





This Strategic Plan provides a strong foundation for our organization to use as we move forward into the future. It reflects our commitment to the health, well-being, connectedness, and economic prosperity of our community. We want to make sure Alix is not just a great place to live, raise a family, and retire, but a place where one day your kids can live and raise a family of their own. And as we grow, we want to keep all the things that make our community special.

In addition to the strategic goals in this plan, the Village of Alix will also continue delivering on fundamental municipal responsibilities such as fire protection, planning and development, water, waste collection, safe roads and more.

Our community is much more than its elected representatives and municipal staff. It's the citizens who live, volunteer, work, play, and socialize here who shape this community and bring it to life. This plan shows our commitment to working for you and with you to help shape a bright future we can all be proud of.

## Vision

Vibrant Village by the lake

## Mission

We foster an open, cooperative government that encourages public participation and ensures levels of service our citizens expect and deserve.

## Core Values

**Community:** We will help citizens maintain the Village's unique qualities, foster a strong sense of belonging and strive to meet needs locally.

**Fiscal Responsibility:** As stewards of community resources, we will deliver municipal services in a cost-effective way.

**Innovation:** We will seek innovative solutions for the growth and success of the community.

**Respect:** We will treat each other with respect and act with integrity.

**Safety:** We will work in partnership with the community to prevent crime and protect lives, property, and the public realm.

**Teamwork:** We will build strong relationships with our public, employees, and partners under the shared goal of continuous improvement.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council, held on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

- Present: Mayor Rob Fehr, Councillors Barbara Gilliat, Janice Besuijen, Tim Besuijen and Edwin Cole
- Also Present: Michelle White, Chief Administrative Officer
- Call to Order: Mayor Fehr called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
- Public Hearing: a) Proposed Bylaw #483/24 – Intermunicipal Development Plan Bylaw  
Mayor Fehr called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 P.M.
- Call for Written Submissions: Mayor Fehr called for written submissions regarding the proposed Intermunicipal Development Plan Bylaw #483/24.  
Michelle White, Chief Administrative Officer read a submission of resident concerns raised at the Lacombe County Public Hearing.
- Call for Verbal Submissions: Mayor Fehr called for verbal submissions regarding the proposed Bylaw #483/24.  
There were none.
- Resolution #086/24: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that this Public Hearing of the Village of Alix Council be closed at 6:05 P.M.  
CARRIED
- Amendments/Deletions to Agenda: Mayor Fehr called for amendments to the agenda.
- Approval of Agenda:
- Resolution #087/24: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council approve the agenda with the following amendment:  
Add: Closed Meeting: a) FOIP Section 27, Privileged Information RE: Legal Opinion  
CARRIED
- Minutes: a) Regular Meeting – April 3, 2024
- Resolution #088/24: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council held on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, be accepted as presented.  
CARRIED
- Delegation: a) Mr. Scott St.Arnaud, CPA, CA, Gitzel & Company Chartered Professional Accountants – 2023 Draft Financial Statements  
Mr. St. Arnaud, CPA, CA of Gitzel & Company Chartered Professional Accountants entered the meeting at 6:09 P.M.  
Mr. St. Arnaud retired from the meeting at 7:30 P.M.
- Resolution #89/24: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council hereby adopts the 2023 Financial Statements as presented.  
CARRIED

A recess was called at 7:32 P.M.

Mayor Fehr reconvened the meeting at 7:43 P.M.

- Bylaws: a) Intermunicipal Development Plan Bylaw #483/24 – Request for Decision 24-20
- Resolution #090/24: Moved by Councillor Gilliat the Village of Alix Council hereby give second reading to Bylaw #483/24, being a bylaw to adopt the Village of Alix/Lacombe County Intermunicipal Development Plan.  
CARRIED
- Resolution #091/24: Moved by Councillor Cole that the Village of Alix Council hereby gives third and final reading to Bylaw #483/24.  
CARRIED
- Unfinished Business: None
- New Business: a) Policy Review – Use of Village of Alix Credit Cards - Request for Decision 24-19
- Resolution #092/24: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council hereby approves amended Policy No. 12, Use of Village of Alix Credit Cards as presented and sets a review date of 2027 for the policy.  
CARRIED
- b) Policy Review – Recognition of Milestones - Request for Decision 24-17
- Resolution #093/24: Moved by Councillor Cole that the Village of Alix Council hereby direct administration to change Policy No. 22 to reflect a definition of “years of service”, change the recognition to be awarded at 50 and 100 years of service and bring the updated policy to a future Council meeting for review.  
CARRIED
- Financial Reports: a) Accounts Payable Cheque Listing – March 15 – April 3, 2024  
b) Bank Reconciliation – March 31, 2024  
c) Tax Trial Balance – April 10, 2024
- Resolution #094/24: Moved by Councillor J. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council hereby accept the Financial Reports as presented.  
CARRIED
- Committee Reports: a) Lacombe Foundation – Mayor Fehr  
b) Buffalo Lake Management Team – Councillor J. Besuijen
- Resolution #095/24: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council accept the Committee Reports as presented.  
CARRIED
- Administrative Reports: a) Chief Administrative Officer’s Report
- Resolution #096/24: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council hereby accept the Chief Administrative Officer’s Report as presented.  
CARRIED

Correspondence and  
Information:

- a) Alberta Municipalities – Political Parties and Local Elections
- b) Stettler District Ambulance Association – Contract Negotiations with Alberta Health Services
- c) Alberta Municipalities – Alberta’s Capital Support for Municipalities in 2024
- d) STARS Foundation – Thank you to Council
- e) Alberta Disability Workers Association – Alberta Disability Services Professional Appreciation Week
- f) Alix Wagon Wheel Museum 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration - Invitation

Resolution #097/24: Moved by Councillor J. Besuijen that Correspondence Items (a) through (f) be accepted as information. CARRIED

Closed Meeting: a) FOIP Section 27, Privileged Information RE: Legal Opinion

Resolution #098/24: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council go into a Closed Meeting at 8:11 P.M. to discuss FOIP Section 27, Privileged Information regarding a Legal Opinion. CARRIED

Resolution #099/24: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council return to the Public Meeting at 8:22 P.M. CARRIED

Adjournment:

Resolution #100/24: Moved by Councillor J. Besuijen that this Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council be adjourned at 8:22 P.M. CARRIED

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Mayor

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Chief Administrative Officer



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# ADMINISTRATION REPORT

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**Date:** April 18, 2024                      RFD 24-21  
**Memo To:** Village Council  
**From:** Chelsie Giesbrecht  
**Subject:** Recognition of Milestones

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1. **PURPOSE** – To provide Council with the updated policy relating to the Recognition of Milestones for the Village.
2. **BACKGROUND** – During the April 17, 2024 Council meeting, Council reviewed Policy No. 22 on recognition plaques for 100 years of service to the community. The option of adding in a 50 year milestone plaque and defining what ‘years of service’ meant for those who applied and Council directed administration to update the policy and bring make to a future meeting for review.
3. **OPTIONS** –
  1. To approve the policy as presented
  2. To approve the policy with amendments
4. **DISCUSSION** – The policy reflects the addition of a 50 years service plaque for the inside of the building, and 100 years of service plaque for the outside of the building. The definition of ‘years of service’ means that no matter the location or ownership of the service, the recognition plaques request can be submitted as long as there was no disruption to service.
5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** – The Village would be responsible for the cost of the plaques for the recognition. The plaque itself is approximately \$45 plus the cost of engraving, depending on the number of letters to be engraved, approximate cost would be \$80-\$100.
6. **LEGAL** –
7. **POLITICAL/PUBLIC IMPLICATIONS** – this policy allows those businesses and service clubs (Churches, Societies, Boards, Organizations) to be recognized for the continuous service they provide and contributions they make to our community.
8. **OTHER COMMENTS** – Attached is the updated policy for review.
9. **RECOMMENDATIONS** – Option #1. I recommend the following resolution:

“that the Village of Alix Council hereby accepts Policy No. 22: Recognition of Milestones as presented and sets a review date for 2027”

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Author



Department: Administration  
Policy No: 22  
Policy Title: Recognition of Milestones  
Resolution No:  
Date:  
Review Date: 2027

**Policy Statement:**

The Village of Alix acknowledges the importance of recognizing family-owned businesses and Service Clubs (Churches, Societies, Boards, and Organizations) for longevity.

Therefore, the Village of Alix shall make available an indoor plaque in recognition of 50 continuous years of service, and a recognition plaque of 100 continuous years of service to be displayed on the outside of the building. These recognition plaques are available no matter location, or ownership as long as service has not been interrupted.

**Guidelines/Procedures**

- Groups wishing to receive a plaque shall complete Schedule ‘A’ of this policy.
- All requests must be made at least ninety (90) days in advance of the date that the plaque is required.
- Requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis for appropriate and applicable wording for commemorative plaques. This may result in differences between plaques for individual businesses or service clubs.
- Requests are to be delivered to the Village of Alix Municipal Office at 4849 50 Street, Alix, Alberta.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
CAO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



Schedule 'A'  
Policy No. 22  
Recognition of Milestones

I, \_\_\_\_\_, of the \_\_\_\_\_ would like to request a 50 / 100 year  
(please specify) \_\_\_\_\_, community service plaque from the Village of Alix.

Incorporated Name of Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Incorporation: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

--or--

Incorporated Name of Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Business Name if different from above: \_\_\_\_\_

Founding Owner (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Date Business Was Founded: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Is an event being held to celebrate the occasion:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish a Council representative to attend the event?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Yes                      No



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# ADMINISTRATION REPORT

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**Date:** April 25, 2024                      RFD 24-23  
**Memo To:** Village Council  
**From:** Michelle White  
**Subject:** Community Shopping Survey

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1. **PURPOSE** – To update Council regarding the results of the Community Shopping Survey.
2. **BACKGROUND** – At Alix Lake Information Night, Alix Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Village started distribution of a survey to Alix residents regarding their shopping habits. Surveys were also given out to various groups and facilities like the Community Hall (pancake breakfast crowd), local ‘coffee crowds’ and they were mailed out in utility bills.
3. **OPTIONS** –
  1. To accept this report as information
  2. To direct administration regarding ‘next steps’ for continued community engagement
3. **DISCUSSION** – It’s very interesting to see the high percentage of responses indicating they never, or very seldom shop online. It is no surprise there were a significant number of responses saying they had to leave town to get medical services since there are none available in Alix at this time.  

Review of the survey results shows one of the business types showing enough demand that it would likely be successful in the Village is garage. The number of responses indicating online and out of town shopping for vehicle parts and repairs is a good indication that if a garage opened up in Alix, there would be enough business to support it. This is just one example of how survey results can be used and interpreted.
5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** – None at this time
6. **LEGAL** – When surveying the community for information, we remain conscious of FOIP regulations regarding what types of information can/should be collected to meet our goals.
7. **POLITICAL/PUBLIC IMPLICATIONS** – It is amazing to get this many responses to a paper survey! We so appreciate everyone who took the time to respond, and considering how effective this was we may use paper surveys again in the future.
8. **OTHER COMMENTS** – The information collected in this survey has been shared with Alix Chamber. I believe it can be helpful to our existing businesses that may be looking to expand what they offer. It is also helpful to municipal staff when questions are asked about what type of business we need or want in Alix.
9. **RECOMMENDATIONS** – Option #1. I recommend Council discusses next steps in community engagement during the fall Strategic Planning session.

“that Alix Village Council hereby accepts RFD 24-23, Community Shopping Survey as information”

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Author

**Survey Results - 2024**

**64 surveys handed in.**

<b>What do you leave town for most?</b>	
<b>Medical</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>_ Dental</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>_ Doctor</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>_ Chrio</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>_ Eye</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>_ Counselling</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>_ Lab Work</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Entertainment</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Fitness</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Clothing</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Vehicle Repairs</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>_ Dollar Store</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>_ Work</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>_ Car Wash</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>_ Fishing</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>_ Lumber/Home Improvements</b>	<b>1</b>

<b>What do you shop online for most?</b>	
<b>Clothing</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Household Goods</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Pet Supplies</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Vehicle Parts</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Health Products</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Beauty Products</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>_ Trips</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>_ Gifts</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>_ Auto Parts)</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>_ Crafts</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>_ Technology (computers)</b>	<b>1</b>

<b>How often do you shop out of town?</b>	
<b>Two times a week or more</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Once a week</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Every few weeks</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Once a month or less</b>	<b>13</b>

<b>How often do you shop online?</b>	
<b>Two times a week or more</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Once a week</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Every few weeks</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Once a month or less</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Never</b>	<b>13</b>

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# ADMINISTRATION REPORT

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**Date:** April 25, 2024      RFD 24-24  
**Memo To:** Village Council  
**From:** Michelle White  
**Subject:** Water Conservation

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1. **PURPOSE** – To update Council on steps taken to prepare for predicted drought conditions.
2. **BACKGROUND** –The Province has been actively discussing and taking action regarding Alberta's low water levels. Municipalities have received numerous emails, workbooks and information presentations on the subject. We are now being asked to start taking steps toward conservation as water license holders – see attached letter from Alberta Environment and Protected Areas.
3. **OPTIONS** –
  1. To accept this report as information
  2. To direct staff to take additional steps toward water conservation as directed by Council
4. **DISCUSSION** – In accordance with the letter from Alberta Environment, a voluntary water conservation request has been posted on the Village website and Facebook page. An insert will also be put in the next utility bills outlining this request – WATER CONSERVATION request to residents attached to this report.
5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** – Minor extra copying costs as information is sent out to residents.  

We also have confirmation from Highway 12/21 Water Commission that municipalities will not be held to or charged for using less water than the estimates provided last fall. The Water Agreement with the Commission states that communities must provide estimates each fall for the next year's water needs and that we must use at least 90% of the estimated amount. Using less than 90% would result in being billed by the Commission for the underage at the per cube water rate up to the 90% mark. Drought conditions are being considered "Force Majure" under the terms of the Agreement and therefore outside of anyone's ability to control.
6. **LEGAL** – Village of Alix Water Restriction Bylaw 386/09 has been reviewed - Schedule B attached. No updates are needed at this time.  

Staff have developed a colour coded information sheet that can be distributed to residents to help everyone better understand the different levels of restrictions that may be put in place (attached... in black and white, sorry!). Once the information sheet has been distributed, we should easily be able to communicate what stage of restriction the Village is at by posting the appropriate colour coded posters online and throughout the Village.
7. **POLITICAL/PUBLIC IMPLICATIONS** – We track water consumption on a daily and monthly basis at our pumphouse. This data will allow us to compare to prior years to see if we are in fact reducing our usage. Average consumption for the month of May is 4,869.5 cubic meters of water. We will be comparing this information to 2024 usage throughout May and regularly posting the comparison so residents are aware of our progress.
8. **OTHER COMMENTS** – Staff have ordered different, more drought tolerant plants for the Main Street flower boxes this year in recognition of likely upcoming water restrictions.

**9. RECOMMENDATIONS – Option #1. I recommend the following resolution:**

“that the Village of Alix Council hereby accepts Request for Decision 24-24, Water Conservation as information.”

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. White', written over a horizontal line.

Author



ALBERTA

ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTED AREAS

Office of the Minister

Dear Water Licence Holder,

Alberta is currently experiencing drought conditions. This is especially true in the South Saskatchewan River Basin (SSRB) and, based on current forecasts, it is expected to continue throughout this year. These conditions mean there is potential for the drought to worsen, and we must be prepared.

Over the past two months, the largest water licence holders in the SSRB have worked to develop water sharing agreements to mitigate the risks posed by drought.

These discussions have been the largest and most comprehensive in Alberta's history. Four memorandums of understanding (MOUs) have been drafted covering the: Bow River Basin, Red Deer River Basin, Oldman River Basin, and the Upper Tributaries of the Oldman River Basin.

The MOUs require all major water licence holders to reduce their water use. It is expected the MOUs will be completed by April 18, 2024. These MOUs will be released publicly shortly thereafter.

**I am writing to ask that all remaining two thousand plus small licence holders implement the same water conservation measure as outlined in the MOUs.**

You have been identified as a small licence holder falling into the following categories, with the following commitment expectations:

Sector	Expectation
All municipalities in the SSRB	Implement a 5-10% reduction in water use.
Private Irrigation (including those with irrigation type activities, like golf courses).	Implement the same restriction of water use as the current on-farm water limit set by your closest irrigation district.
Industrial and Commercial	Withdrawal of the minimum volume of water needed to maintain operations.
Feedlots and Stock Growers	
Oil and Gas	
All others	

The Drought Command Team will continue to provide regular updates on the drought conditions, including actions related to water reduction and conservation measures that may be required.

Please assist the Drought Command Team by updating your contact information by visiting: [https://your.alberta.ca/drought/survey\\_tools/licence-holder-contact-information](https://your.alberta.ca/drought/survey_tools/licence-holder-contact-information). You can also email: [epa.drought-response@gov.ab.ca](mailto:epa.drought-response@gov.ab.ca) or call 403-381-5546.

For general enquiries, email [epa.drought@gov.ab.ca](mailto:epa.drought@gov.ab.ca) or call EPA Outreach Services at 310-3773.

For the latest updates on drought in Alberta, please visit [alberta.ca/drought](http://alberta.ca/drought).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Schulz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Rebecca Schulz  
Minister of Environment and Protected Areas



## **WATER CONSERVATION**

**The Village of Alix is implementing a voluntary**

**overall 5-10% reduction in water use. We are asking all residents and business owners to be mindful of their water use for the month of May and forward. We are hopeful that if action is taken individually, water restrictions will be less detrimental to our community as we navigate drought conditions.**

**Updates on our community's usage will be posted on our Facebook page and our website.**





**Village of Alix**

**Bylaw #386/09 — Watering Restriction Schedule**

**Schedule "B"**

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**LEVEL 1:**

Using the last number of your address (odd or even) determines which days you may water your lawn:

Odd numbered addresses may only water lawns on Thursday and Sundays and even numbered addresses may only water lawns on Wednesdays and Saturdays, as long as the watering of lawns only occur during the hours 6:00 am to 9:00 am and 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

Flowerbeds and vegetable gardens may be watered by hand, at anytime, using a watering can or a hose with a nozzle with a trigger shut off to restrict water flow. Sprinklers and like water toys may be used for recreational purposes by children as long as children are present during use; includes children's pools (capacity not more than 1000 litres).

Any other enhanced water use restrictions or prohibitions imposed by the Municipality.

Requests for site and condition specific irrigation scheduling for commercial or industrial operations using metered irrigation systems may be approved by the Municipality's Public Works Department.

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**LEVEL 2:**

All outdoor water use is prohibited, including, but not limited to, watering of lawns, washing cars, washing sidewalks, washing pads, washing exteriors of buildings and the recreational use of sprinklers and like water toys/pools.

Flowerbeds and vegetable gardens may be watered by hand, at anytime, using a watering can or a hose with a nozzle with a trigger shut off to restrict water flow.

Any other enhanced water use restrictions or prohibitions imposed by the Municipality.

Requests for site and condition specific irrigation scheduling for commercial or Industrial operations using metered irrigation systems may be approved by the Municipality's Public Works Department.

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**LEVEL 3:**

All outdoor water use is prohibited, including, but not limited to, watering of lawns, washing cars, washing sidewalks, washing pads, washing exteriors of buildings and the recreational use of sprinklers and like water toys/pools.

Notwithstanding this, flowerbeds and vegetable gardens may be watered by hand, at anytime, using a watering can or a hose with a nozzle with a trigger shutoff to restrict water flow.

**Local residential customers are requested to voluntarily reduce domestic/household water consumption.**

**Local non-residential customers are requested to voluntarily reduce water consumption.**

**All bulk water sales are suspended, unless for residential use.**

Any other enhanced water use restrictions or prohibitions imposed by the Municipality.

Requests for site and condition specific watering by commercial or industrial operations using metered hand watering or continually monitored systems for the establishment and protection of new plant material, including trees, may be approved by the Municipality's Public Works Department.

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**LEVEL 4**

All outdoor water use is prohibited. Residential and non-residential use is controlled through district flow restrictions (reduced pressures subject to Fire Services review and approval). Relevant provisions in Water Supply Agreements will determine the amount of water that is available to Commissions, municipalities and Consumers throughout the region under the circumstances at that time.

**Local residential customers are requested to voluntarily reduce domestic/household water consumption and may receive limited or interrupted water supply as determined by the Municipality given water volumes allocated regionally.**

**Local non-residential customers are requested to voluntarily reduce water consumption and may receive limited or interrupted water supply as determined by the Municipality given water volumes allocated regionally.**

**All bulk water sales are suspended, unless for residential use.**

Any other enhanced water use restrictions or prohibitions imposed by the Municipality.

## **Stage 1 GREEN**

### **Limited Water Restriction**

Using the last number of your address(odd/even) determines which days you may water.

Flowerbeds and vegetable gardens may be watered by hand at any time, using a watering can or a hose with a nozzle with a trigger shut off to restrict water flow.

Sprinklers and water toys may be used for recreational purposes by children as long as children are present during use.

## **Stage 2 ORANGE**

### **Partial Water Restrictions**

All outdoor water use is prohibited.

Flowerbeds and vegetable gardens may be watered by hand at any time, using a watering can or a hose with a nozzle with a trigger shut off to restrict water flow.

## **Stage 3 YELLOW**

### **Restricted Water Use**

Increased community alerts of water conversation

All outdoor water use is prohibited.

Flowerbeds and vegetable gardens may be watered by hand at any time.

Local residential customers are requested to reduce domestic/household water consumption voluntarily and may receive limited or interrupted water supply.

**All bulk water sales are suspended, unless for residential use.**

## **Stage 4 RED**

### **Complete Water Restriction**

Increased community alerts of water conversation

All outdoor water use is prohibited. Residential and non-residential use is controlled through district flow restrictions.

Local residential customers are requested to reduce domestic/household water consumption voluntarily and may receive limited or interrupted water supply.

**All bulk water sales are suspended, unless for residential use.**

**For more details visit the Village Office or [www.villagofalix.ca](http://www.villagofalix.ca)**



Stage 1

**GREEN**

Limited Water Restriction



Stage 2

**Orange**

Partial Water Restrictions



Stage 3

**YELLOW**

Restricted Water Use



Stage 4

**RED**

Complete Water Restriction





**Hwy 12/21 Water Commission**  
**April 19, 2024**  
**Councilor Tim Besuijen**

**Regular meeting**

1. Attended by Janice Besuijen, Tim Besuijen, virtually by Michelle White.
2. Chair Report,
  - a. As part of the chair report, I reached out to the Dickson Dam operational personnel for an update on status of dam; water levels and forecast of water input. Report attached to this report.
3. Administrative /Operations Report
  - a. Final invoicing for Phase 6&7 received from the contractor.
  - b. Update on Tail Creek leak late last year, due to a faulty gasket
  - c. Update on leak around Edberg. Coupling had let go, this is the new construction and was pressure tested prior to commissioning, unsure of why failed.
  - d. SCADA upgrades are continuing
4. Financial
  - a. Reviewed financial reports including consumption true up
  - b. Reviewed 2023 audited financial reports by BDO Canada LLP
5. Reviewed water supply agreement with town of Stettler and member water service agreement (Alix) as an example of what is in the agreements
6. Business plan budgeted for 2025 approved
7. Water Update
  - a. Received a letter from Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Environment on drought response plan
  - b. Government of Alberta Drought Response Team presentation form Todd Aasen (Approvals Manager), presentation attached to report.
8. FOIP session

Regards,



Councilor Tim Besuijen

# Highway 12/21 Water Commission

## Chair Report

Greetings everyone, saw my first gopher last week, spring is here.

As for the water commission itself not too much to report on. As you are aware we had a line break late last year, won't get into details in my report as Dion will cover impact and costs on that in the manager or operations report.

There has been, and rightly so, a lot of focus on water supply security with the drought conditions we have experienced over the last while. We have Todd Aasen, from Alberta Environment to present on the drought and current actions underway to mitigate impacts of it. Hopefully some of you were able to send in some questions beforehand or have some for the meeting.

I also reached out to the Dickson dam operations team to get their take on the situation. As an attachment to my report, you will find current information on water levels and data on snowpack. These are all data points that the dam personal use to address the outflow of the dam over the year to maintain sufficient water to downstream users.

Regards,



Tim Besuijen

## Status of Dickson Dam Levels and snowpack

Data on reservoir levels and flows can be found on Alberta River Basins website (<https://rivers.alberta.ca/>) or you can download an app.

The following Information provided by Operations and Maintenance, Water Infrastructure Operations, Dickson Dam.

“At present the reservoir is approximately 1 m below the average elevation for this date. For some extra context, on this date in 2022 and 2023 the reservoir was below average 2.4 and 3.9 m, respectively.

Our inflow today is calculated at about 24.3 cms and outflow 16.3 cms. Currently our reservoir is rising slowly due to the local plain’s runoff. (Tim’s Note: local plains runoff is the initial runoff from fields etc., the mountain snowpack run off comes a little later.)

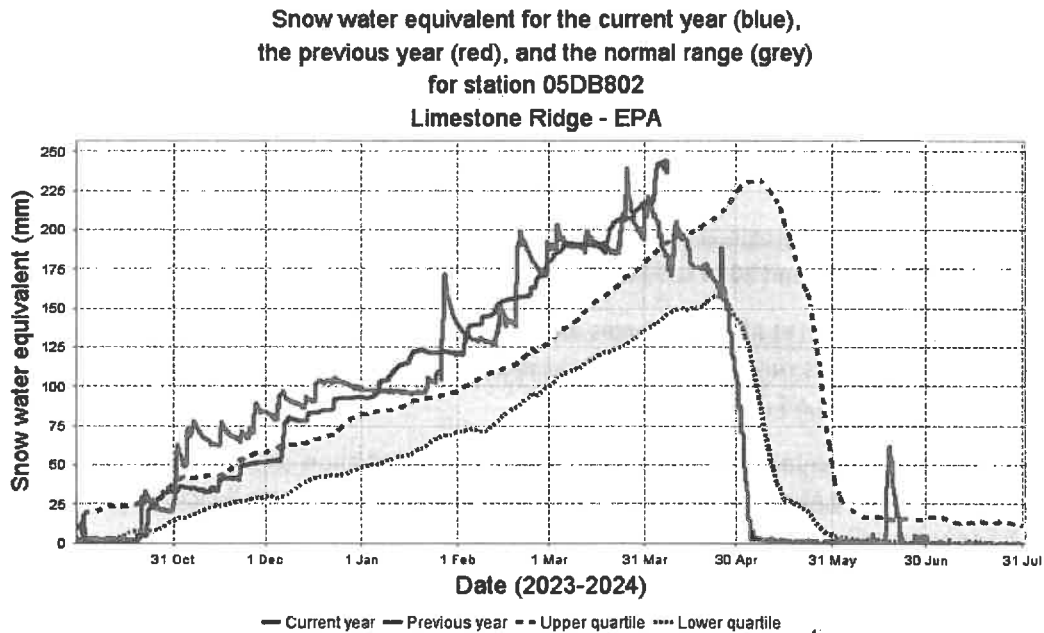
On a positive note, our mountain snowpack is doing well at the two snow pillow stations we monitor for our basin (Limestone -Well Above Average; and Skoki -Average; these can also be viewed on the River Basins site). See snow pillow graphs below.

We will get a better picture of the overall conditions in our basin once the snow course survey data is collected, and the soil moisture conditions are updated. I would recommend that you look at the Water Supply Outlook when it’s released for April on the river’s website.”

The last graph shows current dam levels as well as normal operating levels over the course of the year.

Limestone Ridge - EPA | Yearly Graph

3

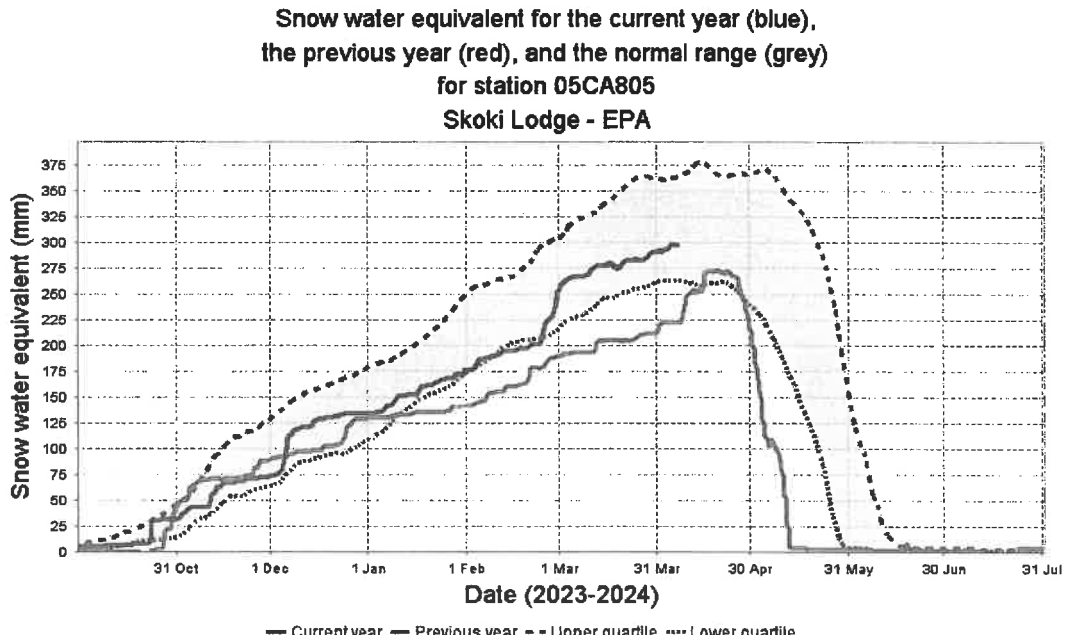


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Skoki Lodge - EPA | Yearly Graph

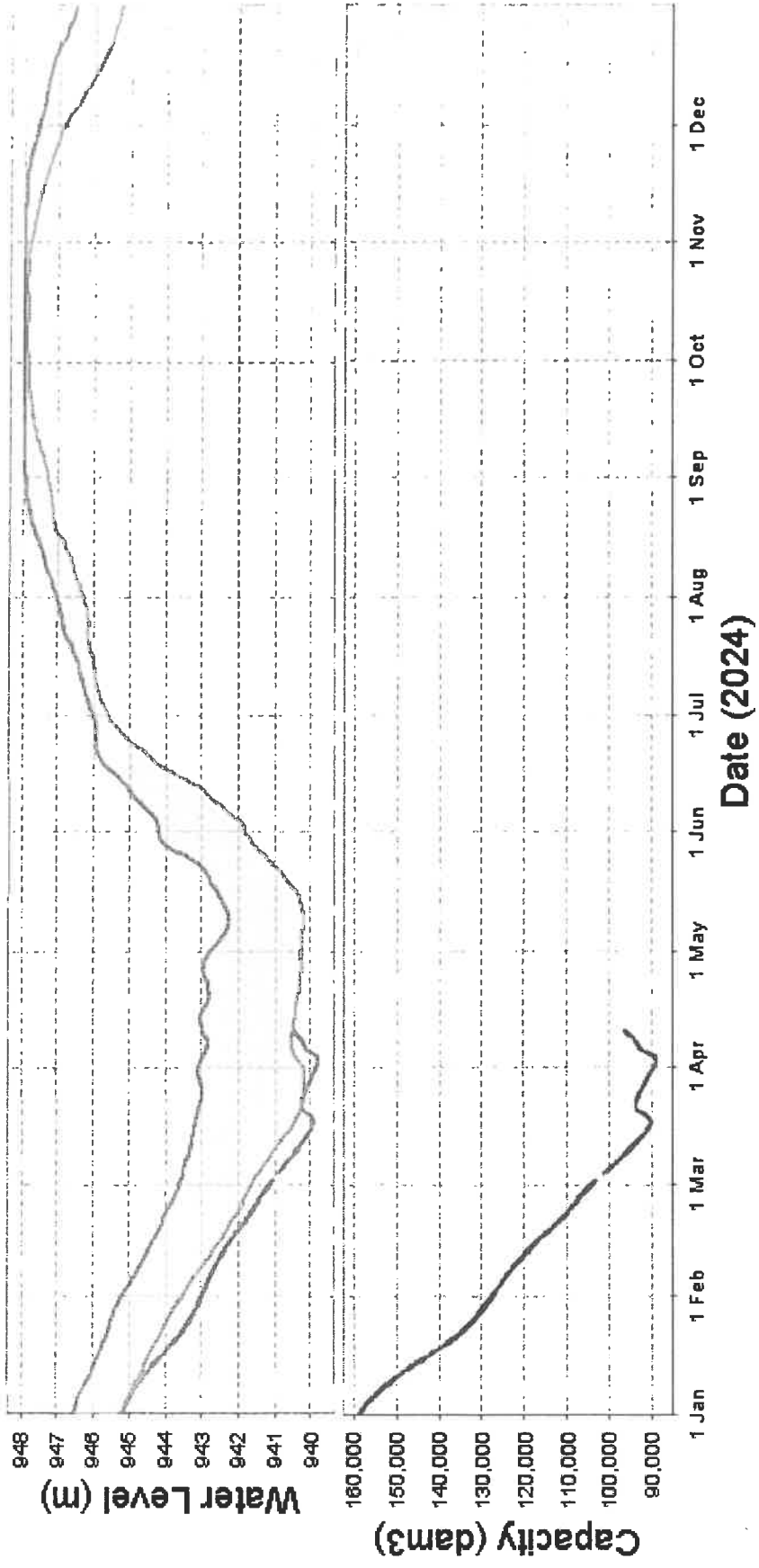
4



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**Water level (red), normal level range (grey)  
and reservoir capacity (blue) for 05CB006  
Gleniffer Reservoir near Dickson - WSC**



— Water Level — Upper quartile — Lower quartile — Capacity

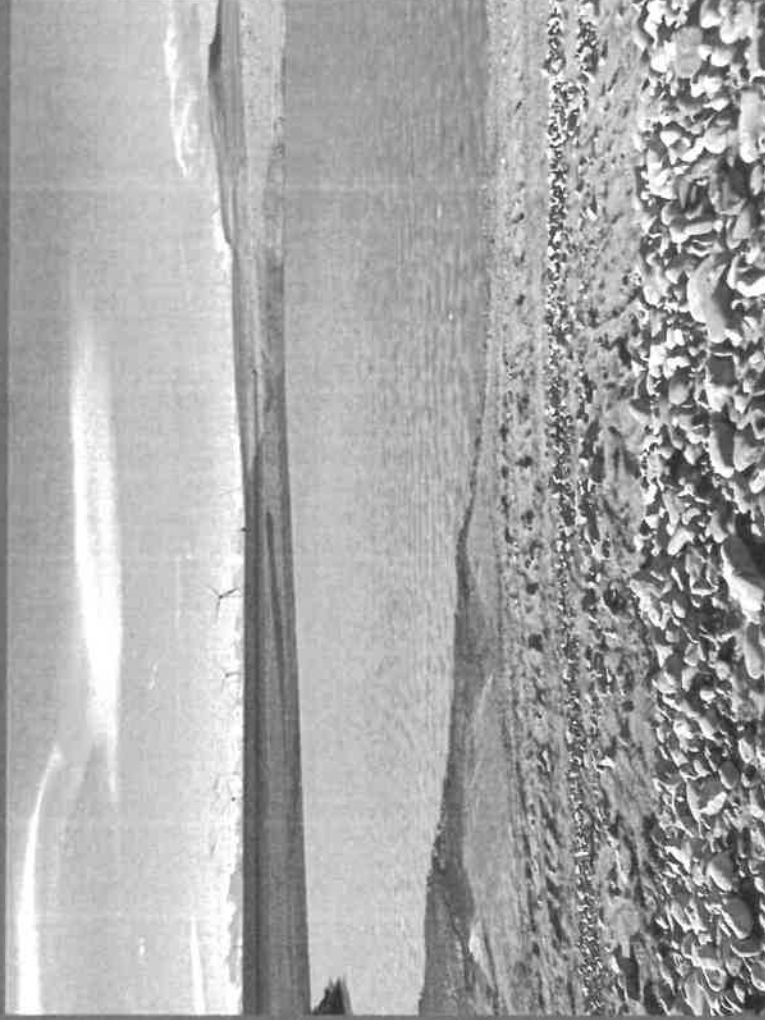


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# 2024 Drought Response

Hwy 12/21 Water  
Commission

Todd Assen  
Environment and Protected Areas  
April 19, 2024



*Alberta*

# Agenda

1. Current Situation
2. EPA's Response
  1. Water Sharing Agreements
  2. Low Flow Water Quality
  3. Emergency Response Plan

# CURRENT SITUATION



*Alberta*

# River Flows

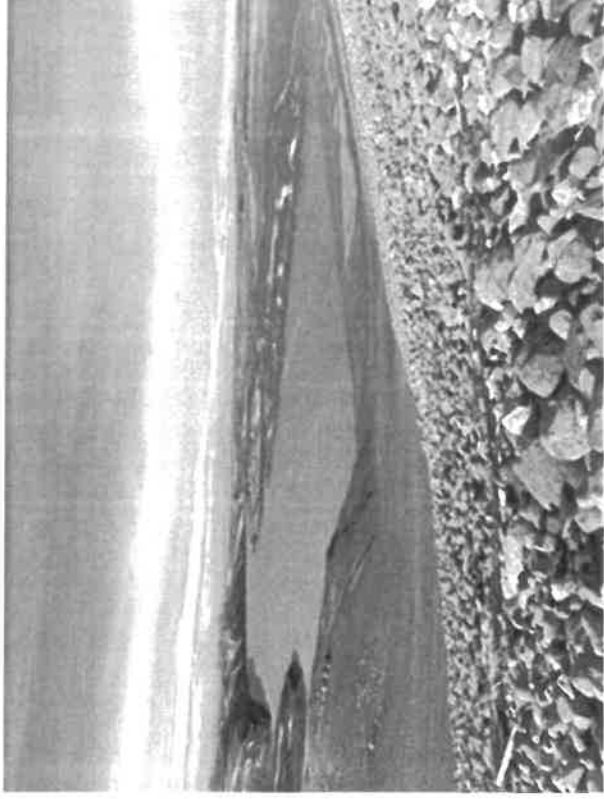
Winter measurements conducted in March 2024. Open water flows will begin in April. Flows are at the following ranking when compared to data from the past 25 years:

- Milk River at the Town of Milk River: 25<sup>th</sup> lowest
- Oldman River at the City of Lethbridge: 18<sup>th</sup> lowest
- Elbow River at Bragg Creek: 4<sup>th</sup> lowest
- Bow River at Banff: 15<sup>th</sup> lowest
- Red Deer River at Town of Drumheller: 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest
- Battle River at the Town of Ponoka: lowest on record
- North Saskatchewan River near SK. River Crossing: Highest
- Athabasca River below Fort McMurray: 18<sup>th</sup> lowest

# Reservoirs: Current vs. Normal

## As of April 11, 2024

- Oldman Reservoir - 34%
  - Normal = 61-82%.
- St. Mary Reservoir - 24%
  - Normal = 52-78%.
- Pine Coulee Reservoir - 34%
  - Normal = 74-91%
- TransAlta Bow Storage - 43%
  - Normal = 32-50%
- Dickson Dam/Gleniffer – 47%
  - Normal = 48-63%



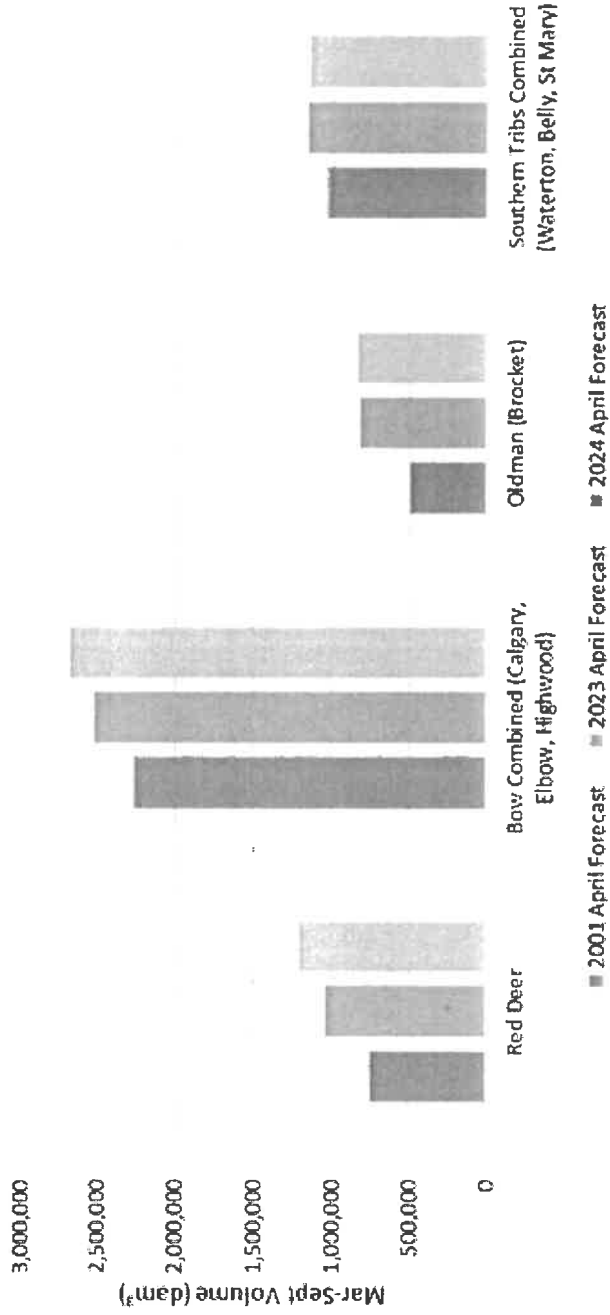
View of the St. Mary's reservoir from the spillway

# April Snowpack Survey Highlights

Basin	Conditions
North Saskatchewan River	Below normal to above normal
Bow River	Below to within normal range
Oldman	Below to within normal range
Red Deer River	Within normal range

# Water Supply Outlook

Water Supply Outlook (March - Sept Volumes): Comparison



# Current Drought Situation Summary



Recent improvement in conditions in Red Deer and Bow Basins. Oldman Basin remains concerning. Basins in northern parts of the province are also looking very dry.



El Nino system appears to be dissipating. Could see normal precipitation levels in coming months (80% chance). However, daily temperatures are projected to have a 40-60% chance of above normal conditions.



Drought conditions in 2024 will largely be determined by snow and rain received April through June.



Some areas of the province will experience drought: reservoir levels and soil moisture conditions are too low to rapidly improve.

# EPA RESPONSE

10-11-2011

*Alberta*

## **Water Sharing Agreements**

- Water Sharing Agreements are done between water licence holders to collectively agree to reduce water consumption.
- In 2024, EPA hired WaterSMART to engage the largest water licence holders in the SSRB (Red Deer, Bow River, Oldman)
  - 32 licence holders account for 80-90% of the water licences
- This is the most effective tool for managing drought and ensuring more water users have access to water
- Once implemented, weekly or biweekly meetings will be hosted with those participants to keep updated on conditions and adjust water use to ensure outcomes are met

## Low Flow Water Quality & Lagoons

- Drought conditions reduce ability of water bodies to dilute treated wastewater effluent
- EPA is contacting municipal wastewater lagoon operators to confirm the location, timing and volume of any planned releases.
  - It is estimated that approximately 60 facilities will be determined to be high risk.
- High risk facilities will be required to collect a wastewater sample, analyze the sample through an accredited lab, and submit results
- EPA will also collect and analyze instream samples from receiving waterbodies prior to the release.

# Drought Emergency Response Plan

- This document will guide the Government of Alberta's response to drought conditions.
- Top priority and purpose of plan is to protect the health and safety of Albertans from the impacts of drought
- Also seeks to minimize impacts to Alberta's communities, economy and environment.
- Plan will be announced in April and posted on [www.alberta.ca/drought](http://www.alberta.ca/drought)

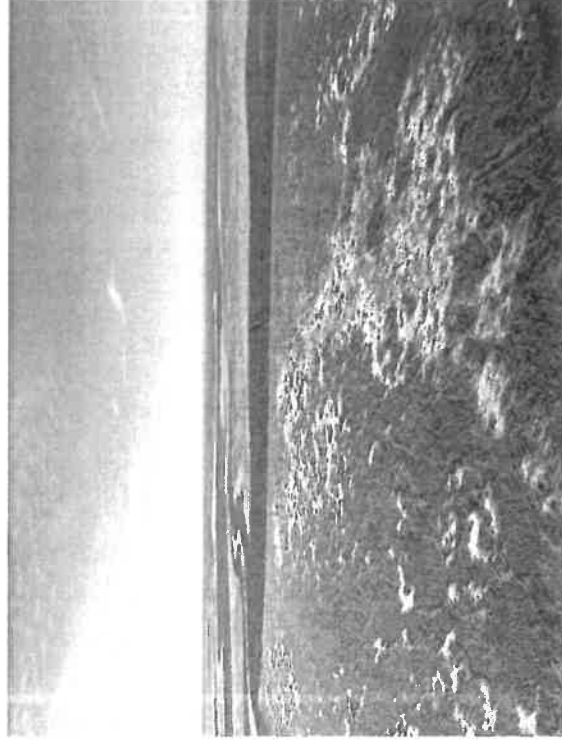
## Next Steps

- In collaboration with Forestry and Parks (FP), the Drought Command team developed a joint emergency protocol for drought and wildfire
- A “fast track” for regulatory authorizations related to drought response is in development
- Engagement with water licence holders who are not part of the water sharing agreements, but who also need to reduce their consumption.

# Resources and Communication

- [Alberta.ca/drought](http://Alberta.ca/drought)
- [Rivers.Alberta.ca](http://Rivers.Alberta.ca)
  - Near-real time data including river flows, snowpack, water shortage advisories
  - [“Learn to use Rivers.Alberta”](#) Youtube video
  - [“Get to know your water flow”](#) factsheet on Open Alberta Publications
- Information for applying for a licence under the Water Act: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/water-act-licences>
- Temporary Diversion Licences: <https://www.alberta.ca/temporary-diversion-licence>
- Questions or concerns? Contact [epa.drought@gov.ab.ca](mailto:epa.drought@gov.ab.ca)

# Questions?



Zama Lake in Northwestern Alberta



Oldman Reservoir – Silt Plain  
with the river running through

*Alberta*



**Regional Water Services Commission**  
**(Hwy 12/21)**  
**April 22, 2024**  
**Councilor Tim Besuijen**

**Meeting Minutes**

1. The regional water services commission, which is made up of Town of Stettler, County of Stettler, Highway 12/21 committee reps (Myself and Dion Burlock) and Shirley McClellan reps, which make up users of the Stettler Water treatment plant and the plant operations.
2. Review 2023 Final true up of water rates
3. Melissa Robbins, Director of Operations for the treatment plant presented the revised communication policy for review.
4. Operational Updates
  - a. Melissa Robbins for the treatment plant
  - b. Dion Burlock for Highway 12/21
  - c. Andrew for Shirley M. commission as well.
5. Discussion on SCADA requirements, upgrades, and joint services between Shirley M and 12/21
6. Plant tour of the water treatment facility
7. Next meeting is December 9, 2024

Regards



Councilor Tim Besuijen



# VILLAGE OF ALIX

**Municipal  
Census 2024  
Starts May 7**

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## What is a Municipal Census?

Allows for collection of important demographic data. A Village employee will be visiting your residence to collect this data.

## Why are we conducting a Municipal Census?

Having an accurate population count gives us the ability to get grant funds and helps the Village Council evaluate what programs and services the community needs.

Residents will be able to provide their information at their door. If you are not home and we have missed you, we will leave a 'Notice of Visit' card for you to be able to call into the office.

This is a short census that will only take approximately two (2) minutes and does not require any paperwork.

We want to thank all our residents in advance for their cooperation and participation in gathering up-to-date and accurate census information for our community.

Village Office  
4849 50 Street  
Alix, AB T0C 0B0  
403.747.2495  
[info@villageofalix.ca](mailto:info@villageofalix.ca)





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# Village of Alix – CPO Services

## Community Update

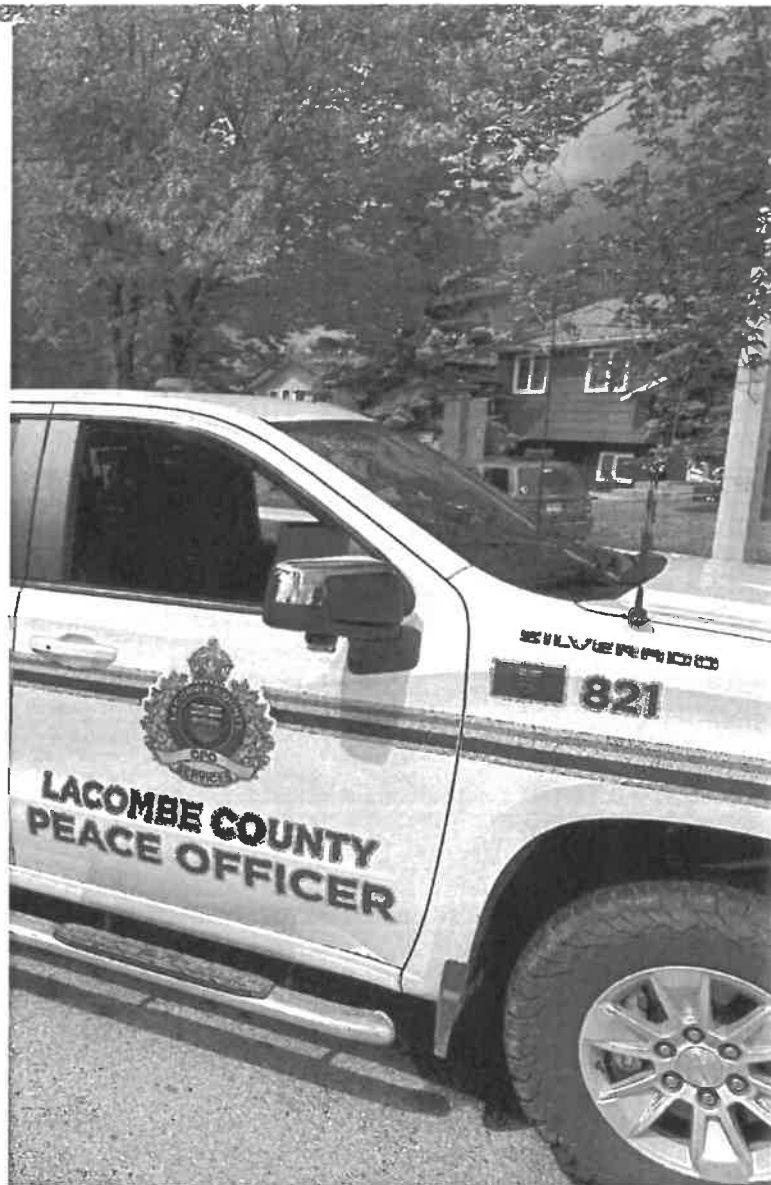
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*To build a safe and vibrant  
community through leadership,  
innovation, and healthy  
relationships.*

**APRIL 15, 2024**

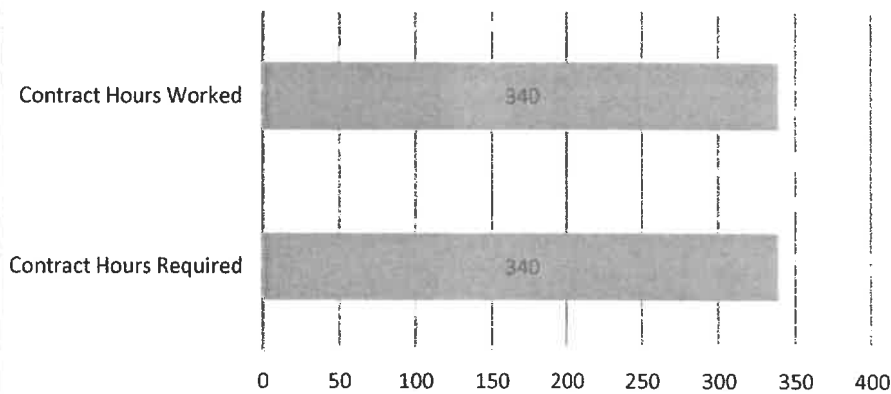
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**Lacombe County – CPO Services**  
**Prepared by: Mark Sproule, Manager**



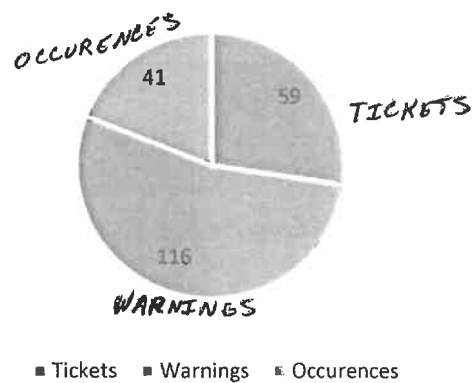
**STATISTICAL OVERVIEW**

**Alix Contract Hours - 2023  
Final Report**



*'2023 Peace Officer Services, Schedule E of the Peace Officer Services Agreement.'*

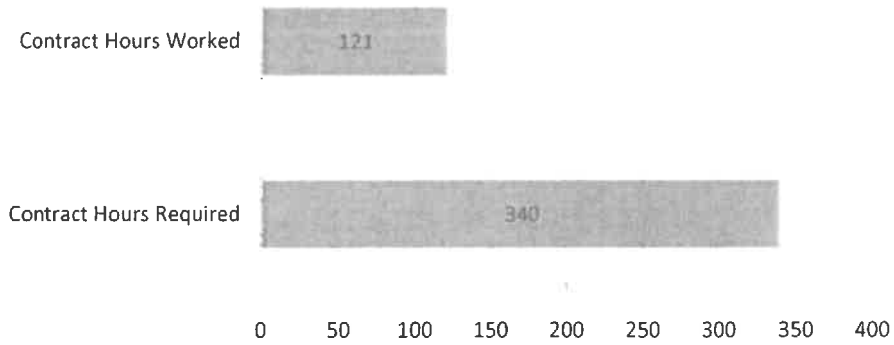
**Alix Statistical Data - 2023  
Final Report**



*'Data collected from January 1<sup>st</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 as per Section 11, Peace Officer Service Agreement.'*

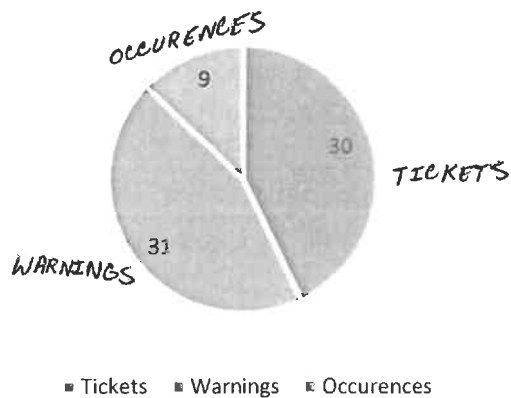
**STATISTICAL OVERVIEW**

**Alix Contract Hours - 2024  
First Quarter**



*'2024 Peace Officer Services, Schedule E of the Peace Officer Services Agreement.'*

**Alix Statistical Data - 2024  
First Quarter**



*'Data collected from January 1<sup>st</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 as per Section 11, Peace Officer Service Agreement.'*



April 23, 2024

Good evening everyone,

Yesterday, the Premier and the Minister of Affordability and Utilities, Nathan Neudorf introduced Bill 19, the *Utilities Affordability Statutes Amendment Act* which, if passed, will standardize the way Municipalities charge local access fees. As you are likely aware, local access fees include both the linear tax charged to the utility for the right to use municipal property as well as a franchise fee paid to the municipality for the exclusive right to provide service.

FortisAlberta's calculation for its' municipal franchises is based on a percentage of the distribution and transmission charge (i.e. amount is fixed annually at somewhere between 0 and 20 per cent). Other municipalities calculate local access fees using different methodologies and thereby creating less predictability and more volatility.

If passed, this bill will protect ratepayers by making local access fees more affordable and predictable across the province for electricity and gas distribution customers by aligning the formulas applied by municipalities and is to be effective on Jan. 1, 2025. At this point, the government is not contemplating any changes to the way FortisAlberta calculates its local access fees on behalf of municipalities.

Here is the link to the news conference and release in case you want to seek further details.

[Making utility bills more affordable | alberta.ca](#)

As always, let me know if you have questions or would like to discuss.

**Chris Burt** , Stakeholder Relations Manager, Municipalities

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FortisAlberta 100 Chippewa Road, Sherwood Park, T8A 4H4 | p: 780-464-8377 : c: 780-288-4719

**FORTIS  
ALBERTA**



**We are FortisAlberta.** We deliver the electricity that empowers Albertans to succeed. We keep the power on, not just because it's our job, but because we care about the people we serve. We are reliable, honest and dedicated to our work because our employees, customers and communities matter to us.





# Parkland Regional Library System 2023 Annual Report

Libraries, Value Beyond Words



Photo from Olds Municipal Library

## Thank you!

The Parkland Library Board thanks our member municipalities and the Government of Alberta for continued funding. With your help we supported 49 public libraries in 2023.



Photo from Hughenden Library



## Parkland Libraries have...

637,120 items in their collections.

## Virtual Library Services

- 262,476 website and online catalogue visits
- 58,010 eLibrary database sessions
- 156,051 digital checkouts
- 1,422,940 WiFi sessions at libraries

## Parkland HQ

- Completed workshops, training, analysis, and reports on multiple topics for library staff
- Housed and managed 10,081 print items plus 3,635 non print items like kits and audiobooks
- Maintains a collection of 21,494 virtual items like eBooks and eAudiobooks

Libraries, Value Beyond Words



# 2023 Annual Report



## Resource Sharing

- Van drivers made 3,180 deliveries driving 182,850 kilometers
- 843,900 items delivered in van runs in 2023
- Purchased, processed, and added 41,841 items to the system catalogue

## Advocacy Activity

The Systems Advocacy Committee created and distributed advocacy materials for the Provincial election which may have significantly impacted the province-wide efforts to obtain an increase in operating grant funding from the Government of Alberta

## IT Support

- A new website was implemented for the region. This was a major undertaking that involved many Parkland staff with many obstacles to overcome.
- 86 computers were replaced throughout the region.
- A total of 64 new wireless access points were replaced in all member libraries.

## Library Services Support

- 73 visits to 43 member libraries
- Training provided to 10 new library managers
- 1,237 consulting sessions by Parkland Staff
- Held 18 training events for 255 attendees

## Marketing Activity

- Canadian Library Month Contests resulted in 1,700 new cardholders in October
- Distributed 8,750 bookmarks, 275 brochures, 750 flyers, and 900 stickers to member libraries to help them market their services

## Social Media

- A LinkedIn strategy was implemented and followers increased by 39%
- 69% increase in engagement for Facebook
- 35% increase in engagement for Instagram

## Contact Us:

Parkland Regional Library System  
4565 46th Street  
Lacombe, AB T4L 0K2  
403-782-3850

Board Chair Barb Gilliat

Director: Ron Sheppard (ext. 230)  
Manager of Library Services: Andrea Newland (ext.221)  
Manager of Finance and Operations: Donna Williams (ext. 141)  
Manager of Technology Infrastructure: Tim Spark (ext. 212)  
IT Helpdesk (ext. 600)

[Complete Board and Municipality list here.](#)

\*Statistics based on 2023 annual report to PLSB Municipal Affairs