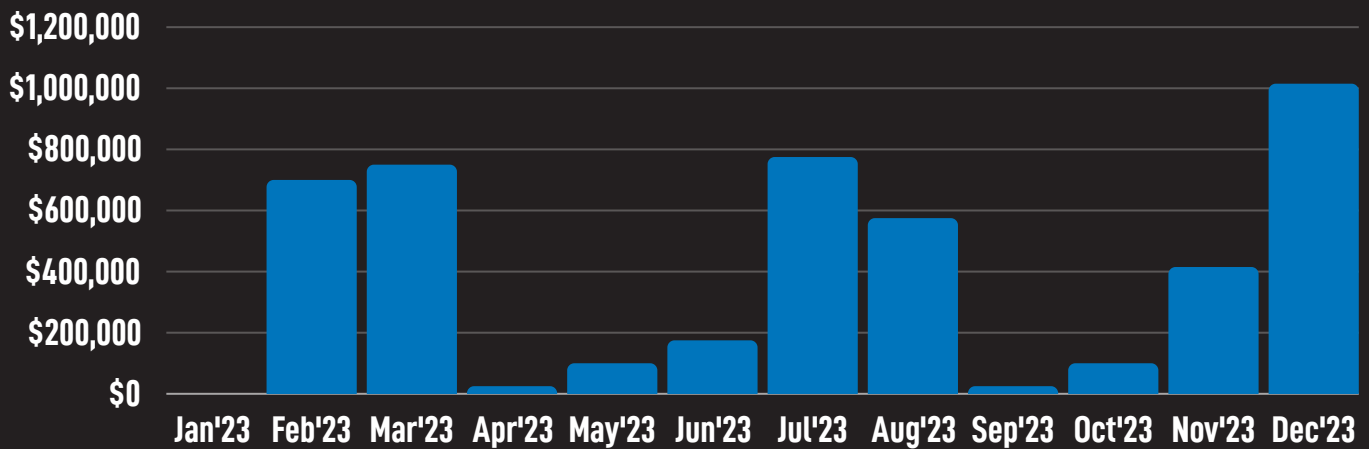


## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

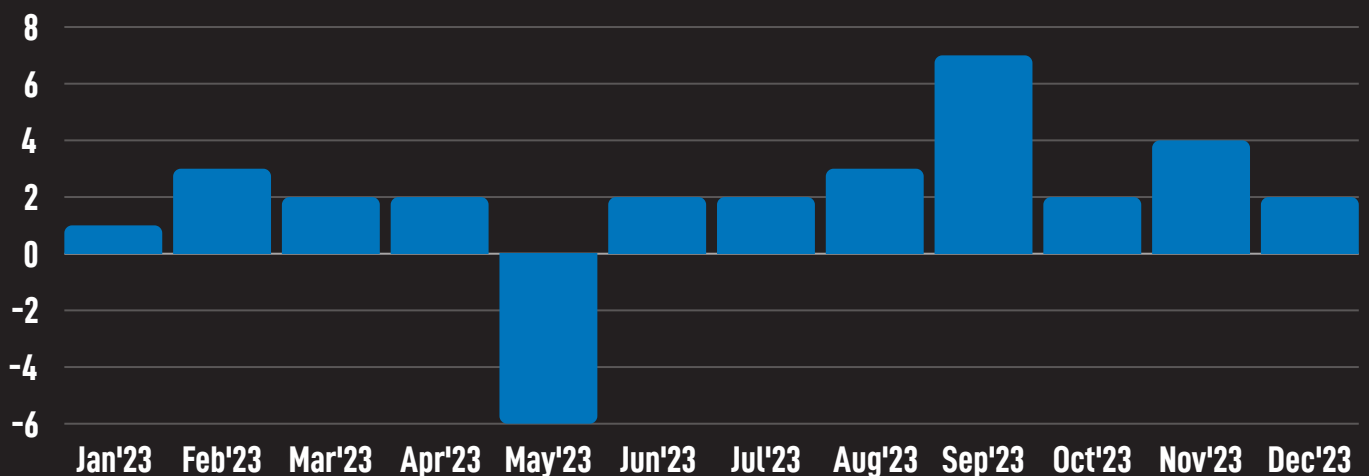
### Building Permits Issued



### Value of Building Permits



### Net New Business Licenses





# CORPORATE SERVICES

The Corporate Services Department is responsible for the financial health of the Town. The department oversees budget and financial reporting, and provides services and support to cash management, accounts receivable, accounts payable, property taxes, utilities, payroll, the library and cemetery.

Corporate Services is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that are objective, accurate and in compliance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards. The Municipal Government Act of the Province of Alberta identifies requirements for the preparation and audit of the annual statements. Town Council is responsible for approving the statements. As a key part of maintaining public confidence through transparency, these statements show the Town's financial health, provide information on changes in financial position, report on performance and demonstrate how tax dollars and government funds are used.

## 2023 FINANCIAL POSITION HIGHLIGHTS

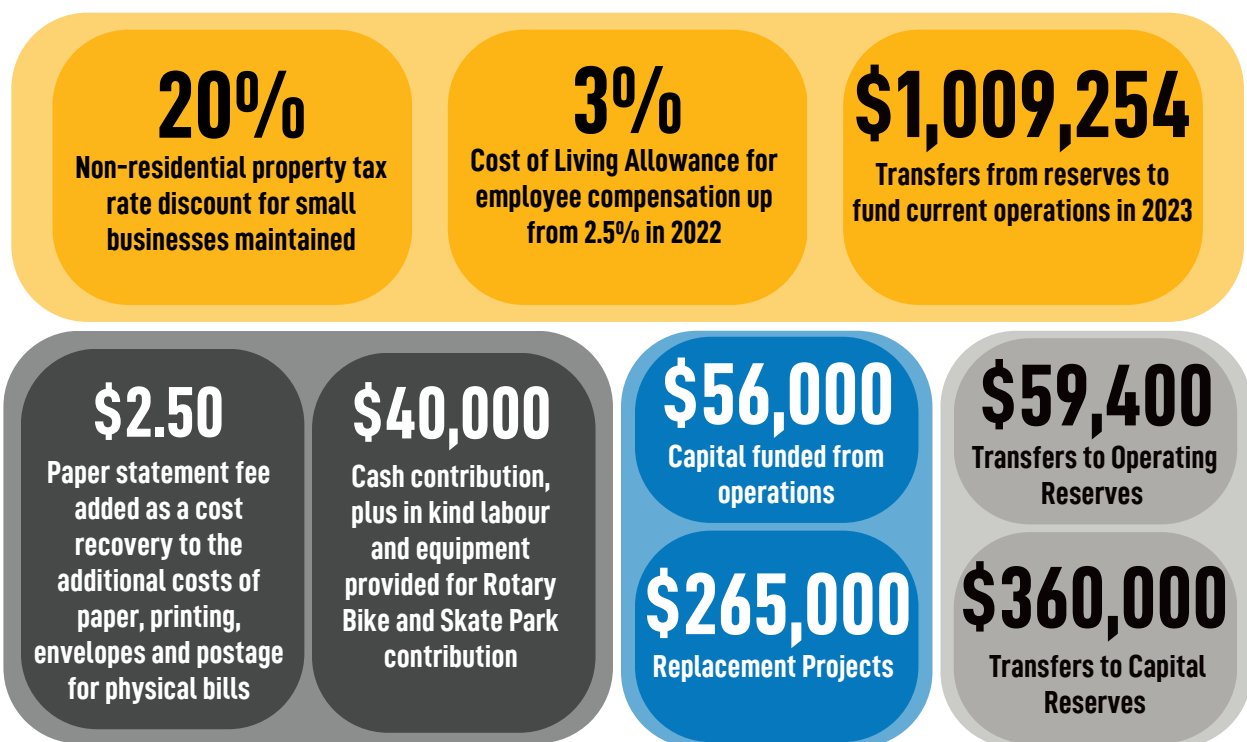
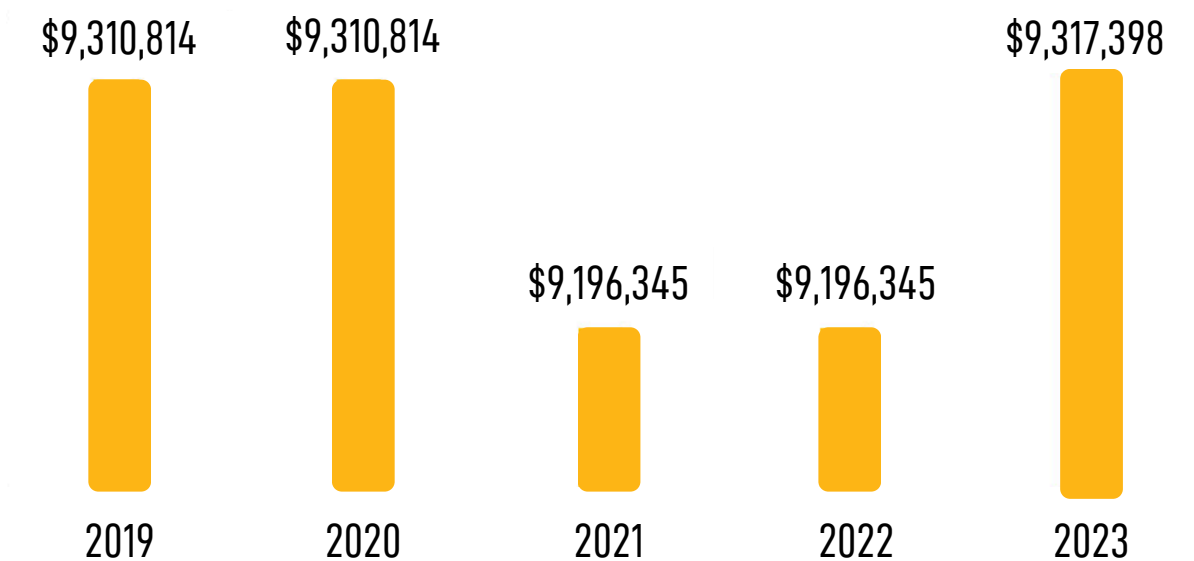
The consolidated financial statements of the Town of Vegreville are prepared by management and a third-party auditor in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards. The consolidated financial statements reflect the assets, liabilities, revenues, expenses and change in net financial assets (net debt) of the Town. These statements are available on the Town of Vegreville website:



## OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS

### FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF NET MUNICIPAL TAX REVENUE

Based on discussions with Council, Administration worked hard to keep the 2023 net municipal tax revenue equivalent to 2020 values prior to the decreases that we saw in 2021 and 2022 as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic. We are proud to deliver a balanced budget with these values as the current inflation rates were sitting at 6.5% at the end 2022 when the 2023 budget was prepared





## OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS

Council has approved funding for the following organizations:

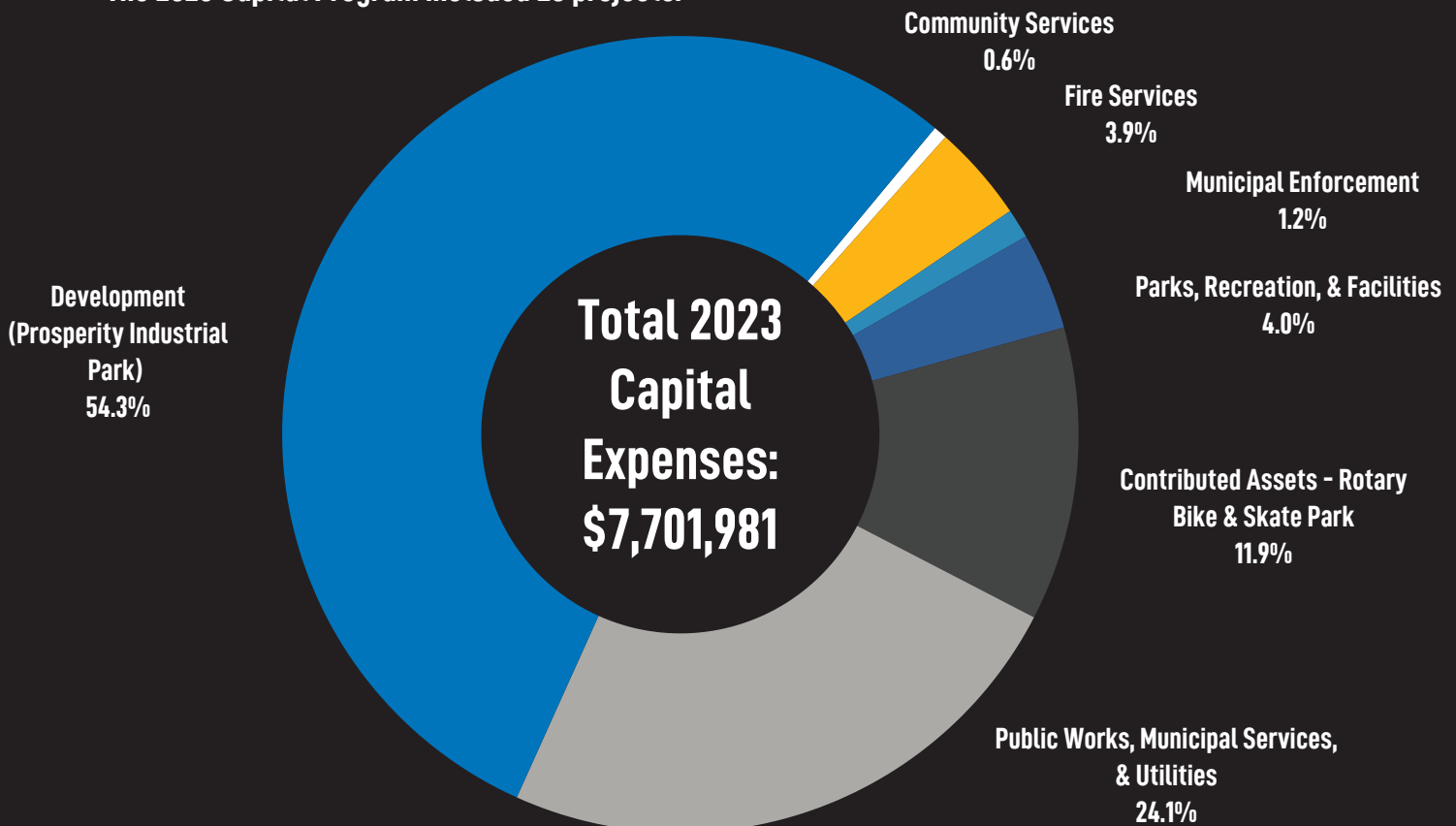
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>1</b> Vegreville Transportation Services Society:<br><b>\$22,000</b> | <b>2</b> Prairie Tails Animal Rescue Society<br><b>\$17,000</b> |
| <b>3</b> Rotary Bike and Skatepark<br><b>\$40,000</b>                   | <b>4</b> Vegreville Centennial Library<br><b>\$254,078</b>      |

## Total Funding: \$333,078

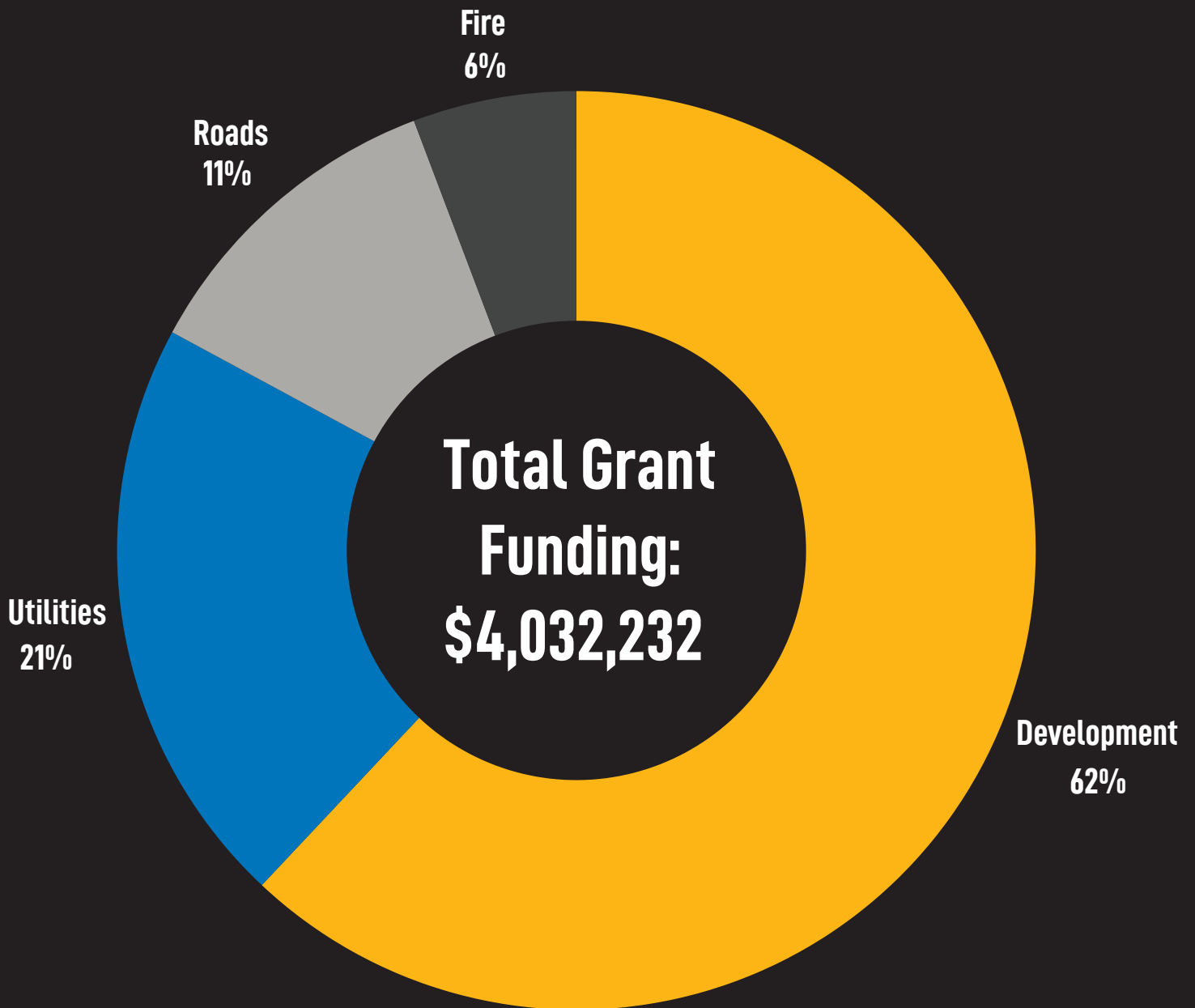
The funding for the Vegreville Transportation Society, Rotary, and Prairie Tails Animal Rescue Society are direct transfers to those organizations.

## CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

The 2023 Capital Program included 25 projects:



## CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS



## CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS

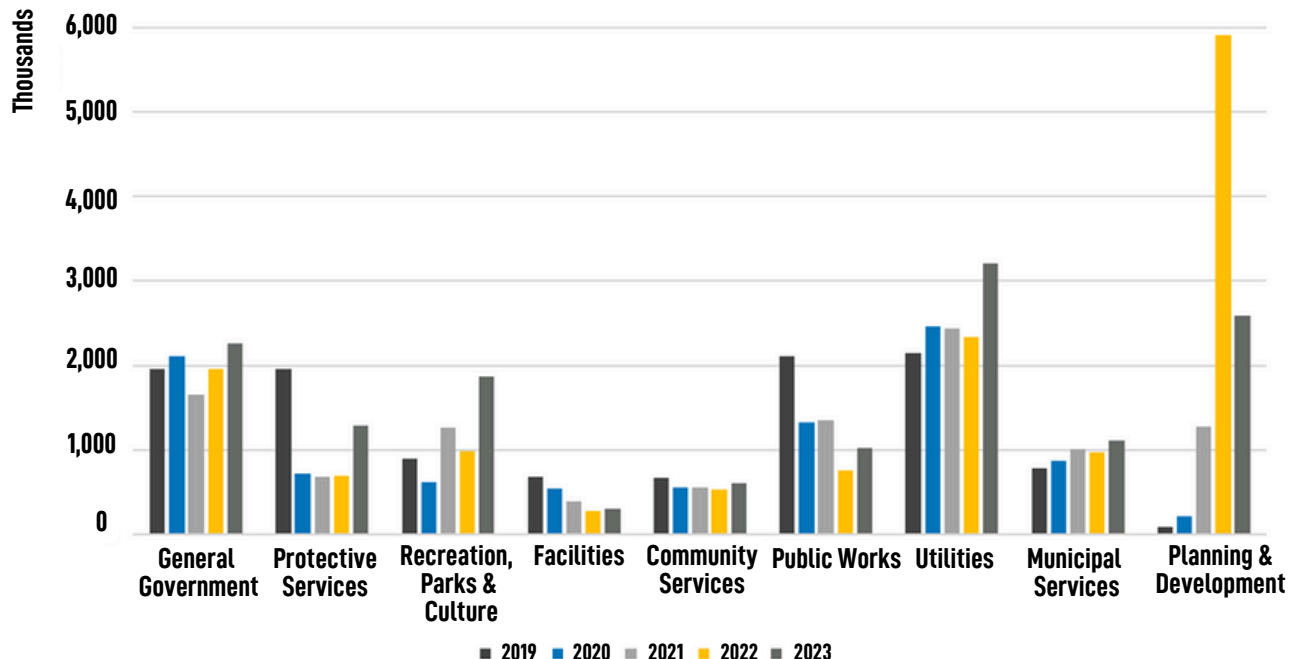
The Town maintains funds expected to be used in the next twelve months in its operating accounts or notice of demand accounts. Funds expected to be needed over longer time horizons are invested in accordance with the Town's investment policy.

At December 31, 2023, the Town has the following cash and short term deposits:

|                           | December 31, 2023 |                       | December 31, 2022 |                       |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Cash & Cash Equivalents   | Balance \$000     | Average Interest Rate | Balance \$000     | Average Interest Rate |
| Operating Accounts        | 6,948             | 5.15%                 | 2,416             | 2.84%                 |
| Notice of Demand Accounts | 1,399             | 5.18%                 | 7,192             | 4.34%                 |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>8,347</b>      | <b>5.16%</b>          | <b>9,608</b>      | <b>3.59%</b>          |

## FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY: BUDGET TO ACTUAL RESULTS

### FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF REVENUES BY DEPARTMENT



## FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY: BUDGET TO ACTUAL RESULTS

**\$918,582**

Increase in Recreation, Parks & Culture revenue due to contributed asset from completion of Rotary Bike and Skate Park.

**\$586,000**

Increase in Protective Services revenues as a result of replacement of \$232,000 grant funding to replace SCBA equipment as well as increases to overall revenue due to deployments for wildfires in 2023.

**\$300,000**

Increase in Revenues for General Government from prior year. This is due to the increased interest earnings in 2023.

**\$23,601,337**

Total 2023 overall revenue remained consistent.

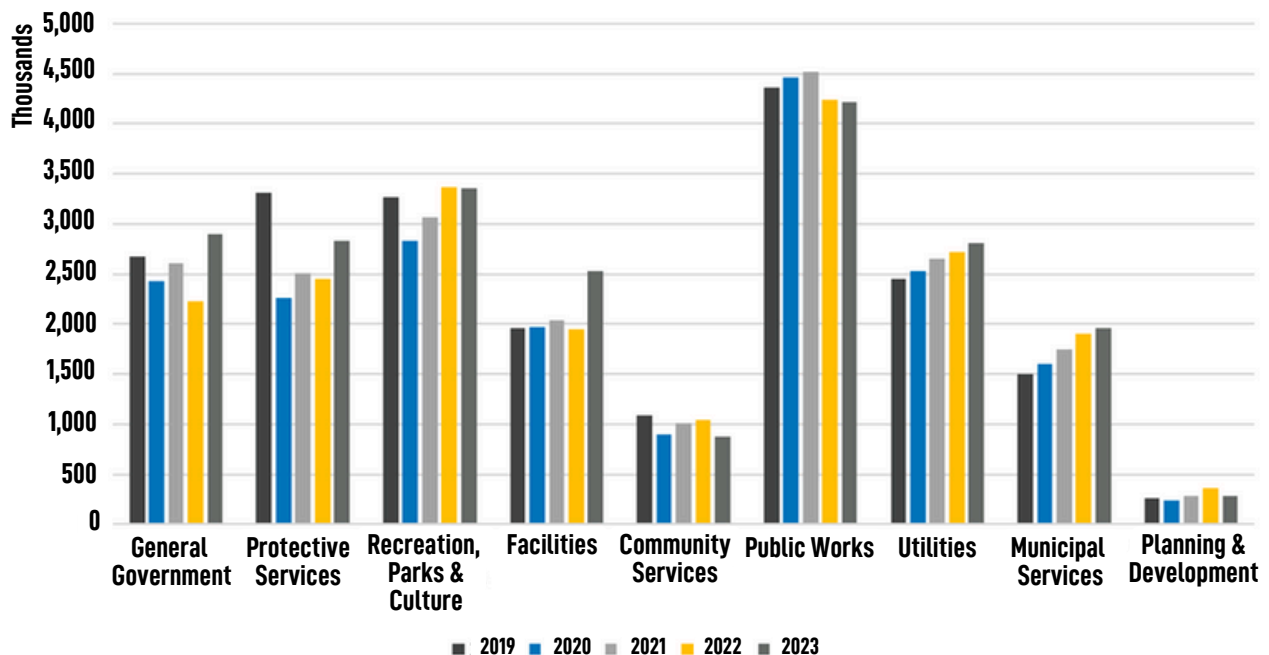
**\$870,000**

Increase in revenues for utilities due to grant funding for work on the Forced Main Replacement.

**\$3,300,000**

Decrease in Planning & Development as the development of Prosperity Industrial Park was in the final stages in 2023.

## FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF EXPENSES BY DEPARTMENT





## FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY: BUDGET TO ACTUAL RESULTS

**General government services expenses increased due to several factors. This was the result of increased wages and benefits with the 3% COLA, plus adjustments to taxes and rebates of \$55,000, and transfers to reserves of \$90,000.**

**\$75,000**

**Decrease in Planning & Development expenditures over prior year due to variances in lot sales in 2023.**

**\$29,000**

**Decrease in expenditures for Public Works. This is due to savings in fuel as a result of a mild winter as well as materials and supplies due to a continued focus on Prosperity Park in 2023 rather than on various road projects as in prior years.**

**50%**

**Of departments saw increases in expenses in 2023.**

**\$588,951**

**Increase in expenditures for Facilities**

**\$90,412**

**Increase in expenditures for Utilities**

**The \$382,000 increase in protective services is attributable to \$303,000 in capital expenditures for replacement SCBA and other equipment as well as increased expenditures for wages which were countered by additional revenues from wildfire deployments.**



# SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Management's Report

The Town of Vegreville's 2023 Annual Financial Report, including the consolidated financial statements, is the responsibility of management. The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with public sector accounting standards. Financial statements are not precise as they include amounts that are based on the best estimates and judgments of management. Management has determined such amounts on a reasonable basis in order to ensure that the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects.

Management maintains systems of accounting and administrative controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are appropriately authorized and accurately recorded, that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded and that the financial statements realistically report the Town's operating and financial results.

Town Council has approved the information contained in the financial statements. Council fulfils its responsibility regarding the financial statements through the Council Budget. Quarterly financial reports are presented to Council.

Wilde and Company Chartered Professional Accountants have been appointed by Town Council to audit the consolidated financial statements and have provided the accompanying Independent Auditors' Report outlining their professional opinion on the statements.

The financial statement discussion and analysis that follows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements available at <https://www.vegreville.com/p/finance>

Meghan Saskiw, CPA, CA  
Director of Corporate Services

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (UNAUDITED)

|  | 2023               | 2022               |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Financial Assets</b>                  |                    |                    |
| Cash and cash equivalents                | \$7,157,482        | \$7,331,520        |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents     | 1,274,284          | 2,280,101          |
| Receivables                              |                    |                    |
| Taxes and grants in place of taxes       | 739,693            | 682,939            |
| Due from governments                     | 1,798,811          | 661,422            |
| Trade and other receivables              | 679,570            | 632,989            |
| Land held for resale                     | 1,507,137          | 1,196,359          |
| <b>Total Financial Assets</b>            | <b>13,156,977</b>  | <b>12,785,330</b>  |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                       |                    |                    |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 3,779,311          | 2,759,241          |
| Accrued employee obligations             | 407,807            | 434,025            |
| Deferred revenue                         | 1,188,612          | 2,280,101          |
| Long-term debt                           | 10,127,473         | 10,773,023         |
| Asset retirement obligation              | 1,339,156          | 1,339,862          |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                 | <b>16,902,359</b>  | <b>17,586,252</b>  |
| <b>Net Debt</b>                          | <b>(3,745,382)</b> | <b>(4,800,922)</b> |
| <b>Non-Financial Assets</b>              |                    |                    |
| Tangible capital assets                  | 62,347,769         | 61,575,204         |
| Inventory for consumption                | 109,923            | 104,739            |
| Prepaid expenses                         | 79,194             | 64,833             |
| Land held for development                | 189,154            | 189,154            |
| <b>Total Non-Financial Assets</b>        | <b>62,726,039</b>  | <b>61,933,930</b>  |
| <b>Accumulated Surplus</b>               | <b>58,980,658</b>  | <b>57,133,008</b>  |

# STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS(UNAUDITED)

|   | Budget             | 2023               | 2022               |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                                   |                    |                    |                    |
| Net municipal taxes                               | \$ 9,371,398       | \$ 9,316,196       | \$ 9,182,424       |
| User fees and sales of goods and services         | 3,996,484          | 4,622,380          | 4,313,418          |
| Government transfers for operating                | 1,577,790          | 1,841,033          | 1,586,188          |
| Investment Income                                 | 1,460,000          | 1,391,285          | 253,195            |
| Franchise and concession contracts                | 150,000            | 535,407            | 1,501,667          |
| Fines, licenses, permits and penalties            | 336,550            | 303,960            | 271,567            |
| Other   | 576,386            | 640,262            | 824,321            |
| <b>Total Operating Revenue</b>                    | <b>17,468,608</b>  | <b>18,650,523</b>  | <b>17,932,781</b>  |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                   |                    |                    |                    |
| General government services                       | \$ 2,863,464       | \$ 2,892,941       | \$ 2,224,507       |
| Protective Services                               | 2,673,252          | 2,832,307          | 2,450,305          |
| Recreation, parks and culture                     | 3,086,721          | 3,355,545          | 3,365,581          |
| Facilities  | 1,749,560          | 1,760,767          | 1,944,283          |
| Community services                                | 919,878            | 879,275            | 1,043,882          |
| Public works                                      | 4,661,287          | 4,214,192          | 4,245,121          |
| Utilities   | 2,652,100          | 2,806,623          | 2,716,211          |
| Municipal services                                | 2,039,772          | 1,954,253          | 1,901,980          |
| Subdivision and development services              | 221,729            | 285,317            | 359,911            |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>                   | <b>20,867,763</b>  | <b>20,981,220</b>  | <b>20,251,781</b>  |
| <b>Surplus (Deficit) before Other</b>             | <b>(3,399,155)</b> | <b>(2,330,697)</b> | <b>(2,319,000)</b> |
| <b>Other</b>                                      |                    |                    |                    |
| Contributed assets                                | -                  | 918,582            | -                  |
| Gain(loss) on disposal of tangible capital assets | -                  | (772,467)          | 1,947              |
| Government transfers for capital                  | 2,475,000          | 4,032,242          | 5,695,221          |
| <b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>                | <b>(924,155)</b>   | <b>1,847,650</b>   | <b>3,378,168</b>   |





# CONTACT TOWN COUNCIL

## **Tim MacPhee, Mayor**

tmacphee@vegreville.com

780-632-9378

## **Taneen Rudyk, Councillor**

trudyk@vegreville.com

780-632-1455

## **David Berry, Councillor**

dberry@vegreville.com

587-280-0772

## **Jerrold Lemko, Councillor**

jlemko@vegreville.com

780-632-8935

## **Tina Warawa, Councillor**

twarawa@vegreville.com

780-632-1351

## **Len Bullock, Councillor**

lbullock@vegreville.com

780-632-1333

## **Justin Curtis, Councillor**

jcurtis@vegreville.com

780-603-3529

# CONTACT TOWN DEPARTMENTS

## Vegreville Town Hall

4829 - 50 Street | PO Box 640

Vegreville, Alberta, T9C 1R7

MAIN LINE: 780-632-2606

FCSS: 780-632-3966

INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING, & DEVELOPMENT:

780-632-6479

## Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (Closed 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM)

## Aquatic & Fitness Centre & Wally Fedun Arena

MAIN LINE: 780-632-6403

## Facility Bookings

MAIN LINE: 780-632-3100

## Public Works

MAIN LINE/24-HOUR EMERGENCY LINE:

780-632-3439

## Visitor Information Centre & Municipal Campground (May - September)

MAIN LINE: 780-632-6800

## Municipal Enforcement (Non-Emergency)

24 HOUR LINE: 587-790-1294

## Fire Hall (Non-Emergency)

MAIN LINE: 780-632-2254

## Follow Us Online



[www.vegreville.com](http://www.vegreville.com)



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