

















2016 ANNUAL REPORT



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MESSAGE FROM THE REEVE

Flagstaff County Council is committed to our vision of a “Community of communities,” collaborating with our neighbours to provide a responsible level of service that is efficient, affordable, and effective.

We are pleased to be working with our fellow municipalities through the Flagstaff Intermunicipal Partnership (FIP) Committee, as we help to evaluate a single-tier governance model for public consideration and discussion in each community. The overall goal of FIP, which consists of representation from all nine municipalities in the Flagstaff Region, is to forge a legacy for generations to come. In recent years, the Region has faced ongoing challenges due to a declining population and the changing global economic landscape. To ensure that future generations in the Flagstaff Region live successful and happy lives, we are currently exploring shared services options for enhanced collaboration between all towns, villages, and the County within the Flagstaff Region.

In 2016, Flagstaff County assumed the governance of the hamlets of Strome and Galahad. The transition has gone well and residents in both communities are now enjoying enhanced levels of service at a decreased rate of taxation.

The County continues to fund a variety of beneficial projects such as recreation grants, educational scholarships, cemeteries grants, Nights Alive Teen Program, Parkland Regional Library, STARS®, Mennonite Liaison Program, Parents for Fun in Flagstaff, and Flagstaff Community Adult Learning.

A major part of our day-to-day operations revolves around Public Works. Managing the road network is a difficult task; however, County Council is committed to implementing the long-term recommendations contained within the Rural Road Study to provide a ban free arterial road system.

The Agricultural Service Board continued with the Leafy Spurge Program, the Shelterbelt Establishment Program, roadside mowing, and roadside spraying in 2016. Construction of a 2,880-sq. ft. pesticide container storage collection building at Flagstaff Waste Management has been completed. This building is expected to significantly reduce the environmental impact of pesticide residue.

Flagstaff County recognizes the importance of economic development for our Region. For that reason, we are committed to our Economic Development Strategic Pathways Plan. This plan covers four key pillars: entrepreneurial enablement, investment attraction and retention, marketing and brand building, and regional collaboration. Our region branding project, completed in October 2015 and intended for use by all municipalities within the Flagstaff Region, will be rolled out in 2017.

With the focus on economic development comes the responsibility of managing the development. We are continuing a review of the Land Use Bylaw (LUB), Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and the Intermunicipal Development Plans (IDP) with Sedgewick, Forestburg, and Hardisty. We have completed an IDP with Killam and will be entering into an IDP with Daysland for the first time. All of this will ensure that communities in the Flagstaff Region will have the proper planning processes in place for future development.

Taking on the role of a County Councillor is no easy task. Difficult decisions need to be made in the interests of all the residents. Under Section 153 of the Municipal Government Act, we as Councillors have duties that we must fulfill. I am confident that we will continue to fulfill these duties and legislative requirements. Our financial position is solid and our history of being able to operate with little or no debt is an accomplishment we are extremely proud of. We are aware of the changing economic environment and we will consider this in addition to other factors as we proceed to plan for the future.

On behalf of County Council, I would like to thank the staff of Flagstaff County for implementing our decisions and helping us achieve our vision. We look forward to a bright future of responsible and sustainable governance.

Gerald Kuefler, Reeve
Flagstaff County



COUNTY VISION

A safe, caring, and vibrant rural
“Community of communities”
committed to working with
our neighbours to ensure the
quality of life for all citizens.

As an innovative and
progressive “Community”
that balances economic
prosperity and environmental
stewardship, we deliver a
responsible level of service that
is both efficient and effective.



COUNTY COUNCIL

REEVE GERALD KUEFLER – DIVISION 2:

As I serve my fourth term on Council, I feel it is very important to realize as a “Community of communities” we need to be innovative to offer a high level of service. I look forward to working with all our communities and County staff to deliver these effective and efficient programs and services.

DEPUTY REEVE GUNNAR ALBRECHT – DIVISION 4:

In my fourth term, I have focused my energies on regional cooperation and collaboration, as well as pursuing economic development initiatives that can diversify our economy while attracting and retaining people within our Region.

RICK MANNING – DIVISION 1:

I hope the upcoming years will bring us closer towards regional thinking and sharing of the resources that we struggle to keep active in our towns and villages for all our citizens, young and old, alike. Thank you for the previous years. I look forward to the future as I serve on Council.

JIM MATTHEWS – DIVISION 3:

I am currently serving my first term on Council. My goal is to provide fair and equitable service for all the landowners of Flagstaff County. Strong cooperation between rural and urban people in the Region will be a key factor in the level of success achieved in the future.

GARY MATTHIESSEN – DIVISION 5:

I am serving my first term on Council. I believe the need to provide responsible and affordable services to the residents of the County is of utmost importance when endeavouring to attract new people and prevent the decline of population in our communities.

JAMES BRODIE – DIVISION 6:

I am honoured to represent the landowners of Division 6 and Flagstaff County. I believe in a responsible government and while I agree with most decisions of past Council, I’ve also seen areas needing improvement. I continue to work towards my objective of making Flagstaff County a strong place for business and a great place to raise a family.

WADE LINDSETH – DIVISION 7:



I am serving my second term on Council. The need to provide efficient, effective, and equitable municipal services to all residents of the Flagstaff Region is important to me, beginning primarily with ensuring there is an efficient, well-developed road network system.



MUNICIPAL SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE PROJECTS

In 2007, the Government of Alberta committed to provide municipalities with sustainable funding to meet the challenges they face and enhance long-term sustainability. This Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) funding is long-term funding and will provide operational and capital funding to support our initiatives.

The province committed to providing the total MSI funding with the possibility of extending it over a period of more than ten years. Our past funding from MSI grants are as follows:

	 OPERATING ▼	 CAPITAL ▼
2010	\$357,311	\$1,893,310
2011	\$337,622	\$1,769,950
2012	\$323,334	\$1,747,847
2013	\$317,780	\$1,674,900
2014	\$184,574	\$1,753,151
2015	\$182,290	\$1,617,683
2016	\$237,241	\$2,553,307

INITIATIVES



ACTIVE LIVING CONFERENCE FOR SENIORS

BUDGET: \$22,000

The goal of this project is to engage the community and recognize the importance of active living to the well-being, independence, and quality of life for seniors. The full day conference was held twice in 2016.



EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

BUDGET: \$50,000

Scholarships are provided to encourage post-secondary training and aids with the costs of attending institutions outside of the Region. This project is designed to encourage our youth to return to work and live in the Flagstaff Region once they have completed their studies. In 2016, 51 scholarships were approved totalling \$51,000.



HERITAGE INVENTORY PROGRAM

BUDGET: \$22,000

In a continuing commitment to ongoing heritage awareness in the County, financial resources have been allocated to assist future requests for the identification and designation of heritage assets. This also includes the identification and documentation of heritage barns located throughout Flagstaff County.



PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT

BUDGET: \$94,800

Administrative and financial support is provided to the Flagstaff Community Medical Recruitment and Retention Committee to actively participate in the retention and recruitment of medical professionals in the Flagstaff Region.



CEMETERIES ASSISTANCE GRANT

BUDGET: \$30,000

Financial support is provided in an effort to assist rural communities who operate a cemetery within the County to complete general maintenance and improvements. Cemeteries are eligible for a \$2,500 grant every two years. In 2016, eight (8) applications were processed, totalling \$20,000.



STARS® AIR AMBULANCE DONATION

BUDGET: \$20,000

From 2008-2012, Flagstaff County provided a \$10,000 donation to STARS®. In 2013, Council approved to provide a \$20,000 annual donation for the period of 2013-2017.



AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

Flagstaff County's Agricultural Service Board responsibilities focus on weed control, pest management, and soil conservation. The Agricultural Service Board partners with provincial and private agricultural and environmental organizations to deliver programs and services beneficial to the residents.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) includes County Council and the following appointed members:

- David Hihn
- Howard Shield
- Garret Jackson

Flagstaff County would like to extend a sincere thank you to Steve Saruga and Jason Forster for their past commitment and time on the Agricultural Service Board and welcome Garret Jackson as our newly appointed member.

ROADSIDE BRUSH AND WEED SPRAYING

Weeds and brush are sprayed to improve sightlines, protect infrastructure, and minimize the spread of weeds onto adjacent properties. In 2016, 1,705 miles of roadside was covered for weed control and 739 miles of roadside was covered for brush control.



NO SPRAY AGREEMENTS

Agreements are available to landowners and tenants who do not want herbicide application on roadsides adjacent to their property. Weed and brush control along municipal right-of-ways will then be the responsibility of the landowner or tenant.

Please note: Flagstaff County refrains from spraying herbicide 500 feet before and after all yard sites.

- The Agreements must be signed prior to June 1st.
- The Agreements are in effect for five years.
- “No Spray Zone” signs will be provided and must be posted where they can be viewed from the road.
- Landowners and tenants must assume responsibility of weed and brush control along roadsides according to municipal standards.

ROADSIDE MOWING AND ROADSIDE HAYING

All municipal right-of-ways are mowed twice a year. Landowners who want to hay municipal right-of-ways must:

- Complete a Roadside Haying Permit prior to May 15th.
- Each permit is effective for one year.
- Permitted landowners must complete their haying by July 15th of each year.
- Bales must be removed from municipal right-of-ways within seven days of baling.

CUSTOM WEED CONTROL

Custom herbicide application services are offered on private land to control small infestations of persistent weeds such as:

- Absinthe (Wormwood)
- Common tansy
- Leafy spurge
- Scentless chamomile
- Toadflax
- White cockle

Flagstaff County offers incentive programs to assist landowners with the control of these weeds.

We also offer free reverse headland spraying for landowners. This program consists of driving in the headlands and spraying back towards the ditch to control problem weeds. This service only applies to headlands that are adjacent to municipal right-of-ways.

SHELTERBELT ESTABLISHMENT PROGRAM

To assist landowners with shelterbelt establishment, we charge only 50% of the cost of the trees. Shelterbelt establishments of one-third of a mile in length or longer will be eligible for planting and initial watering at no cost. Additional watering will be provided at \$75/hour. To assist with weed control, plastic mulch and applicator are also available for an additional charge. In 2016, 31 producers applied to the Shelterbelt Establishment Program, and 19 new shelterbelts were established.



4EVERGREEN REJUVENATION PROGRAM

Free evergreen seedlings are available to residents to plant into dying native poplar or evergreen stands (no ornamental plantings), within the County. The purpose of this program is to provide rejuvenation of native tree species into the landscape. In 2016, 720 trees were distributed for planting to 35 landowners.

CLUBROOT DISEASE OF CANOLA

Clubroot is a concern for farmers across Alberta. Clubroot is a serious soil-borne disease of canola and has been declared a pest under the Alberta Agricultural Pest Act. In 2016, there was one positive site identified. Since 2007, there have been 35 confirmed locations in the County. For more information on this disease please visit www.flagstaff.ab.ca.

ROADSIDE RE-VEGETATION

After the completion of road construction projects, the Agricultural Service Board will reseed municipal right-of-ways. In 2016, 64 miles of municipal right-of-ways were hydroseeded. All seed purchased is certified and comes with a weed seed certificate.

WATER LOADING STATIONS

Seven water loading stations are established within the municipality. The water at these facilities is non-potable and suitable only for crop spraying and irrigation purposes.

The following five facilities operate year-round and provide rural residents with a reliable and adequate supply of water to utilize for agricultural purposes:

- NE 11-44-11 (NE of Loughheed)
- SE 27-41-16 (SW of Forestburg)
- SW 10-45-16 (S of Daysland)
- SE 2-43-13 (SW of Sedgewick)
- NE 3-44-14 (SW of Killam)

The following two facilities operate on a seasonal basis from April 15th to September 30th:

- NE 8-41-12 (NE of Alliance)
- SW 27-41-10 (S of Hardisty)

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year, the Agricultural Service Board offers workshops/information sessions on various topics such as:

- Classroom Agriculture Program
- Grazing School for Women
- Solar Workshop
- Watch Your Water Program – annual well water tests to encourage all private well owners to be aware of their water quality.

If you have an interest or a topic you would like to see addressed, please contact the ASB department.



ALTERNATIVE LAND USE SERVICES (ALUS)

The ALUS program is new to Flagstaff County. ALUS is a community-developed, farmer-delivered program that provides support to farmers and ranchers to enhance and maintain nature's benefits. ALUS has a simple goal: create a healthy working landscape that sustains agriculture, wildlife, and natural spaces for all Canadians. Flagstaff County is currently looking for landowners interested in establishing ALUS projects on their land, such as creating, restoring, enhancing and conserving wetlands, riparian fencing and buffering, off-site watering, establishing upland native prairie, and planting shelterbelts.

For more information please contact Flagstaff County ALUS Program Coordinator, Kelsey Fenton, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, 780-384-4129.

RECREATIONAL PARKS

The Agricultural Service Board manages the following parks:

FISH LAKE CAMPGROUND

Located five kilometres west of the Town of Hardisty, this campground has eight spacious power sites and 12 non-serviced sites near the beach. A gazebo, a playground, outdoor kitchen, and centralized water are also on site.

DIPLOMAT TROUT POND

Situated 16 kilometres southwest of the Village of Forestburg, the Diplomat Trout Pond has 15 non-serviced sites, a gazebo, two fishing docks, fire pits, and the Diplomat Mine Interpretive Site is located across the highway. There is no power or water. The pond is stocked annually with trout by Alberta Fish and Game Association, making it a great place to take the kids fishing.

EDGERTON DAY CAMPGROUND

The Edgerton Day Campground is south of the intersection of Hwy 13 and Hwy 855 on the outskirts of Daysland. This campground has 12 available campsites including four that are powered. In 2016, a new playground and covered picnic area were added to the campground.

GALAHAD CAMPGROUND

Galahad Campground is situated along Guinevere Ave in Galahad. This campground has six fully serviced sites with washrooms and shower facilities.

GALAHAD MUNICIPAL GROUNDS

A gazebo located west of Merlin Street in Galahad can be rented out for large functions such as family reunions. There is an open area to park trailers. Washrooms, shower facilities, sewage dump, and water are also available.

For more information about the ASB department and programs available, please visit www.flagstaff.ab.ca.



LOOKING FORWARD TO 2017...

- ▶ Building new outhouses at the Edgerton Day Campground
 - ▶ Adding additional powered sites to Fish Lake Campground
 - ▶ Adding new picnic tables at the Diplomat Trout Pond
-



ASSESSMENT

The Assessment department establishes and maintains property valuations (assessments) for all property within Flagstaff County for the purposes of distributing annual property taxes. We provide annual valuations for approximately 8,800 County properties including the hamlets of Galahad and Strome.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR PROPERTY ASSESSMENT

Property assessment is the process of assigning a dollar value to a property for taxation purposes. In Alberta, property is taxed based on the ad valorem principle. Ad valorem means “according to value.” This means that the amount of tax paid is based on the value of the property. Assessed values are based upon regulated assessment and market value assessment. Regulated assessment applies to four types of properties: farmland, linear, machinery and equipment, and railway. Market value is used to determine all other properties such as residential and non-residential.

MARKET VALUE






The market value based standard is used to determine the assessed values for the majority of properties in Alberta. Market value is the price a property might be expected to sell for if sold by a willing seller to a willing buyer after appropriate time and exposure in an open market.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF MARKET VALUE ARE:

- It is the most probable price, not the highest, lowest, or average price.
- It is expressed in terms of a dollar value.
- It assumes a transaction between unrelated parties in the open market.
- It assumes a willing buyer and a willing seller, with no advantage being taken by either party.
- It recognizes the present use and potential use of the property.



ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

 NON-RESIDENTIAL	 FARMLAND	 MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT	 RESIDENTIAL	 NON-RESIDENTIAL LINEAR
6.9%	11.7%	15.1%	20.0%	46.3%
\$97,871,310	\$165,803,390	\$214,311,870	\$285,497,320	\$657,856,550

TOTAL ASSESSMENT: \$1,421,340,440

REGULATED ASSESSMENT

Some types of properties are difficult to assess using a market value based assessment standard because:

- They seldom trade in the marketplace. When they do trade, the sale price usually includes non-assessable items that are difficult to separate from the sale price.
- They cross municipalities and municipal boundaries.
- They are of a unique nature.

Municipal Affairs prescribes rates and procedures to assess these types of properties, which are referred to as "regulated property." Rates and procedures are determined by what a type of property is used for, its activity, or its production capability.

There are four types of regulated property:

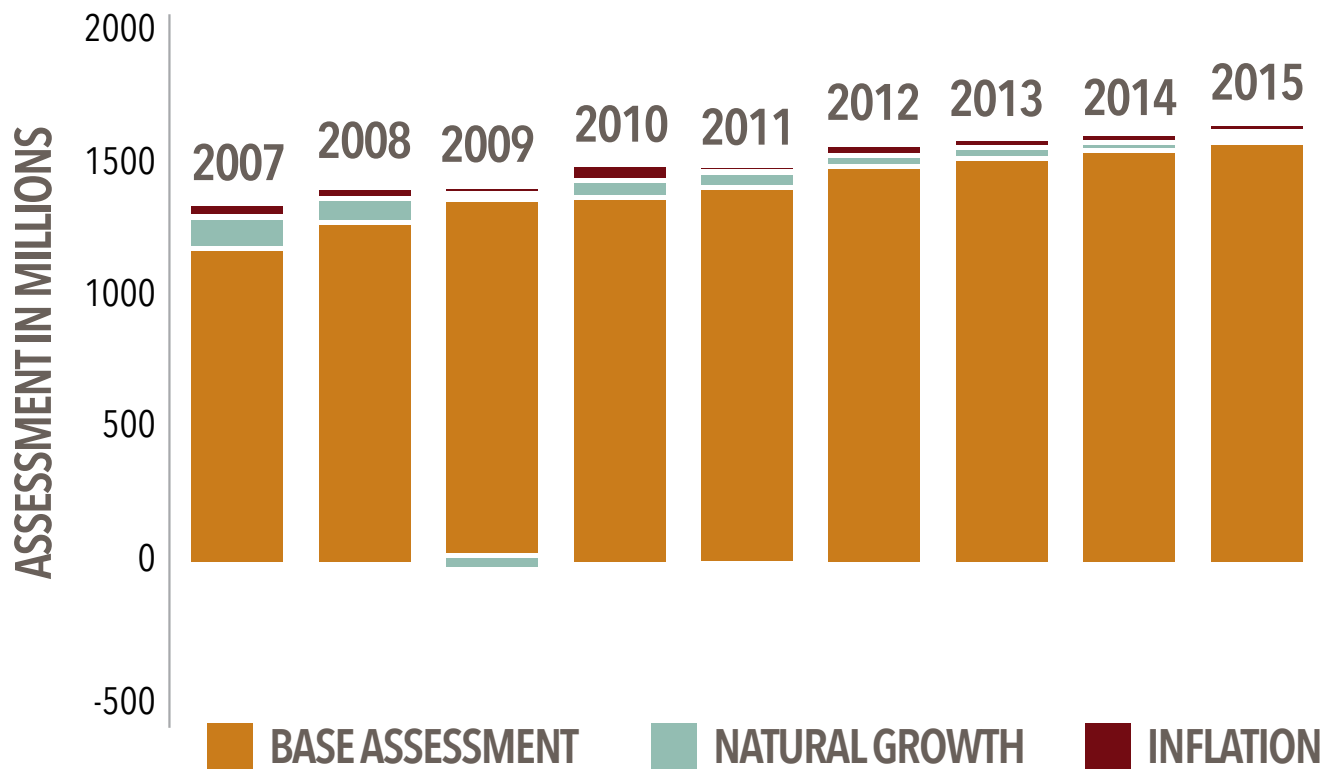
1. Farmland
2. Linear property
3. Machinery and equipment
4. Railway property

FARMLAND

Farmland is assessed based on its productive value; that is, the ability of the land to produce income from the growing of crops and/or the raising of livestock. The productive value of farmland is determined using a process that sets a value for the best soils, and then adjusts for less-than optimum conditions such as stones, the presence of sloughs, or topography.



ASSESSMENT GROWTH



Flagstaff County continues to contract the assessment services with Accurate Assessment Group Ltd. They provide services to many municipalities across the province.

Accurate Assessment Group employs highly knowledgeable and experienced staff. Using Geographic Information Systems, they have pioneered the way assessments are being analyzed, which allows them to provide a more efficient and effective assessment of the highest quality.

For more information on our Assessment Complaint and Appeal System, please visit our website at www.flagstaff.ab.ca.

If you have any questions regarding assessment, please contact:

Accurate Assessment Group Ltd.

Sean Cosens
scosens@flagstaff.ab.ca
780-464-4655
171 Pembina Road
Sherwood Park, AB T8H 2W8
www.aag-gis.com



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Development department focuses on joint regional economic development initiatives. Core initiatives include youth development and engagement, business services, investment attraction and retention, and marketing “upstanding” brand building. Programs and services that focus on sustainability and community development are offered to citizens and businesses in the Flagstaff Region.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

ACCA PROGRAM

In 2016, Flagstaff County sponsored 10 youth to attend the Alberta Community Cooperative Association (ACCA) Youth Leadership program held at the Goldeye Centre, near Nordegg, Alberta. This program provides an opportunity for youth to develop their leadership, teamwork, and community development skills. Participants gain independence and confidence in their abilities, while creating lasting friendships.

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

The Company Program was offered to high school students in the Region, however, there was insufficient enrolment to run the program in 2016.

Ten elementary programs were offered to 140 students in partnership with Central High Sedgewick Public School and Killam Public School. This is an increase of six programs from 2015, reaching an additional 76 students in grades 3 - 9. These programs could not be offered without the time and dedication of volunteers from the Region; we thank you for your continued support!



CAREER FAIR

The Tri-County Job and Career Fair was cancelled in 2016, due to insufficient interest from local businesses and vendors. To ensure Flagstaff Region youth in grades 9 – 12 were still granted an opportunity to explore their career and post-secondary options, Flagstaff County provided funding for bus transportation to alternate career and post-secondary expos, including the Educational Liaison Association of Alberta (ELAA) event, held at Daysland School.

BUSINESS SERVICES

BUSINESS VISITS

Business visits are conducted annually and our goal is to contact all the businesses at least once every three years. This provides us insight to better respond to the needs, opportunities, and challenges facing businesses within the Region.

In 2016, we visited businesses in the communities of Sedgewick, Loughheed, Hardisty and the surrounding rural area. A total of 65 businesses received a visit; 57 businesses within the towns and villages and 8 rural businesses.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Business Partnership Breakfasts were continued in 2016. There were four breakfasts featuring speakers on topics relevant to small business, including:

- Shauna Feth "Planning for the Future: Business Succession Strategies"
- Barbara Mills "Attract, Retain and Motivate Employees"
- Todd Hirsch "The State of the Alberta Economy"
- Chris Fields "13 Ways to Kill Your Marketing"

FLAGSTAFF CELEBRATES SUCCESS

The 2016 Flagstaff Celebrates Success was hosted in Killam with keynote speaker David Segal, co-founder of DAVIDsTEA. The event was organized to celebrate the businesses, volunteers, and residents that make the Flagstaff Region a unique and great place to live. The event was a success and had over 150 people in attendance. Thank you to Flagstaff Initiative to Relationship and Spousal Trauma (F.I.R.S.T) for once again partnering with Flagstaff County on this annual event.



INVESTMENT ATTRACTION AND RETENTION

NEWCOMERS CONFERENCE

The Newcomers Canada Conference was held for the first time in Edmonton and was considered an excellent opportunity to showcase the Flagstaff Region. It was an opportunity to attract people who have recently relocated to Canada and are looking for places to establish roots, find employment, or invest in established businesses. Flagstaff County attended as an exhibitor and handed out nearly 700 information packages; however, we did not receive any follow-up responses. Going forward, time and funding will be invested in new and innovative ways to attract residents to our Region.

REGIONAL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Administrative, strategy, and marketing support continued for Friends of the Battle River Railway in 2016. They offered five successful excursions in 2016, and were able to expand operations to offer 11 excursions in 2017. They are considering creating an employment position within their organization to accommodate their recent and future growth.

Flagstaff County applied for funding to diversify and grow regional tourism through the Community and Regional Economic Support (CARES) program in November 2016. We were successful in our application, with project execution to take place from March 2017 – September 2018.

MARKETING “UPSTANDING” BRAND BUILDING

FLAGSTAFF REGION INVESTMENT MATERIALS

The Flagstaff Region brand was approved and launched in 2015. In 2016, we worked on developing promotional materials to attract investors to our Region. Investment materials included a full-page ad and feature article in “Invest in Alberta” magazine, which has a circulation of 15,000 copies distributed to all levels of government, site selection firms, and business owners/managers around the globe. Additionally, we updated the content and branding of the Flagstaff Region Investment Guide, and created sell sheets that showcase the competitive advantages of our core industries: agriculture, oil and gas, and tourism. All materials are scheduled for an on-line launch on our new economic development website (www.flagstaff.ab.ca/investment) in May 2017.



COUNTRY ROOTS TOUR

The Country Roots Tour was a sold-out success held on August 19th, 2016, with over 85 attendees. Tour participants travelled on the Battle River Railway between the villages of Heisler and Alliance, visiting the Alliance Seed Cleaning Plant, the Alliance and District Museum, and the Southbend Hutterite Colony. The evening festivities took place on Heisler's Main Street, featuring a Flagstaff Region Vendor Showcase, a locally sourced long-table supper, and entertainment from The River Jacks.



LOOKING FORWARD TO 2017...

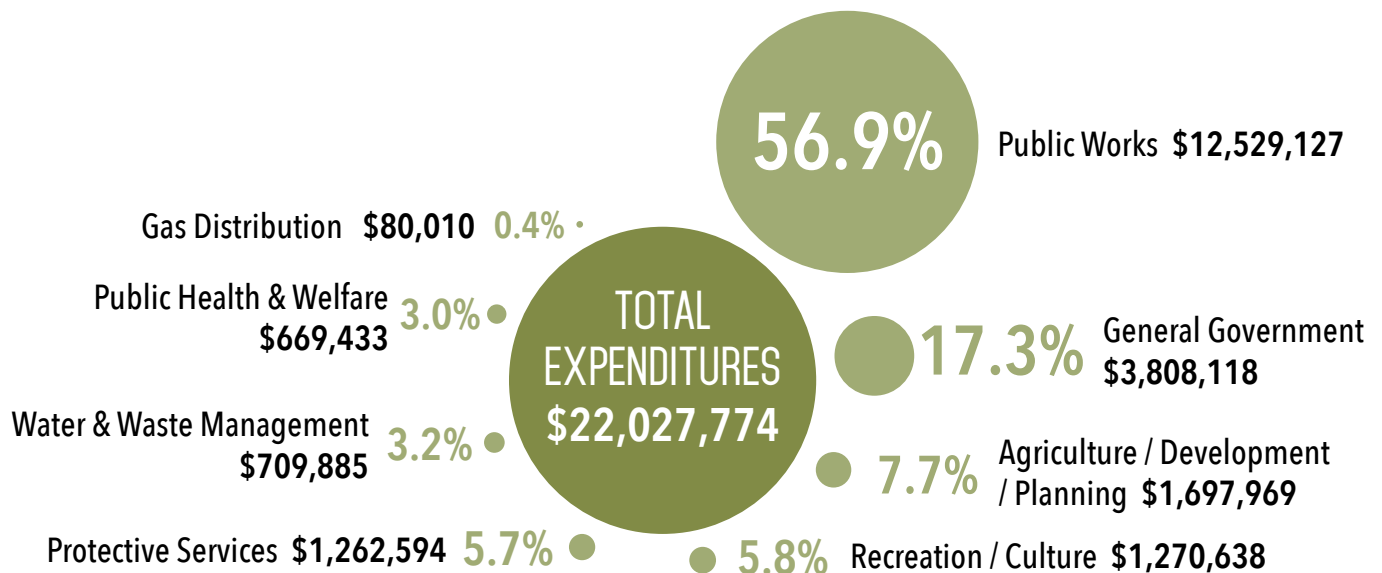
- ▶ Facilitate the development of a "Flagstaff Crafted" brand, assisting value-added agriculture producers with marketing, sales, and expanding their product lines.
 - ▶ Launching "100 Cups of Coffee" at community events within the Flagstaff Region.
 - ▶ Strategy, campaign, and tourism development for the Flagstaff Region, utilizing our CARES Program funding.
-



FINANCE

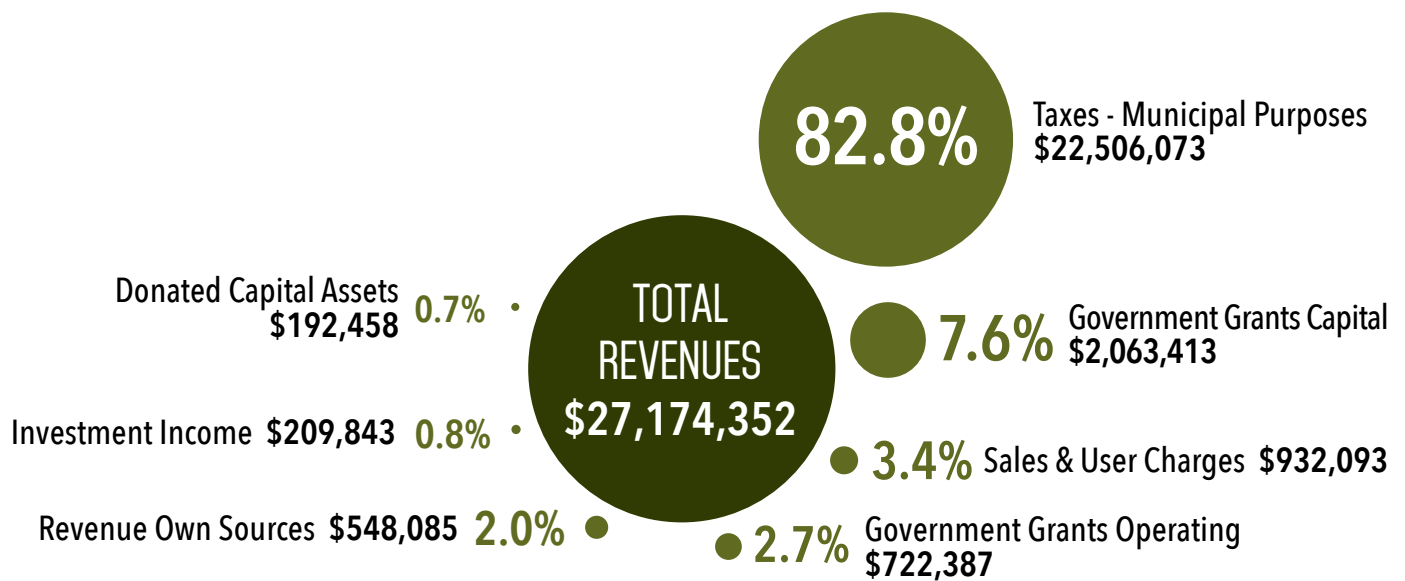
The Finance department prepares annual operating and capital budgets to reflect current programs and services, and reviews monthly revenue and expenditure reports including budget variances, to ensure the organization is accountable for efficient and effective utilization of resources. In addition, this department provides open and transparent accountability of the financial management of the organization by conducting monthly financial operating and capital reports, annual audited financial statements and Financial Information Return, inventory control and costing, and maintaining and reporting tangible capital assets, in accordance with the Municipal Government Act (MGA).

2016 OPERATING EXPENDITURES





2016 OPERATING REVENUES



EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENSES

\$5,146,578

CHANGE IN ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

Unrestricted Surplus	\$3,480,363
Reserves	\$1,244,096
Equity in Tangible Capital Assets	\$6,237,933

TOTAL

\$10,962,392

**Change includes Dissolution of the villages of
Strome and Galahad into Flagstaff County**








\$5,815,814

Flagstaff County has copies of the 2016 financial statement available for the public. Copies can be obtained at www.flagstaff.ab.ca where you can download or view a PDF version of the 2016 financial statement. You can also contact the County office at 780-384-4100.



SALARY AND BENEFITS DISCLOSURE

Disclosure of salaries and benefits for elected municipal officials as required by provincial regulation is as follows:

COUNCILLOR							
	DIVISION 1	DIVISION 2 (REEVE)	DIVISION 3	DIVISION 4	DIVISION 5	DIVISION 6	DIVISION 7
2016							
SALARY	\$37,255	\$40,981	\$37,255	\$37,255	\$37,255	\$37,255	\$37,255
BENEFITS & ALLOWANCES	\$4,804	\$5,352	\$6,012	\$6,012	\$6,012	\$6,012	\$6,012
TOTAL	\$42,059	\$46,333	\$43,267	\$43,267	\$43,267	\$43,267	\$43,267
2015							
TOTAL	\$41,693	\$47,096	\$42,861	\$42,861	\$42,861	\$42,861	\$42,861

Salary includes gross honoraria and any other direct cash remuneration.

Benefits and allowance figures for the councillors include the employer's share of Canada Pension and the additional taxable benefit cost of group life insurance paid for by the County as well as the County portion of the RRSP contribution.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Planning and management of land use and development creates an attractive and vibrant municipality which enhances the quality of life of its residents. This is achieved through the goals and regulations set out in the Land Use Bylaw (LUB), Municipal Development Plan (MDP), and Intermunicipal Development Plans (IDP). Following these plans results in fewer conflicting developments, addresses safety and environmental concerns, and creates productive land management.

In 2016, there were 67 developments totalling \$34,810,020.

DEVELOPMENTS

All residents are reminded that no development shall be undertaken within the municipality unless an application for it has been approved and a development permit has been issued, other than those designated in Section 3.4 of the Land Use Bylaw which can be accessed on our website. Please refer to the definition of “development” under Part 1.3.20 of our Land Use Bylaw.

Development Permits are required to ensure:

1. Setbacks from the road and property lines adhere to regulations.
 - All buildings, improvements, and dugouts must be set back a minimum of 50 metres (164 feet) from the centre of the road. Setback distances are required to ensure safety from roadway traffic, minimize dust and noise, ensure sightlines to the roadway are clear, and to provide sufficient distance for possible future road development.
 - Side and rear yard setbacks vary for structures, shelterbelts, and dugouts.
 - Development uses and regulations regarding the various districts are noted in the current Land Use Bylaws for Galahad and Strome.



2. The land is properly zoned for the building use (i.e. residential, industrial, commercial, downtown commercial, light industrial, business, public use, and urban reserve).

- To provide areas of land for uses that will not conflict with one another (i.e. industrial development does not conflict with agriculture or residential land uses).
- To encourage appropriate industrial development in environmentally suitable locations and to a high environmental standard.

DEVELOPMENTS IN 2016*



**COMMERCIAL
/ INDUSTRIAL**



**NON-
RESIDENTIAL**



RESIDENTIAL

FLAGSTAFF COUNTY

Number of Permits Issued

8

36

20

Value of Permits Issued

\$28,140,000

\$2,324,020

\$4,331,800

HAMLET OF STROME

Number of Permits Issued

0

2

1

Value of Permits Issued

\$4,200

\$10,000

* No development permits were issued in the Hamlet of Galahad.

BUILDING, ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, PRIVATE SEWAGE, GAS, AND NATIONAL ENERGY CODE PERMITS

The Safety Codes Act requires that all contractors and homeowners in Alberta obtain permits prior to commencing work on buildings, including mobile homes. These permits are required to ensure construction meets the Provincial Building Code, the Canadian Electrical Code, the Alberta Gas Code, or the Alberta Plumbing Code. With these permits, the work will be inspected by a Safety Codes Officer to ensure compliance which can protect the property owner in the case of an insurance claim.



Effective November 1, 2016 the Government of Alberta introduced energy efficiency regulations to be included with building permit applications. This requires the building permit applicant to include a declaration be made that the calculations have been completed in compliance with new Alberta Building Code Requirements (9.36.5).

Flagstaff County contracts an accredited agency, Superior Safety Codes Inc., to issue permits and perform inspections.

*Applications for Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Private Sewage, Gas and the National Energy Code Permits may be obtained at the Flagstaff County office or from Superior Safety Codes Inc. by calling 1-866-999-4777 or on their website at **www.superiorsafetycodes.com**.*

SUBDIVISION OF LAND

Our goal is to protect and enhance the valuable agricultural land resource and the long-term future of agriculture by protecting the land base and providing an environment that will benefit the agricultural community and economy. This is achieved by subdivision regulations set out in the Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plan, which protects agricultural land from unnecessary fragmentation.

The size of a subdivision parcel varies with each Land Use District. For example, the *Agricultural District* is the most common subdivision and the size varies from 1 to 15 acres. Other Land Use Districts available are *Agricultural Small Holdings, Highway Commercial, Multi-lot Country Residential, Industrial, and Rural Industrial*.

Please contact the County office if you require assistance with your subdivision application, or for clarification regarding provincial and municipal regulations.

Uses and regulations regarding the districts noted above can be found in the Land Use Bylaw.

The Development department is pleased to provide advice relative to provincial and municipal regulations that may apply and to assist in the process of obtaining approvals that may be required when building or changing the use of your property.

There were 11 subdivision applications received in 2016.

The Land Use Bylaw, Municipal Development Plan, Intermunicipal Development Plans, and related subdivision and development forms are available at the Flagstaff County office or on our website at www.flagstaff.ab.ca.



LOOKING FORWARD TO 2017...

- ▶ A new Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plan will be available by December 31, 2017.
 - ▶ Revised Intermunicipal Development Plans with the Town of Hardisty, Village of Forestburg, and Town of Sedgewick, will be available by December 31, 2017; and an Intermunicipal Development Plan will be established with the Town of Daysland.
 - ▶ Planning and Development goals and regulations for the hamlets of Galahad and Strome will be integrated into the County's Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plan.
-



PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Peace Officers provide services and education in the areas of traffic safety, infrastructure protection, and emergency response. Flagstaff County is authorized by the Solicitor General of Alberta to employ two Community Peace Officers who have the authority to enforce legislation and regulations relating to:

- The Traffic Safety Act
- The Provincial Offences Procedure Act
- The Highways Development and Protection Act
- The Gaming and Liquor Act
- The Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act
- Other provincial acts and legislation

The Peace Officers work in partnership with various federal and provincial agencies to patrol and enforce legislation and regulations.

Community Peace Officers enforce weights and measures to ensure that road users are working within legal allowances; therefore, protecting the infrastructure from damage and increasing safety on our roadways.

The Peace Officers, through an agreement with the towns and villages, provide enforcement services for the urban municipalities within the Region at no charge.



PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works department is responsible for the maintenance and construction of all municipal roadways and bridges throughout the County. The objective is to provide a responsible level of service to our residents by working as a team to achieve successful programs.

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR - SHOP

Shop staff is responsible for the service, maintenance, and repairs of all mechanical resources ranging from small powered equipment to our largest piece of machinery. This includes routine inspections for trucks and trailers as required by the Alberta Transportation Vehicle Safety Act.

ROAD RECOVERY PROGRAM

The Road Recovery Program is described as a process to rehabilitate a road structure, restore drainage, and dispose of any rocks and regrowth of trees and shrubs. This program is executed with County resources and it includes the following maintenance procedures:

- 1. SHOULDER PULLING:** utilized on roads that are in excess of 10 metres wide, this program extends the life of the road and reduces maintenance costs. This process may include drainage improvements, culvert replacement, reshaping backslopes and grade slopes, re-compacting the sub-grade, re-establishing the road surface crown, including the road surface width that was originally constructed, and the disposal of any rocks or shrubs. Gravelock, a soil stabilization product, was utilized in these projects with the exception of 5.5 miles on Rge Rd 140. We have experienced successful results in the performance of incorporating Gravelock into the subgrade.



The following shoulder pulling projects were completed in 2016:

ENE 12-44-14

Rge Rd 140 south of Twp Rd 442 for 7.0 miles

TOTAL COST = \$233,000

NNW 33-42-13

Twp Rd 430 west of SH 869 for 2.5 miles

TOTAL COST = \$94,000

NNW 35-40-14

Twp Rd 410 east of SH 872 for 2.0 miles

TOTAL COST = \$104,000

2. SUB-GRADE PREPARATION: performed on roads where the sub-grade has lost its compaction, this maintenance procedure includes re-compacting the sub-grade, re-establishing the crown on the road surface, and includes incorporating Gravelock, a soil stabilization product, to strengthen the sub-grade.

The following sub-grade preparation projects were completed in 2016:

ENE 33-41-11

Rge Rd 113 south of SH 608 for 6.0 miles

TOTAL COST = \$255,500

ENE 9-41-12

Rge Rd 123 south of Twp Rd 412 for 4.0 miles

TOTAL COST = \$167,000

NNW 35-40-14

Twp Rd 410 east of SH 861 for 4.0 miles

TOTAL COST = \$212,500

ENE 15-41-15

Rge Rd 152 north of Twp Rd 410 for 2.0 miles

TOTAL COST = \$94,000

The following sub-grade patch project was completed in 2016:

1 - 150-METRE SECTION

Twp Rd 410 between Rge Rd 94 and Rge Rd 95 (South of Hardisty)

TOTAL COST = \$15,000

DUST SUPPRESSANT

Strategic locations have dust suppressant applied which helps reduce the frequency of maintenance, improve safety while mitigating the nuisance of dust to residents, and minimizing the environmental impact. The program consists of the following:

- Calcium Chloride
- MG 30
- Oil surface products
- Pavement
- Test products

CALCIUM CHLORIDE AND MG 30

Calcium Chloride and MG 30 are water-soluble dust suppressant products which also have road surface stabilization characteristics that bind aggregate materials, therefore, keeping aggregate on the road. Calcium Chloride and MG 30 have also proven to help reduce washboard, grader maintenance, and the frequency for gravelling, thus extending the life of our gravel sources.

In 2016, Calcium Chloride was used on approximately 66 miles of road: 66 residential locations and 49 strategic locations (intersections, hills, and curves).



MG 30 was used on approximately 34 miles of road in 2016:

RGE RD 113

North from SH 608 - 5.50 miles

TWP RD 450

East from Rge Rd 124 to SH 870 - 7.00 miles

RGE RD 123

South from SH 602 - 7.50 miles

RGE RD 123

North from SH 602 - 2.00 miles

TWP RD 420

East from Rge Rd 103 - 2.00 miles

TWP RD 434

East from Rge Rd 131 - 3.00 miles

RGE RD 113

South from Twp Rd 432 - 7.00 miles

TOTAL 34.00 MILES

Starting in 2017, MG 30 will be utilized exclusively for all dust suppressant applications. This product has proven, through several years of testing, to be effective in reducing dust, stabilizing surface aggregate, cost effective, and a sustainable option that provides a ban free road surface.

RESIDENTIAL DUST SUPPRESSANT

For a fee, Flagstaff County provides dust suppressant for residents. Applications must be received by May 1 (Spring application) and August 1 (Fall application). An application form for a residential dust suppressant is available online at www.flagstaff.ab.ca or by contacting the Public Works department at (780) 384-4123.

OIL SURFACE PRODUCTS

With the approval of the Rural Road Study in 2013, the oiled road inventory was eliminated and oiled roads are being transitioned back to gravel roads. The transitioning roads are maintained by one full-time grader operator. A maintenance program for pothole patching and rip/relay ensures a safe driving road surface. As oil surface roads deteriorate and patching is no longer cost effective, ripping and relaying is performed. If an oil surface road contains sufficient residual oil, then the surface will be compacted. Once an oil surface road has dehydrated to the point where the oil doesn't bind to the aggregate and the clay from the sub-grade is exposed, the road is maintained as if it were a gravel road.

ROAD BANS

Road bans define the maximum allowable weights permitted on certain municipal roads. To achieve the objective of a ban free, dust free Arterial Road Network, the transitioning oil surface roads will be ban free year-round. Gravel roads are banned only if deemed necessary to protect the infrastructure. Certain dirt/sand roads have an annual weight restriction of 75% to reduce heavy oilfield traffic. Please refer to our website at www.flagstaff.ab.ca for the most current Road Ban Order.



ROADS REMAINING WITH AN OIL SURFACE

Specific roads are designated, in procedure, to be maintained with an oil surface treatment to help reduce the frequency of maintenance:

STROME EAST

Rge Rd 151 - North of Hwy 13 - 0.4 miles

HARDISTY NORTH

Rge Rd 95A - SH 861 West to Rge Rd 100
1.0 mile

HARDISTY

Rge Rd 100A - North of Hwy 13 - 0.35 miles

AIRPORT ROAD (HARDISTY)

Rge Rd 103 - From Hwy 13 South to SH 608 -
7.0 miles

HARDISTY WEST

Town of Hardisty - to Rge Rd 101 - 0.8125 miles

SHOP ROAD WEST

Twp Rd 442 - West of SH 869 to Rge Rd 130 -
2.1 miles

SHOP ROAD EAST

Twp Rd 442 - East of SH 869 - 0.4375 miles

Year-round bans will remain on these roads:

50% IN THE SPRING (March 1 - July 31)

75% IN THE SUMMER AND FALL (August 1 -
November 30)

90% IN THE WINTER (December 1 - February 28)

TEST PRODUCTS

Annually, funds are allocated for testing new dust suppressant products. These products are tested to determine whether they are effective, affordable, and environmentally suitable. The following dust suppressant products were tested in 2016:

NO DUST ENVIRO

Twp Rd 442 - East from Rge Rd 170 - 2.00 miles

NO DUST

Twp Rd 442 - East from Town of Sedgewick
600 metres Products that have been tested
with unsatisfactory results are:

- Canola oil
- Durasoil
- Earth glue
- Magnesium Chloride
- Dust Lynx

Flagstaff County continues to consult with industry and municipalities to seek out new and alternative products. We also continue to perform testing of new dust suppressant products in search of cost effective alternatives.

PAVEMENT

The following roadways are designated pavement roads:

ATCO POWER PLANT ROAD

Twp Rd 410 - to ATCO Power Plant - 4.5 miles

COUNTY AIRPORT ROAD

Rge Rd 131 - North of Hwy 13 - 0.75 mile

GALAHAD ACCESS ROAD

Twp Rd 412 - West of Hwy 36 - 4.0 miles



GRAVEL PROGRAM

GRAVEL

On average, 160,000 tonnes of gravel are required annually for the following programs: re-gravel, road construction, road recovery, spot patching, washouts, approaches, and road repairs. Typically, gravel roads are re-graveled on a five-year cycle, which equates to 272 miles annually; however, other factors such as average annual daily traffic (AADT), types of vehicles, and road designation, etc., influence cycle times. Within the re-gravel program, all 8-metre wide roads are gravelled at 330 tonnes per mile. Narrower road widths are gravelled at a reduced rate of 290 tonnes per mile. The loading and hauling of aggregate materials for the gravel program is performed by in-house resources utilizing four gravel trucks. Two additional gravel trucks are designated for spot patching on gravel roads throughout the County.

GRAVEL PRODUCTION

Gravel production (crushing) replenishes the supply of gravel and ensures inventory levels are adequate to support the programs. Crushing projects are tendered to ensure that a competitive price is obtained. All gravel is crushed to a required specification and quality controls are completed by in-house personnel.

Four gravel production projects were completed in 2016 at the following locations:

CR-01-2016

McNabb Stockpile (SE 34-41-17)

60,055 tonnes

CR-02-2016

McDonald Stockpile (NW 14-45-19)

50,034 tonnes

CR-03-2016

Hinkey Pit (NW 17-44-09)

100,048 tonnes

CR-04-2016

Pyra Stockpile (NW 32-45-13)

54,460 tonnes

A total of 264,597 tonnes of gravel was crushed in 2016 at a total cost of \$3,084,100.

GRAVEL RECLAMATION

The County is responsible for reclamation at seven gravel pits that are managed and leased. Reclamation is performed in accordance with a Code of Practice prepared by a consulting firm and approved by Alberta Environment. In-house equipment is utilized for gravel exploration, pit preparation, and reclamation.

GRAVEL EXPLORATION

To secure a long-term gravel supply and/or source, we are continually increasing inventory and conducting gravel exploration for the purpose of purchasing and/or leasing future gravel sources.

Landowners continue to provide information of possible gravel sources on private lands which are analyzed for quality and quantity. As potential gravel sources are identified, a gravel testing agreement is acquired prior to the commencement of exploration.



GRAVEL SALES

Landowners may purchase up to a maximum allotment of 150 tonnes of gravel per year per residential/farm/acreage site within the County. Anyone wishing to purchase gravel must contact the Public Works department to obtain a "Permission for Purchase of Gravel" form prior to receiving any gravel sales.

Please note that the intent of County gravel sales is for use on residential laneways and yard sites and **not for re-sale**.

ROAD MAINTENANCE

There are 1,527 miles of bladed roads that are divided into:

- 10 Summer maintenance areas (approx. 120 - 160 miles/area)
- 10 Winter maintenance areas (approx. 120 - 150 miles/area)
- Field access roads are not maintained on a regular basis in the Winter

Secondary roads and/or 3-digit numbered roads are maintained by Carillion on behalf of the Province of Alberta.

SUMMER MAINTENANCE

Gravel roads are maintained by 10 graders. Grader operators can blade approximately 18-25 miles/day. These roads should receive maintenance once per month; however, specific heavy traffic routes have an increased maintenance cycle.

WINTER MAINTENANCE

Roadways are cleared of snow as necessary. During normal winter conditions, maintenance areas should be cleared of snow within four days, unless there is heavy snowfall and persistent winds.

If reduced visibility becomes a safety concern, snow plowing operations will be suspended until conditions improve.

In each maintenance area, three routes are established. When plowing is required, the starting point is rotated between routes to ensure that an equitable level of service is provided. Regular work hours are 8 - 12 hours per day.

Spare graders may be utilized to help during winter storms.

Two plow trucks are designated to remove snow and apply sand/salt to oil and paved surface roads. Two graders are designated for snow and ice removal on Calcium Chloride and MG 30 roads.

Back roads or blind roads will not be plowed unless deemed necessary by Public Works.



PRIVATE LANEWAY MAINTENANCE

The service of snowplowing and grading is available for residential laneways. The landowner is required to sign a Private Laneway Service Agreement. County staff are required to conduct an Occupational Health and Safety Inspection/Hazard Assessment prior to any work being completed. This process must be completed on an annual basis. Services to the public will be conducted after all scheduled road maintenance is completed on gravel, oil, and paved surface roads. A fee of \$65/half hour (half hour minimum charge) or \$130/hour will be charged for this service.

HAMLET STREET MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Street maintenance includes snow removal, crack filling, repairing potholes, sidewalk maintenance, and street sweeping.

BRIDGE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Bridge maintenance includes deck sweeping, vegetation control, beaver dam removal, replacement of bridge decking, guardrails, and hazard markers. This maintenance preserves the capital asset and contributes to safe crossings.

83 bridges and culverts are inspected and analyzed on a five-year cycle for major deficiencies and to assist in future planning.

The following bridge project was completed in 2016:

BF# 1696

Rge Rd 102, north of Twp Rd 432 (Northwest of Hardisty)

- Removal of bridge structure and replaced with a single lane industrial oilfield span structure.

Total cost: \$572,000 (includes preliminary engineering costs incurred in 2015)

Level 2 timber coring inspections were completed on the following bridge structures to determine future replacement and repair requirements:

BF# 72018

NW 15-43-10 (Rge Rd 103)

BF# 7717

SW 06-46-13 (Twp Rd 460)

BF# 6703

NE 07-44-10 (Twp Rd 442)

BF# 8318

NW 13-43-10 (Rge Rd 101)

The following bridge projects were scheduled for repairs in 2016. The completion date of these projects was extended to March 2017 to allow the contractor to complete the bridge repairs from the ice surface.

BF# 9055

Rge Rd 135, North of Twp Rd 452 (North of Killam)

- The following work will be completed: replace timber caps, new pilings, patch sub-deck, replace pier sway braces, and miscellaneous repairs.

Estimated Cost: \$181,500 (includes contracted services and engineering)



BF# 1459

Rge Rd 120, between Twp Rd 422 and 424
(South of Loughheed)

- The following work will be completed:
timbercap replacement and miscellaneous repairs

Estimated Cost: \$99,000 (includes contracted services and engineering)

The bridge infrastructure deficit will continue to increase in years to come due to limited provincial funding as well as structures approaching the end of their life span. Therefore, we will be proceeding with prioritizing bridge and culvert replacements, including the option of permanent closure of bridges.

BRUSHING/ BACKSLOPING/ MULCHING

This process increases the level of safety by increasing sight lines and the contouring of ditches and backslopes. Brushing and mulching provides landowners an opportunity to control brush growth adjacent to road allowances. This service is provided to landowners upon request and as equipment and resources become available, as the same resources are utilized in gravel production and reclamation programs.

Brushing on road allowances is not permitted without authorization from the County.

APPROACHES

Approaches located within the road's right-of-way are under the direction, control, and management of Flagstaff County and as such Public Works retains the authority to approve the installation of new approaches. In the interest of the public safety, approval will only be granted where the requested location is considered practical and approaches are constructed in accordance with County standards and policy PW 004-Approaches.

Oil and gas companies must apply in the form of a letter, along with a site survey plan, and pay a \$250 inspection/administration fee. Where access is required off an undeveloped or partially undeveloped road allowance, the applicant is required to enter into the appropriate Road Use/Construction Agreement.

ROAD SIDE CLEAN UP

Landowners are prohibited from dumping rocks and debris in County right-of-ways. This debris causes hazards in the right-of-way, and the landowner will be responsible for the clean-up of any illegal dumping.

Ditches within the right-of-ways on developed and partially developed road allowances will be periodically cleared of debris such as rocks, garbage, and dead trees.

There has been an increase in the amount of household waste (furniture, appliances, mattresses, etc.) being dumped in County right-of-ways. Please report any illegal dumping to Flagstaff County by calling 780-384-4100.



SIGNS

All signs are inspected on an ongoing basis. Any signs requiring maintenance are prioritized and scheduled for repair or replacement. A total of 570 signs were repaired/replaced due to damage, fading, vandalism, or routine maintenance and 100 signs were installed in new locations.

CULVERTS

Culvert maintenance includes replacement, cleaning, thawing, repairs to damaged ends, and the addition of extensions. All culverts are replaced and diameters are increased where required to improve water flow. New culverts are installed under new construction projects and may be replaced on road recovery projects. A total of 14 culverts were replaced at seven geographic locations.

New culvert and couplers are available for sale to landowners for the use in approaches on road allowances and to local municipalities. Used culvert is also available for sale at half the purchase price; sizes will vary depending upon availability.

AIRPORT

The following capital projects were completed in 2016 at a total cost of \$26,000:

- Construction of a garage with concrete pad
- Installation of security cameras

UTILITIES – WATER/WASTEWATER/GARBAGE COLLECTION/GAS DISTRIBUTION

Water treatment and distribution, wastewater collection and treatment, and garbage collection services are provided to the residents within the hamlets of Strome and Galahad.

The natural gas distribution system is owned and operated by the Hamlet of Galahad. Natural gas is purchased for resale from Phoenix Gas Co-op and the maintenance of the system is contracted.

The following work was completed in 2016 in order to determine the condition of the existing infrastructure and establish the upgrades to be considered for a 2017 Capital Upgrade Program for the hamlets of Strome and Galahad:

- Closed circuit television video (CCTV) complete with flushing, deposit removal and cleaning of sanitary lines in both communities
- Reviewed and assessed videos to determine level of repairs required
- Identify rehabilitation option for sanitary sewer repairs



CONSTRUCTION

A budget of \$2,500,000 per year is allocated for the Road Construction Program. This includes contracted services, engineering, gravel, culverts, soil sampling, power line relocates, crop damage, land acquisitions, fencing, erosion control, environmental requirements, and rock picking. Evaluation criteria, such as safety concerns, historical maintenance, average annual daily traffic, sight lines, grade width, sideslopes/back slopes, drainage, and type of traffic, are used to determine which roads will be constructed and prioritized for reconstruction.

Starting in 2018, Public Works will develop a plan to construct roads once every three years instead of on an annual basis. Annually, a \$2.5 million budget will be allocated to reserves to fund the Road Construction Program

2016 ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

The following road construction projects were completed in 2016. Engineering services were provided by WSP Canada Inc. and Caburn Contracting Ltd. was awarded the tendered project to construct 4.5 miles of local roadway at a total program cost of \$2,815,000 (includes legal and preliminary engineering costs incurred in 2015).

ESE 17-40-10

Rge Rd 104, North for 0.5 mile

THR 16-40-10

Twp Rd 402A, Northeast for 1.0 mile

ENE 33-40-10

Rge Rd 103, South for 1.0 mile

THR 10-39-12

Rge Rd 122A, South for 1.5 miles

TOWN OF DAYSLAND

64th Street and Rge Rd 164 from Highway 13, North for 900 metres

ARTERIAL ROAD NETWORK

Since the approval of the Rural Road Study and arterial road network in 2013, Public Works has been evaluating alternative dust free surfaces, seeking the most economical and effective solution.

In 2014, Council approved the surface type on the arterial road network to be MG 30 and Calcium Chloride. In 2015, a facilitated discussion was held with the Executive of the Flagstaff Coalition for Better Roads, County Council, and staff. Topics covered included the concept of perception, understanding expectations, giving and receiving feedback, and specific discussion around the Rural Road Study.

Following this discussion, Council approved the following:

- To research and prepare a proposal for the use of the product Terracem with chip seal for a dust suppressant alternative; if the product proves to be an economical and effective option for a surface type for the arterial road network, determine a test section for application and further analysis.



- To develop a rating system, utilizing the criteria in the Rural Road Study, to further review the arterial road designation; and consider different surface types dependent on the rating of the roads.

At the July 13, 2016 Council meeting, Public Works presented a Terracem testing proposal for a dust suppressant alternative. The following options were presented for Council's consideration:

- Do not test Terracem with a cape seal or chip seal and utilize MG 30 exclusively as a dust suppressant project.
- Test a 2-mile section of road utilizing Terracem with either a polymer fiber reinforced chip seal or double graded aggregate chip seal, in 2017.

The information and both options were discussed, and Council approved to table the Terracem testing proposal.

The Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) data will be collected for a period of three to four years and used in 2018 to re-evaluate the Arterial Road Network along with the criteria identified in the Rural Road Study.

Please contact Public Works Administration at 780-384-4100 with any issues or information regarding:

- A plugged culvert where drainage is a concern or to purchase a culvert.
- To report a sign that is vandalized, missing, or faded.
- Bridge concerns or washouts.
- Application of dust control.
- Maintenance of laneways.
- Purchase of gravel.
- Rental of equipment.
- If you require any type of access or brushing/backslapping/mulching on a road allowance.
- Information on constructing an approach.



LOOKING FORWARD IN 2017 TO...

- ▶ The construction of a new maintenance shop
 - ▶ Complete the water and wastewater infrastructure upgrades in the hamlets of Strome and Galahad
 - ▶ Provide information on current traffic patterns on arterial and collector roads
 - ▶ Road Construction at NNW 27-43-11 - Twp Rd 435 from SH 870, East for 6 miles
-

ROAD RECOVERY

Shoulder pulling projects utilizing Gravelock:

- ▶ NNW 22-44-15 - Twp Rd 444, West of Strome for 1.5 miles (Local)
- ▶ NNW 07-45-16 - Twp Rd 452, West of Hwy 13 for 1.25 miles (Local)
- ▶ ENE 28-43-10 - Rge Rd 103, North of Hwy 13 for 4.5 miles (Local)
- ▶ NNW 35-42-15 - Twp Rd 430, East of SH 856 for 5.5 miles (Arterial)

Sub-grade preparation projects utilizing Gravelock:

- ▶ ENE 31-42-12 - Rge Rd 125, South of Twp Rd 430 for 4.0 miles
 - ▶ ENE 24-45-15 - Rge Rd 150, South of Twp Rd 454 for 2.0 miles
 - ▶ ENE 36-46-15 - Rge Rd 150, South of Hwy 26 for 6.0 miles
-



GRAVEL PRODUCTION

- ▶ **CR-02-2017 - Mazure Pit - approximately 100,000 tonnes**
 - ▶ **CR-03-2017 - West Area - approximately 50,000 tonnes**
-

PAVEMENT

- ▶ **Patch paving will take place on the ATCO access road.**
-

BRIDGES

The following bridge work is scheduled for 2017:

- ▶ **BF# 9055 - Rge Rd 135, North of Twp Rd 452 (North of Killam)**
 - Replace timber caps, drive 6 new piles, patch sub-deck, replace pier sway braces, and miscellaneous repairs.
 - ▶ **BF# 1459 - Rge Rd 120, (South of Lougheed)**
 - Timber caps and miscellaneous repairs.
 - ▶ **BF# 9786 - Twp Rd 440, (North of Lougheed)**
 - Replace girders and miscellaneous repairs.
 - ▶ **BF# 77983 - Rge Rd 165, (North of Heisler)**
 - Culvert replacement
-

HAMLET INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

The following infrastructure upgrades are scheduled for 2017:

- ▶ **Galahad** – hydrant replacements, sanitary sewer repairs, manhole replacements, watermain valve replacements, water distribution meter, installation of water meters and water meter reader, lift station rehabilitation.
- ▶ **Strome** – hydrant replacements, sanitary sewer repairs, manhole replacements, curb stop replacements and water meter reader replacement.



RECREATION

GRANT FUNDING

In 2016, Flagstaff County entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Valley Ski Hill and Paintearth County to provide financial support of up to \$300,000 over a two year period, based on actual expenditures, to cost share the stability improvement measures, to be funded from recreation reserves.

In 2016, \$750,000 in recreation funding was distributed to the 10 Agricultural Societies. The amount of funding provided to each society is based upon a formula of the percentage of the rural population applied to the total population of each community.

The following indicates how each Agricultural Society allocated their grant.

2016 RECREATION FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY	FUNDING DISTRIBUTION	FLAGSTAFF COUNTY GRANT
KILLAM	Killam Recreation Board	\$100,000
	Killam Agricultural Society Building	\$37,000
	Killam Playschool/Killam Junior B	\$1,000
	Unallocated	\$7,405
		\$145,405
LOUGHEED	Lougheed Community Society	\$7,000
	Lougheed Play Group	\$2,900
	CJ Kinross Legion	\$4,700
	Lougheed Fieldhouse	\$15,660
	Lougheed Wildcats	\$3,704
	Trout Pond Society	\$4,100
	Lougheed Alberta (LA) Modellers	\$1,400
	Lougheed Public Library	\$1,000
		\$40,464



AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

FUNDING DISTRIBUTION

FLAGSTAFF COUNTY GRANT

HEISLER

Daysland School	\$1,500
Forestburg School	\$1,500
DaysArts	\$1,000
Heisler Public Library	\$1,500
Heisler Minor Ball	\$2,000
Valley Ski Hill	\$2,000
Thunderstars Minor Hockey	\$3,000
Heisler Community Centre	\$2,000
Heisler Recreation Centre	\$1,881
Friends of the Battle River Railway	\$1,000
Heisler Agricultural Society (Overhead Door)	\$5,000

\$22,381

STROME

Strome Seniors	\$2,000
Strome Curling Club	\$5,000
Strome Willing Workers	\$14,300
Daysland Memorial Arena	\$5,000
Daysland School	\$3,500
Valley Ski Club	\$1,000
Killam Cyclones	\$2,000
Killam Recreation Board (Aquatic Centre)	\$1,000

\$33,794

DAYSLAND

Daysland Arena	\$45,000
Daysland Curling Rink	\$5,000
Daysland Golf Club	\$30,000
Daysland Business Association	\$2,500
Daysland Parks and Trail Committee	\$3,000
Daysland Skating Club	\$500
Thunderhawks Pond Hockey	\$1,000
DaysArt, Kamotion Creative Movement	\$1,000
Daysland School Council	\$7,500
Daysland Fitness Centre	\$6,000
Daysland and District Handi-Van Society	\$2,500
Daysland Public Library	\$3,500
Daysland Aging in Place Foundation	\$2,500
Daysland Soccer Club	\$1,250
Killam Recreation Board (Aquatic Centre)	\$5,000
Valley Ski Hill	\$2,615
Killam Cyclones Swim Club	\$750

\$119,615



AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

FUNDING DISTRIBUTION

FLAGSTAFF COUNTY GRANT

FORESTBURG

Forestburg Curling Club	\$10,000
Forestburg Art Club	\$100
Forestburg Public Library	\$3,000
Hardisty Lake United Church Camp	\$500
Golden Prairie 4-H Club	\$500
Forestburg Arena Association	\$17,500
Forestburg Swimming Pool Association	\$17,500
Forestburg Swim Club	\$5,000
Thunderstars Minor Hockey	\$8,000
Forestburg Golf Club	\$8,000
Forestburg School	\$17,500
Forestburg Dance Society	\$500
Forestburg Community Centre	\$8,000
Heisler Minor Ball	\$500
Forestburg Communities in Bloom	\$5,000
Forestburg Riding Arena	\$12,075
Forestburg Golf Junior Tournament	\$500
Valley Ski Hill	\$6,000
Forestburg Figure Skating Club	\$3,000

\$123,175

ALLIANCE

Valley Ski Hill	\$2,000
Argyle Women's Institute	\$1,500
Alliance Community Development Committee - July 1st	\$200
Village of Alliance	\$10,800
Alliance Recreation Board Campsite Account	\$5,991
Battle Bend School Operation	\$1,000
Alliance Agricultural Society	\$4,300
Arena \$1,100	
Alliance Agriculture Horse Show	\$1,046
Canada Day Celebration	\$756
Santa Daze	\$352
Development of Train Station	\$1,046

\$25,791



AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

FUNDING DISTRIBUTION

FLAGSTAFF COUNTY GRANT

HARDISTY

Valley Ski Hill	\$5,000
Hardisty Hall Board	\$15,000
Hardisty Lakeview Golf Course	\$8,400
Hardisty Public Library	\$5,000
Killam Recreation Board (Aquatic Centre)	\$3,000
Hardisty Lakettes	\$4,000
Killam Cyclones Swim Club	\$1,000
Hardisty Parent Advisory	\$10,000
Hardisty Arena Management	\$22,613
Hardisty Lake Park	\$15,000
Unallocated Funds	\$5,700

\$94,713

GALAHAD

Valley Ski Hill	\$5,000
Galahad Archery Club	\$1,250
Thunderstar Minor Hockey	\$2,500
Galahad Seniors Club	\$1,000
Galahad Bowling League	\$5,888
Forestburg Public Library	\$500
Forestburg Swimming Pool Association	\$1,500

\$17,638

SEDGEWICK

Battle River Minor Hockey	\$31,000
Sedgewick Curling Club	\$5,000
Sedgewick Golf Club	\$1,000
Central High Sedgewick Public School	\$5,000
Sedgewick Minor Ball	\$1,000
Killam Recreation Board (Aquatic Centre)	\$6,500
Valley Ski Hill	\$6,500
Sedgewick Mixed Bowling League	\$5,150
Sedgewick Community Hall	\$13,000
Sedgewick Playschool	\$5,000
Sedgewick Recreation Centre	\$47,876
Operating Funding	\$27,500
Capital Reserves	\$15,000
Kitchen Upgrades	\$5,376

\$127,026

TOTAL \$750,000



REGIONAL EMERGENCY SERVICES

Ten urban fire departments provide fire services to rural areas through fire service agreements. The fire departments provide service to a defined geographic area, and provide different levels of service that may, but do not necessarily, include:






- Medical first response
- Motor vehicle collision response
- Hazardous materials first response
- Wildland fire suppression and control
- Exterior fire suppression
- Coordinated interior structural fire suppression
- Ice rescue
- Water rescue

The Regional Emergency Services Coordinator assists the ten fire departments with fire prevention activities, fire department training, equipment procurement, coordination, fire suppression, and fire investigation.

To become a valuable part of the firefighting team and receive extensive training, contact the Flagstaff County office at 780-384-4100.



IN 2016, THE FIRE DEPARTMENTS RESPONDED TO THE FOLLOWING:

	VEHICLE COLLISIONS 	FIRE CALLS 	FALSE ALARMS 	MEDICAL ASSISTS 	TOTAL
ALLIANCE	1	4	0	2	7
DAYSLAND	1	5	1	7	14
FORESTBURG	3	7	7	5	22
GALAHAD	0	1	2	1	4
HARDISTY	5	2	8	5	20
HEISLER	0	1	3	1	5
KILLAM	6	15	9	6	36
LOUGHEED	1	4	6	2	13
SEDGEWICK	0	5	2	9	16
STROME	2	6	1	0	8
	19	49	39	38	



2016 FLAGSTAFF RESCUE RESPONSES

WILDLAND FIRES	STRUCTURE FIRES	VEHICLE FIRES	VEHICLE COLLISIONS	MEDICAL ASSISTS	ALARMS RINGING	FALSE ALARMS	OTHER	TOTAL
0	1	0	12	2	1	0	0	16

2016 FLAGSTAFF TANKER RESPONSES

WILDLAND FIRES	STRUCTURE FIRES	VEHICLE FIRES	VEHICLE COLLISIONS	MEDICAL ASSISTS	ALARMS RINGING	FALSE ALARMS	OTHER	TOTAL
5	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	10

2016 REGIONAL EMERGENCY SERVICES COORDINATOR RESPONSES

WILDLAND FIRES	STRUCTURE FIRES	VEHICLE FIRES	VEHICLE COLLISIONS	MEDICAL ASSISTS	ALARMS RINGING	FALSE ALARMS	FIRE INVESTIGATIONS	OTHER	TOTAL
3	7	1	16	9	16	2	10	12	76



WATER TANKER

Three water tankers, owned by Flagstaff County, are housed at the Killam Fire Hall, Hardisty Fire Hall and Galahad Fire Hall. These water tankers are operated by the volunteers of these fire departments.

RESCUE SERVICES

A rescue truck is housed at the Killam Fire Hall and is operated by the volunteers of the Killam Fire Department. In 2016, the rescue truck responded to 16 calls.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

A Municipal Emergency Plan (MEP) was developed and is kept up to date to help ensure the safety of all residents within Flagstaff County, should a disaster occur within the Region. Both emergency responders and elected officials receive training to understand their roles should the MEP be activated. The MEP is updated regularly with the surrounding municipalities to assist in a coordinated approach with municipal resources in the event of a large-scale emergency.

Flagstaff County has an Emergency Management Response Trailer that carries the equipment and supplies needed for large-scale emergency events. The types of equipment will include barricades, signage, lights, etc.



CONTACT

County Office: 780-384-4100
Toll Free: 1-877-387-4100 | Fax: 780-384-3635 | www.flagstaff.ab.ca
Box 358 | 12435 Twp Rd 442 | Sedgewick, AB T0B 4C0

ADMINISTRATION

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: Shelly Armstrong | 780-384-4101
ASSISTANT CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: Brent Hoyland | 780-384-4104