

2023



City of Cold Lake
ANNUAL REPORT



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KINOSOO BEACH

”

This beach is one of my favourite places to chill out! They do a fantastic job maintaining the area and making it fun for families.

*J.R. Brown
Lloydminster, Alberta*



Mayor's Message

Craig Copeland, Mayor

Council is keeping an eye on infrastructure needs for future growth, while prioritizing the maintenance and upgrades required to keep existing infrastructure running optimally.

There's no doubt that we are facing challenging times both socially and economically, and while our community is not immune from these trends, we have much to be grateful for. The truth is, we have much to be optimistic about. With large-scale investments on the horizon, economic activity in our region promises to ramp up, and we are poised to take full advantage of the resulting activity. And with COVID and its associated restrictions firmly behind us, the community has stepped up in a big way to bring the good times back. Sports organizations and non-profits have been busy rebuilding their volunteer bases, and it shows. Cold Lake has been brimming with provincial finals, regional tournaments, festivals, and concerts. Our facilities were built to accommodate just these types of events and it's great to see our vision becoming a reality.

Of course, it has not been all good news in 2023. A tough economy has led to the significant increase in petty crime, homelessness, and the vulnerable population that many communities have experienced. This is not something we can hide from, and there is no easy fix. But we are providing the support we can while also taking a strong stance against crime and antisocial behaviour. We will help those in need while providing for public safety and ensuring a safe and welcoming community.

Cold Lake is a great place to live. And we are working to ensure that it is ready to grow as our community is discovered by more and more people. We have projects in the works that will upgrade our wastewater system, support our public works department, and transform the lakeshore experience while also updating core infrastructure. This book is a great place to start to learn about where we were when 2023 came to a close, and where we plan to go in the future.



City Manager's Message

Kevin Nagoya, CAO

A QUICK LOOK BACK

The City had a challenging, but productive year in 2023. Like many communities across North America, Cold Lake found itself contending with inflation, an increase in both petty crime and in the vulnerable population. Council stressed a balanced approach to the issues, providing support where possible and ensuring that enforcement actively focused on public safety.

Municipalities are not immune to inflation. Rising energy costs and the costs of materials and labour all have an impact when delivering projects and providing services. We are taking a strong look at our service delivery to ensure as little inflationary pressure is passed on to the public as possible. In July 2023, we added almost a half million dollars to our Capital Budget from unrestricted surplus. This money ensured that planned projects were able to be delivered despite inflation.

We've set the stage for major infrastructure improvements, including the Lakeshore Drive project and the construction of a new wastewater plant.

We're building a new Public Works Operations Centre to better serve the community for years to come. And we've made incremental improvements to ensure that our existing infrastructure – including the marina, field house, roads, and water infrastructure – will be in shape to deliver the services we rely on now, and those services our future residents will need to call Cold Lake home.

While it can be easy to get caught up in negative news and focus on the challenges that we face, council has decided to respond to our challenges while also keeping an eye firmly on the bright future our community has. We remain focused on providing solutions for the housing crunch here in Cold Lake, and maintaining our critical infrastructure so that we can enjoy municipal services while preparing to expand our community.

Within these pages you will find details of the work we are doing to maintain and grow our community. If there are any questions, we encourage you to reach out to your elected officials and to the City's administration. Our door is always open, and we are here to discuss our priorities with you, explain our programs and services, and hear your concerns.



Left to right: Mayor Craig Copeland, Councillors: Ryan Bailey, Vicky Lefebvre, Bob Mattice, Bill Parker, Adele Richardson, Chris Vining

City Council

Council remained focused on its top priorities, making significant headway on several multi-year projects while responding to inflationary pressure and an uncertain economy.

We've accomplished a lot over the past two years, but there is more to do to realize Council's vision for the community. In 2023, Cold Lake showed it can respond to challenges quickly, decisively, and compassionately. Council maintained its 2022 commitment to provide shelter space for the homeless and vulnerable population while also committing to a hard line against activity that threatens public safety. Council continues to direct administration to monitor the situation and to see where the City can assist to ensure the police and the justice system have the resources required to respond to the community's needs.

When the 2022 Municipal Census showed concrete data pointing to a critical lack of access to family physicians and long wait times for many people trying to access

their doctor, council stood up a municipally controlled corporation with the vision of running a doctor's clinic. The clinic is now a reality. It has doubled the number of doctors who work there, and now is drawing up plans for expansion.

These are two of the many pressing priorities, projects and programs that Council has fostered over the past several years. We hope this guide gives Cold Lake residents a look into what drove the City's major efforts in 2023, as well as the exciting potential we have in store for the years ahead.

Council Meetings and Corporate Priorities Meetings are streamed live on the City of Cold Lake's YouTube channel, while a schedule of meetings along with agendas and meeting minutes can be found online at www.coldlake.com.

MOVING FORWARD

IMPROVING ACCESS



I see first-hand the dedication to improve healthcare access in the City of Cold Lake. The new clinic is a testament to this community's commitment to enhancing the health, well-being and economic development of our region.

*Lisa Ford,
MCC Board Member*

COUNCIL PURCHASES CLINIC

The City of Cold Lake established a municipally controlled corporation (MCC) to purchase a medical clinic. After nearly 20 years of work trying to expand the number of doctors available in the community, and after data collected in the 2022 Municipal Census showed significant concerns over access to family physicians, Council made the decision to purchase the medical clinic in the hopes that it could positively affect the availability of physicians in the community.

The 2022 Census data, including a report on physician availability can be found at www.coldlake.com/census.

The MCC began operations at the clinic on March 1, 2023, after rebranding the clinic as the CL Medical Clinic. Since operations began, the clinic has expanded from two to four doctors and has been able to bring the business into positive cashflow. The clinic is also eyeing plans for expansion.

CL Medical Clinic held a strategic planning session with the physicians and its board of directors, which established the following set of strategic priorities for the clinic:

- Expand clinic operating hours to increase patient availability
- Attract more full-time doctors dedicated to the medical clinic
- Create opportunities for Nurse Practitioners to practice
- Host walk-in clinics
- Preventative medicine

The municipally controlled corporation is run by a board of directors, with two members appointed from Cold Lake City Council and three members at large appointed by council.

CL MEDICAL CLINIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chris Vining, Councillor
Elected Official Appointment

Bob Mattice, Councillor
Elected Official Appointment

Paul McWilliams, Associate Vice President -
Lakeland Credit Union

Lisa Ford, Regional Economic Development
Specialist - Alberta Jobs, Economy & Trade

Melissa Shea, Government of Alberta -
Community and Social Services

Economic Development

Administering the Rural Renewal Stream was a top Economic Development priority in 2023. Although access to the program is now being reduced by the province, 130 businesses joined the program and the City endorsed 113 candidates last year.



POPULATION*
+ 2.4%

2023: 16,694
2022: 16,302



AVG HOUSE*
+ 1.3%

2023: \$360,000
2022: \$355,337



INCOME*
+ 16.2%

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD
2023: \$122,000
2022: \$105,000



LICENCES*
+ 17.9%

BUSINESS LICENCES
2023: 803
2022: 681

*Data provided by the Government of Alberta economic dashboard

While the national and international economies have yet to fully rebound from inflationary pressure and supply chain issues, there are reasons to be bullish on Cold Lake in the near and mid-term. And these reasons extend beyond the nearly \$1 billion in investment that CFB Cold Lake and the Air Weapons Range expect to see over the next decade or so.

While business licences issued by the City fell to a low of 660 in 2020, they have steadily rebounded, with 671 being issued in 2021, 681 being issued in 2022, and 803 issued in 2023. This large increase was in part due to changes in the City's procedure to follow up on business licence renewals, but also marks a significant increase in economic activity. The City's population rose by an estimated 2.41%,

while average household income and the housing market also saw increases of 16% and 1.3%, respectively. In 2023, the average household income was \$122,000 while the average house price rose to \$360,000.

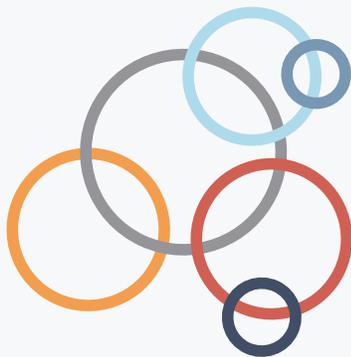
RURAL RENEWAL STREAM

A provincial portal for municipalities to nominate economic migrants for difficult-to-fill jobs kept the department busy, with 130 businesses posting 235 vacancies. These resulted in 113 letters of endorsement being issued, and the program continues to see significant demand. With federal immigration numbers and student visas coming down, it is expected that access to this program will become more limited, and that job endorsements will be targeted towards certain key industries.

Finance

Cold Lake Council passed a “hold the line” budget in 2023 to help rein in increasing costs due to inflation without passing a large tax increase onto residents. The 2023 tax increase came in at 3.1%.

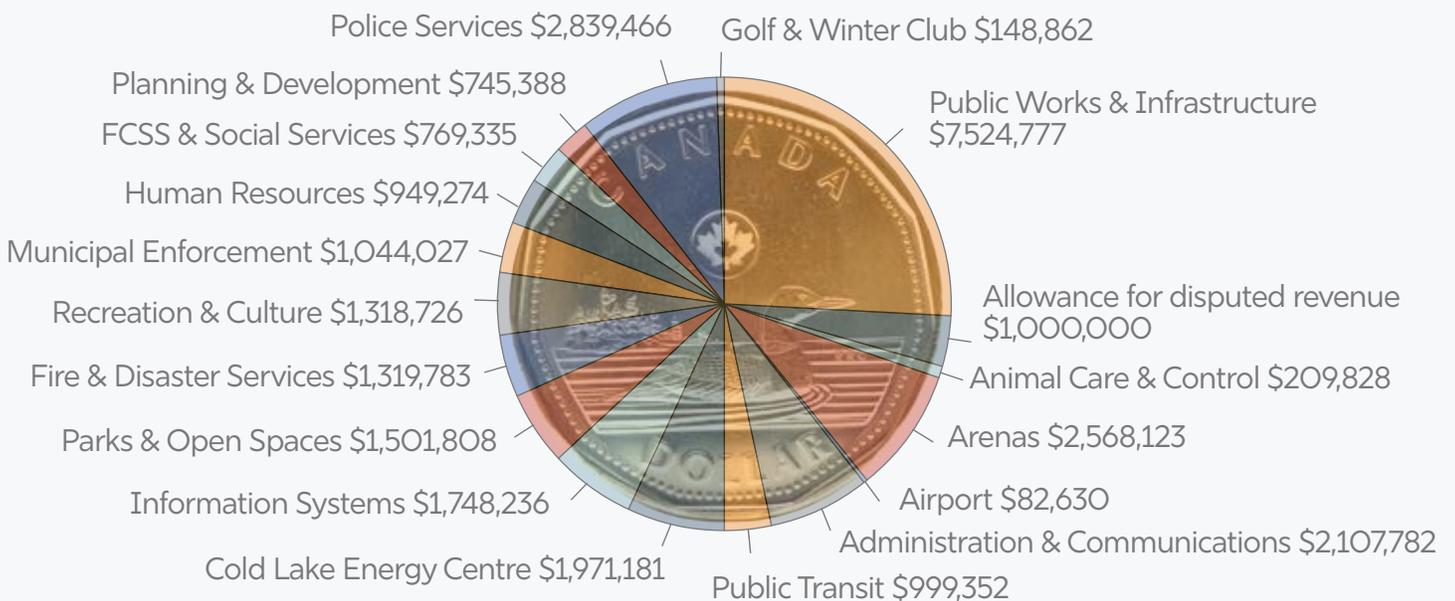
2023 DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENSES (ACTUAL)



\$17,446,916	■ Infrastructure
\$10,570,533	■ Administration
\$10,062,277	■ Recreation & Culture
\$ 7,506,681	■ Emergency Services
\$ 2,003,090	■ Planning & Development
\$ 1,547,071	■ Public Health & Welfare

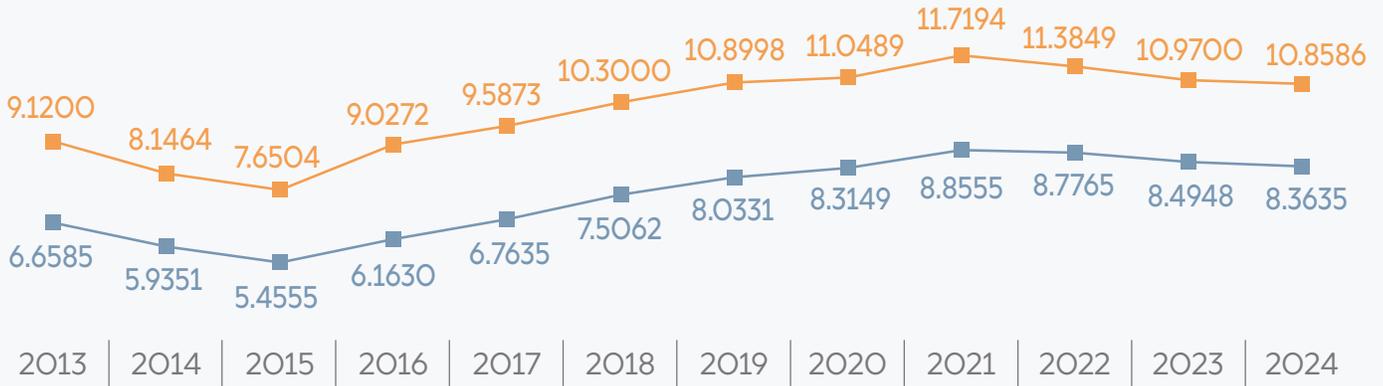
2023 HOW YOUR TAX DOLLARS ARE SPENT

The chart below shows the City’s spending across various service categories in the 2023 budget.
 \$28,848,578 Operational Spending
 \$6,371,000 Transfer to Capital Projects



Finance

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX RATE



Total Tax Rate

This includes municipal property tax, the provincial education property tax, and the seniors property tax.

Municipal Tax (City of Cold Lake)

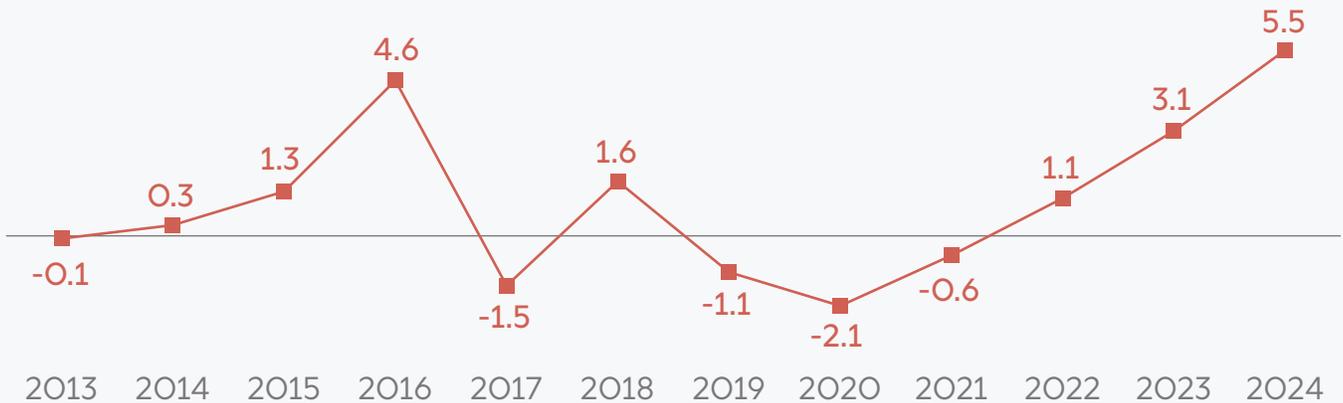
This is the portion of the tax rate levied by the City of Cold Lake.

RESIDENTIAL VS. COMMERCIAL PROPERTY TAXES COLLECTED



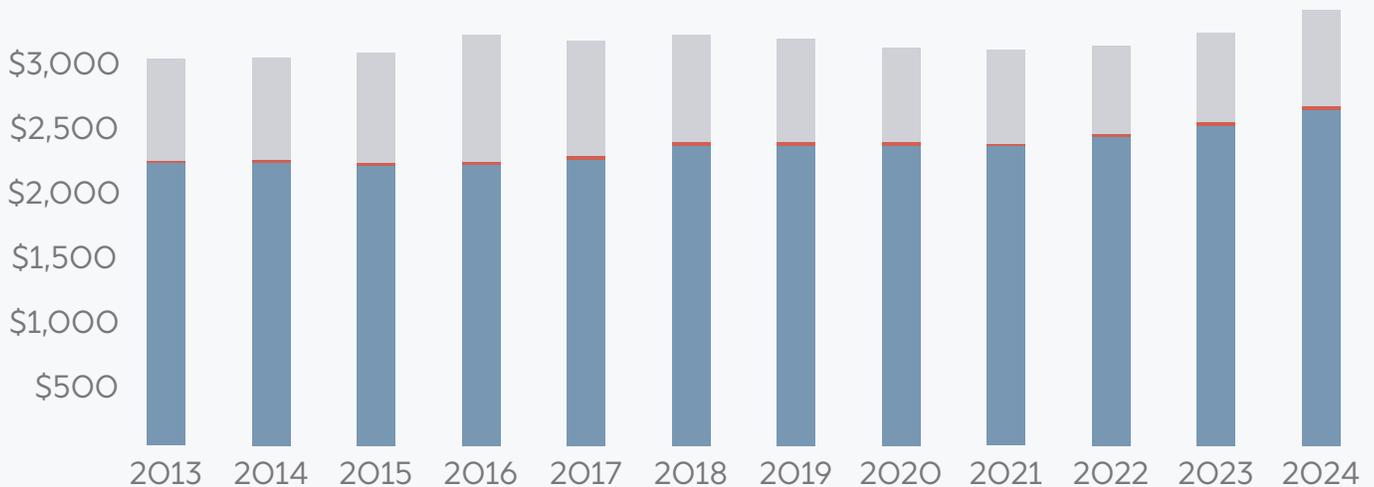
This chart outlines the total municipal property taxes paid, and includes a breakdown comparing the total amount of taxes paid by residential and commercial properties.

AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL TAX INCREASE OR DECREASE (%)



The total amount of property tax paid can vary depending on the municipal tax rate, developments in the community, the province’s education property tax, and the seniors property tax. Property taxes are based on market value, including land and improvements. This graph shows the average residential tax increase or decrease over the years, inclusive of municipal property tax, the provincial education property tax, and the provincial seniors property tax. The Government of Alberta sets the amount collected from each municipality to fund education and seniors lodges.

BREAKDOWN OF PROPERTY TAXES COLLECTED



- **Education Tax** (Alberta School Foundation Fund and Lakeland Roman Catholic Separate School Division) This tax is levied by the provincial government to fund education across Alberta and is collected by the City of Cold Lake on behalf of the province and school divisions.
- **Seniors Tax** (Lakeland Lodge and Housing Foundation) This funds improvements to seniors lodge accommodations in the Cold Lake-Bonnyville area and is collected by the City of Cold Lake on behalf of the local seniors foundation.
- **Municipal Tax** (City of Cold Lake) This includes infrastructure, recreation and culture, administration, planning and economic development, emergency services, and public health and welfare at the city level.

Statement of Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL	2022 RESTATED
Revenues			
Net municipal taxes	\$ 22,191,579	\$ 22,234,434	\$ 21,402,275
Government transfers for operating	11,764,464	12,419,578	11,802,981
Sales and user charges	10,670,602	11,124,888	10,913,828
Penalties and cost on taxes	280,000	4,219,527	3,724,771
Investment income	575,000	1,678,069	1,210,004
Franchise and concession contracts	1,367,722	1,363,820	1,232,051
Rentals	1,245,323	1,334,088	1,260,088
Other	160,500	982,595	1,202,648
Licences and permits	243,400	440,341	387,047
Fines	95,000	140,652	55,799
Subsidiary operations - Cold Lake Primary Care Medical Clinic Ltd.	-	78,347	-
Development levies	-	-	215
Total Revenues	48,593,590	56,016,339	53,191,707
Expenses			
Transportation systems	8,616,789	14,601,472	14,940,362
Recreation and culture	10,251,008	13,566,472	13,633,241
Utility systems	7,876,308	10,943,219	9,717,798
Administration	6,763,148	9,993,530	9,477,381
Police and bylaw enforcement	5,527,468	6,113,529	5,085,412
Fire and emergency services	1,388,558	1,997,057	2,009,141
Planning and development	2,320,173	1,981,224	3,003,967
Public health and welfare	1,747,386	1,783,970	1,764,676
Council	722,600	801,779	793,454
Other	190,000	-	-
Total Expenses	45,403,438	61,782,252	60,425,432
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses - before other revenues	3,190,152	(5,765,913)	(7,233,725)
Other revenues (expenses)			
Government transfers for capital	7,442,000	12,462,540	10,195,895
Contributed tangible assets	-	6,499,777	371,089
Loss on disposal of assets	-	(321,287)	(436,911)
Total other revenues (expenses)	7,442,000	18,641,030	10,130,073
Excess of revenue over expenses	10,632,152	12,875,117	2,896,348
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year	365,938,221	365,938,221	363,041,873
Accumulated surplus, end of year	376,570,373	378,813,338	365,938,221
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	24,491,500	19,952,125	20,745,586

Statement of Financial Position

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	2023 ACTUAL	2022 RESTATED
Financial Assets		
Cash and temporary investments	\$ 33,383,504	\$ 11,798,835
Taxes and grants in place of taxes	867,279	1,916,745
Trade and other receivables	3,636,613	4,122,940
Land held for resale	1,178,200	1,087,000
Investments	62,869,995	72,259,728
Investment in Cold Lake Primary Care Medical Clinic Ltd.	2,038,531	-
	103,974,122	91,185,248
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	17,607,612	15,935,555
Deposit liabilities	1,063,270	1,225,499
Deferred revenue	8,731,790	7,218,265
Employee benefit obligations	1,258,063	1,193,258
Long-term debt	50,916,325	42,897,719
Asset retirement obligations	4,680,391	1,534,882
	84,257,451	70,005,178
Net financial assets	19,716,671	21,180,070
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets	356,980,287	344,006,339
Inventory of supplies and materials	510,897	412,664
Prepaid expenses	599,438	339,148
	358,090,622	344,758,151
Accumulated surplus	377,807,293	365,938,221
Accumulated surplus consists of:		
Accumulated surplus from operations	378,813,338	365,938,221
Accumulated remeasurement losses	(1,006,045)	-
	377,807,293	365,938,221

Debt limit projections

Debt limit December 31, 2023	93,906,439
Total debt December 31, 2023	(50,916,325)
Unused portion of debt limit December 31, 2023	42,990,114
Debentures to be paid in 2024	3,220,443
New debentures to be taken in 2024	(7,000,000)
Overdraft - Line of credit	(10,000,000)
Projected unused debt limit December 31, 2024	29,210,557

Breakdown of Accumulated Surplus

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023

Accumulated surplus December 31, 2023		\$ 377,807,293
Equity in tangible capital asset		301,383,571
Accumulated remeasurement gain and loss		(1,006,045)
Balance of Accumulated Surplus December 31, 2023		77,429,767
Surplus restricted internally for projects		
Public Works & Infrastructure	34,490,365	
Community Services	7,887,712	
General Government	2,755,670	
Planning & Development	2,155,003	
Other	2,237,470	
Total internally restricted surplus December 31, 2023		(49,526,220)
Non-cash items		(6,792,427)
Unrestricted Surplus December 31, 2023 after non-cash items		21,111,120

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED

Each year, the City of Cold Lake budgets to support organizations and community groups through grants and partnerships. To learn more about the City's municipal grant opportunities, visit www.coldlake.com/grants. In 2023, the City of Cold Lake proudly supported over 55 organizations, programs and events, including:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 2023 Cold Lake RCMP Charity Golf Tournament | Cold Lake Music Festival Association |
| 4 Wing Personnel Support Programs | Cold Lake Public Library |
| Aeros Junior A Hockey Club Ltd. | Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce |
| Age Friendly Cold Lake | Cold Lake Sailing Association |
| Ardmore 4-H Beef Club | Cold Lake Seniors' Society |
| Assumption Junior/Senior High | Cold Lake Snowmobile Club |
| Bonnyville & District Chamber of Commerce | Cold Lake Tennis Club |
| Bonnyville Health Foundation | Extreme Mudfest |
| Cold Lake Agricultural Society | Filipino Association of Bonnyville |
| Cold Lake Cruisers Car Club | Hearts for Healthcare |
| Cold Lake & District Fish and Game Association | Lakeland Centre for FASD |
| Cold Lake Fighter Jets Football Club | Portage College |
| Cold Lake Filipino Basketball | Ribfest via Lakeland Connect Media Inc. |
| Cold Lake First Nations | Riverhurst Community Hall |
| Cold Lake Minor Ball Association | The Clayton Bellamy Foundation |
| Cold Lake Minor Hockey Association | Tri-Town Museum Society |
| Cold Lake Minor Soccer Association | Village of Pierceland |
| | Wild North Eclectic Society |

Cold Lake Air Weapons Range

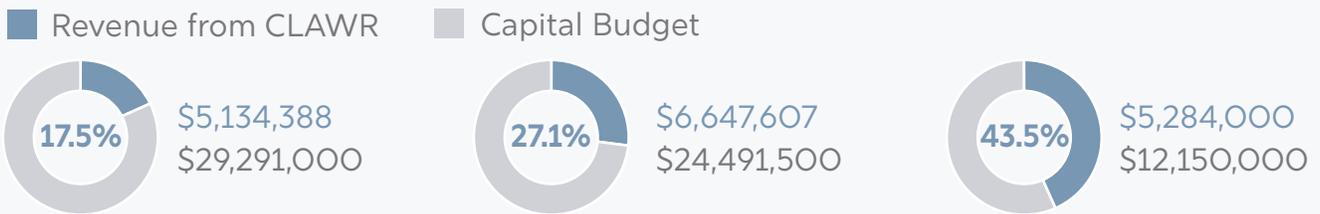
The Cold Lake Air Weapons Range revenue is crucial to the sustainability of the City of Cold Lake. The creation of I.D. 349 in 2012, until its annexation into the M.D. of Bonnyville in 2021, was under a sustainability agreement for the City of Cold Lake. The annexation of the I.D. 349 into the M.D. of Bonnyville included an agreement that the M.D.

would keep a portion of the tax revenue from the area to cover expenses of maintaining Highway 892, while dividing the remainder between the Town of Bonnyville, the Village of Glendon, and the City of Cold Lake.

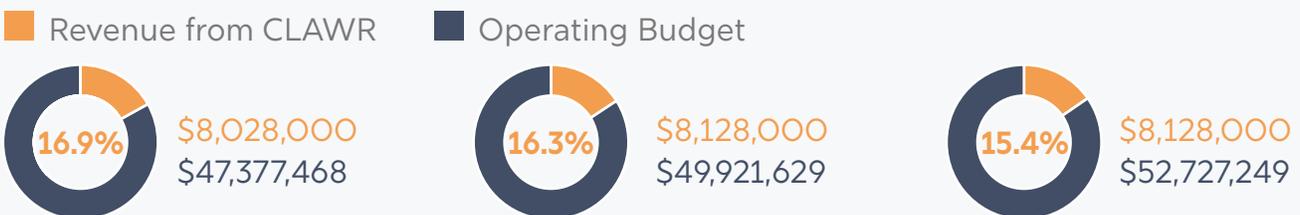
The City's sustainability continues to be supported by the revenue from the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range agreement.



CAPITAL BUDGET



OPERATING BUDGET



2022

2023

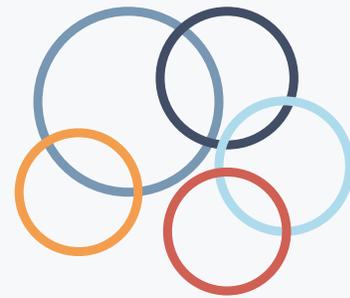
2024 (BUDGET)

Cold Lake Transit

Cold Lake Transit broke some records in 2023, with the highest ridership and the most advertising spaces sold in the transit system's eight-year history. Summer ridership was especially busy, with June seeing more than double its average volume.

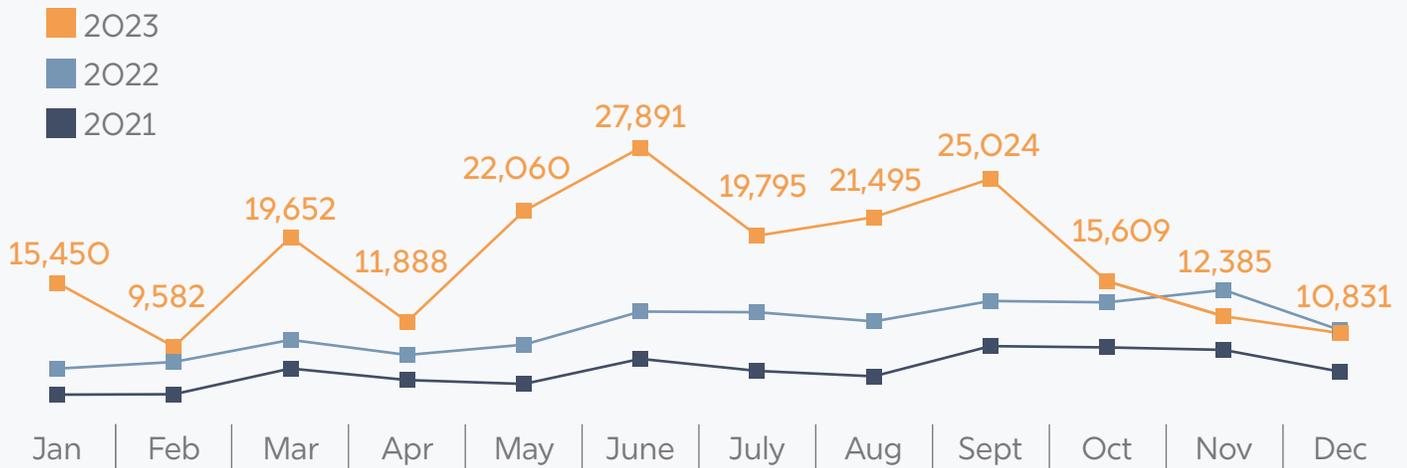
Cold Lake's Transit system accommodated 211,662 rides in 2023, a 36% increase over the previous year's ridership. The increase in ridership helped the service pass its one-million ride mark in 2023. Since its launch in 2015, the service has seen the buses upgraded to low-floor, accessible models and the schedule has been modified to decrease wait times between buses. Cold Lake Transit also upgraded its real-time tracking system, known as Transloc. The newest version will allow for some data collection so that rides by students, seniors, people with mobility devices and people travelling with bicycles can be studied. This information will allow staff to tailor the service to meet clients' needs.

2023 TOP 5 RIDERSHIP TIMES



3:00 pm	■	36,443
4:00 pm	■	20,184
2:00 pm	■	18,950
8:00 am	■	16,111
1:00 pm	■	15,847

MONTHLY RIDERSHIP



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

The transit service helps to support students in their commute, with the busiest times being from 3:00 to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. While still significant in terms of volume, Saturdays had the lowest number of rides with 21,400, or about 10% of all ridership. The Energy Centre’s northbound stop proved to be the busiest, with 14,000 riders using this stop to begin their trip.

But even with school out, the summer months of July and August accounted for 41,290 rides, or almost 20% of the system’s total volume. Advertising sales were robust in 2023, with a record of 41 placements sold, generating \$35,068 in revenue. Transit advertising has proven to be a cost-effective means for local businesses to advertise and, when spots are available, is used by the City of Cold Lake to spread the word about City services, programs and upcoming events.

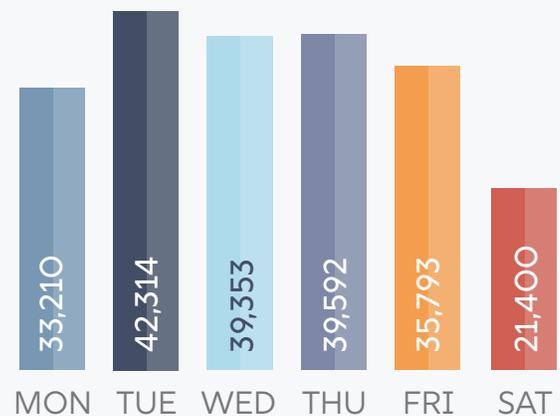
EXPLORING FREEDOM



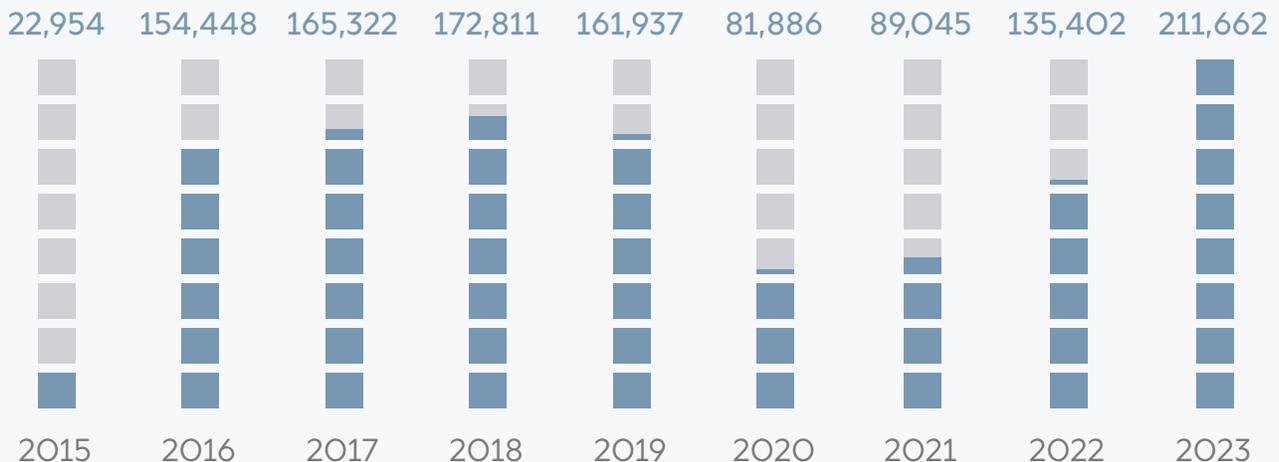
Having free transit has been amazing, as it allows my children the freedom to get around town on their own and to create a sense of independence for them.

*Chelsey Ropson,
Cold Lake, AB*

2023 TOTAL RIDERSHIP BY DAY



YEARLY RIDERSHIP 2015-2023



Infrastructure

The Infrastructure Services Department oversees many of the City's core municipal services, including roads, waste, and water. The department manages most City capital projects while also managing the regional airport and Cold Lake Transit.

The City of Cold Lake's Infrastructure Services Department encompasses many different functional areas. These include Engineering, Geographic Information Systems, Water and Wastewater Treatment, Water Distribution and Collection, Waste and Recycling, Fleet Maintenance, Roads, the Cold Lake Regional Aerodrome, and Cold Lake Transit.

The City's annual Capital Street Improvement Program is the core road maintenance program delivered by the City. It is governed by a road analytics

program that uses the Pavement Quality Index of the roadways to assist the Engineering Department in determining the most cost-effective plan to upgrade, repair, and reconstruct the road system each year. Roughly \$2 million in spending annually will maintain the current state of the City's road network. The 2023 Capital Street Improvement Program received \$1,963,200 in approved funding. This is in addition to the Lakeshore Drive Improvement project, which will include a complete rebuilding of the road surface after utilities have been upgraded.

2023 CONCRETE REHABILITATION

8
Para ramp installations

23.7m
Separate curb

128.3m
Curb and sidewalk

170.85m²
Separate sidewalk

1,401m²
Pavement replaced

777.9m
Concrete crack sealing

36,291m²
Slurry seal coating

63,530m
Line painting

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

- 1** 26 Street from Lake Avenue to end
- 2** 18 Street from 1 Avenue to 5 Avenue
- 3** 5 Avenue from 20 Street to 4 Avenue
- 4** 7 Street from 17 Avenue to end
- 5** 20 Avenue from 8 Street to 7 Street
- 6** 20 Avenue from 6 Street to Lefebvre Place
- 7** 69 Avenue from Voyageur Way to Tim Hortons
- 8** 52 Street from 54 Avenue to end
- 9** 44 Street from 51 Avenue to end
- 10** Public Works Operations Centre Access
- 11** 16 Street widening

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

- 12** Lakeshore Drive Phase 1A (Ongoing)



Infrastructure Capital Projects

Each year, a number of capital projects are completed to enhance the community. Capital budget details can be found at www.coldlake.com/budgets.

Project Name	Approx. value Eng. & Const.	Start	Completion
Temporary Fire Hall Relocation	\$450,000	June 2023	October 2023
Cold Lake South Outline Plan	\$124,985	October 2023	In progress
Transportation Master Plan	\$175,000	November 2023	In progress
2023 Street Improvement Program	\$1,963,200	June 2023	October 2023
12 Avenue Subdivision Assessment	\$62,779	August 2023	November 2023
Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade	\$30,000,000	March 2021	In progress
Lakeshore Drive Infrastructure Improvement	\$27,000,000	July 2019	In progress
Public Works Operations Centre	\$40,000,000	May 2017	In progress
Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Facility	\$150,000	May 2021	In progress
Wetland Replacement	\$897,920	July 2022	In progress
Fire Hall Feasibility Study	\$51,634	March 2022	In progress
Airport Expansion Plan	\$59,880	December 2022	In progress
Transportation Master Plan	\$175,000	November 2023	In progress

GOING WITH THE FLOW

The City of Cold Lake operates the Cold Lake Water Treatment Plant under contract with the Cold Lake Regional Utility Services Commission. Since 2021, the Cold Lake Treatment Plant has been producing water for sale and distribution to the Bonnyville Water Commission via the 41-kilometre transmission line.

Water being sent to the Bonnyville Water Commission has seen a slow decline over the years. In 2021, roughly 3,500 cubic metres of water were sent to Bonnyville each day. That number dropped to 2,823 cubic metres a day in 2022 and 2,684 cubic metres a day in 2023.

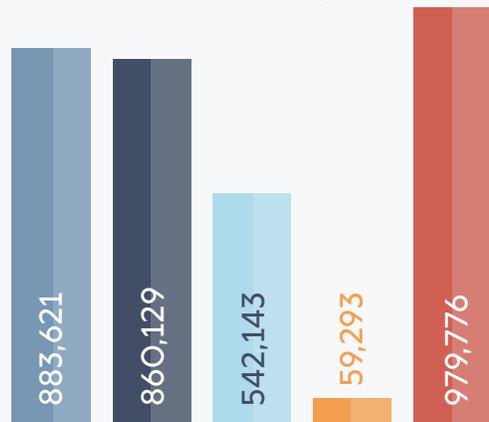
Water distribution in Cold Lake North increased by 12.7%, Cold Lake South increased by almost 6%, while volume at the fill station was relatively level year over year.

BEST PLACE TO LIVE!

Cold Lake is truly the best place I have ever lived in. I love the people in Cold Lake. Some of the kindest and friendliest people I've ever had the privilege of meeting.

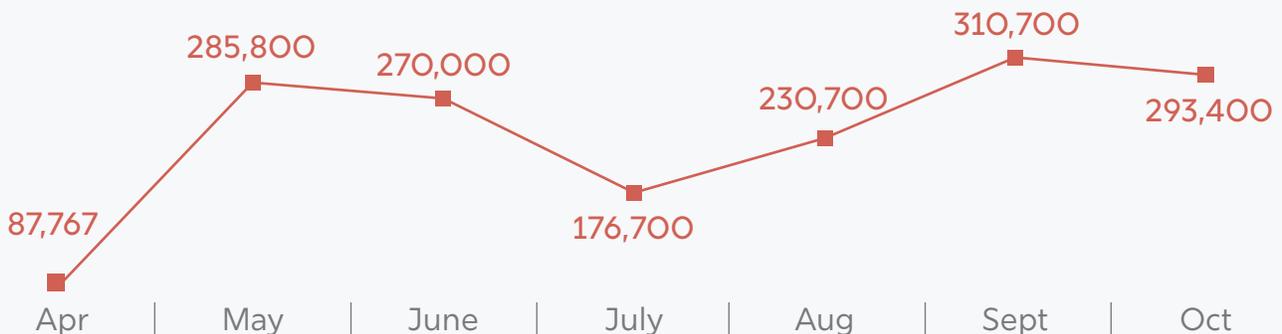
*Suzie Lemire,
Ottawa, Ontario*

2023 WATER DISTRIBUTION (m3)



- Cold Lake North
- Cold Lake South
- 4 Wing
- Fill Station
- Bonnyville

2023 WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY (m3)

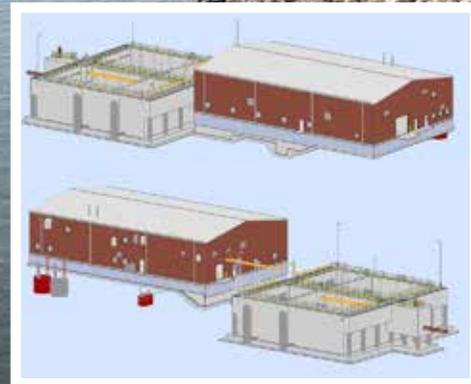


BTG THINGS

Capital Projects

The City of Cold Lake is reaching a crucial stage in three large, multi-year core infrastructure projects. With approved budgets totaling over \$86.9 million, these projects have been a long time in the making and promise to serve the residents of Cold Lake for many years to come. Together, these projects will help Cold Lake meet its environmental obligations and provide wastewater services through the coming years of growth while also transforming the waterfront, upgrading core utilities, fixing a failing road, and providing the public works staff with the space they need to serve the City for decades.

After years of study, planning and careful preparation these three projects have all reached a point where construction has started.



WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

The Cold Lake Regional Utility Services Commission must upgrade its wastewater treatment facility to meet increasing environmental standards for the discharge of effluent. Moving bed bioreactor technology was tested in Cold Lake's climate and found to be the most effective and cost-effective means of meeting these and future standards. Construction on the \$34 million project started in 2024 and is expected to take about 24 months to complete.



PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS CENTRE

The City's public works staff has long outgrown its home at 16 Avenue and 16 Street and plans for a new Operations Centre have been in the works for a number of years. The project has a \$27.5 million budget. The site for the new facility was prepared and serviced in 2022 and 2023, while shovels hit the ground for the facility in 2024.



LAKESHORE DRIVE INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

The retaining wall for the Lakeshore Drive Infrastructure Improvement project was largely completed in 2023, with utility and road work commencing in 2024. Work is expected to run into the 2025 construction season as the linear parkway and road surface are completed. The project's approved budget totals \$22 million.

Infrastructure

The City of Cold Lake’s recycling program continues to see success with over 4,054 tonnes of material being diverted from the landfill through recycling of metal, concrete, cardboard, mixed paper, and organics.

In 2023, the City of Cold Lake facilitated metal recycling with over 492 tonnes diverted from the landfill. The organics program was able to divert 1,960 tonnes of material while delivering Grade A compost back to the community during the annual Compost Days Program.

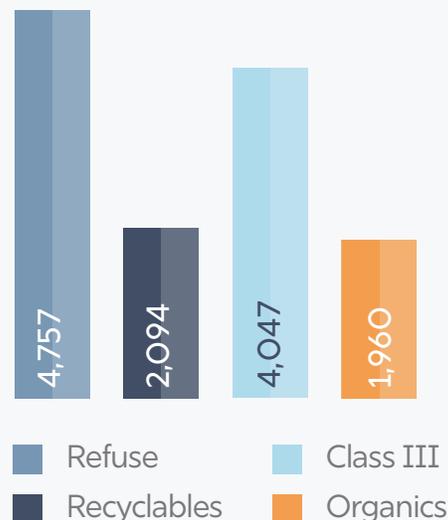
Cardboard remains the main recycling commodity. In 2023, over 1,516 tonnes was collected and baled at the Material Recovery Facility. This was down from 1,582 tonnes in 2022 and 1,889 tonnes in 2021. Material sent to the Class III landfill increased significantly in 2024, with a total of 4,047 tonnes. This was up from 2,890 tonnes in 2022, representing a 55% increase in material sent to the Class III landfill, while the volume of general refuse remained relatively steady at 4,757, up from 4,496 in 2022.

TOP 3 RECYCLING STREAMS



- 1,516 tonnes ■ Cardboard
- 492 tonnes ■ Metal
- 394 tonnes ■ Concrete

WASTE AND RECYCLABLES (tonnes)



MAKES OUR DAY!

My little dude loves the garbage trucks, and its just really awesome when they take the time to honk for him. We always stop to watch them on our walks. It's small but it means the world to my little guy and I.

*Charlene Morgan,
Cold Lake, AB*

Planning and Development

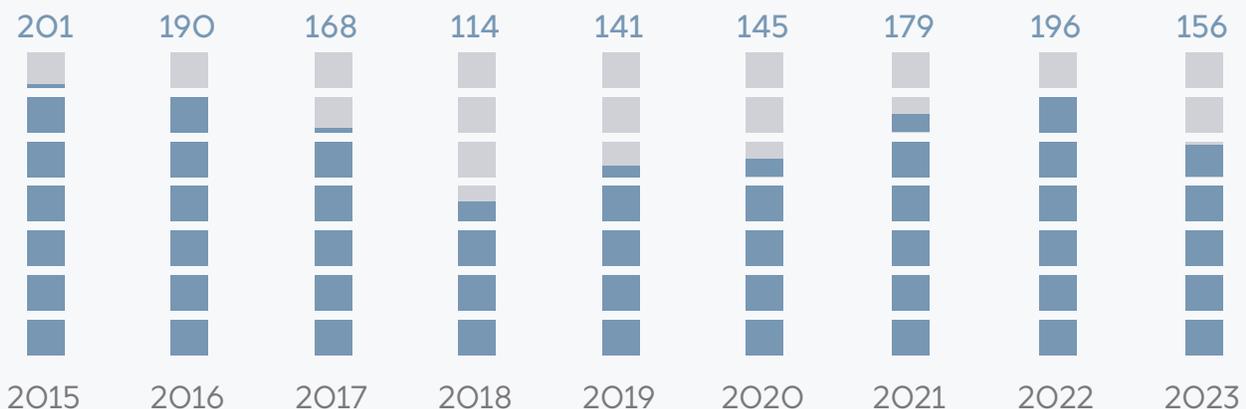
With the development of several important planning policies and bylaws in 2023, the City’s Planning and Development Department had another busy year.

In February of 2023, the City adopted a new Intermunicipal Development Plan in conjunction with the M.D. of Bonnyville to guide development within the M.D. adjacent to the City boundary. In the same month, the City also adopted its new Land Use Bylaw. The Land Use Bylaw establishes the land use and development regulations that apply to all properties within the City of Cold Lake. It is the key document which staff use to evaluate applications for the development or redevelopment of property.

REDUCING RED TAPE

An updated Encroachment Policy was also approved in 2023, aimed at reducing red tape for property owners when it is found that private fences or structures encroach onto land owned by the City. The City also adopted the Urban Beekeeping Program to provide residents with the ability to keep small apiaries to produce honey for their own personal use. And, in conjunction with the M.D. of Bonnyville, the City also adopted an Intermunicipal Trails Master Plan to identify potential links between the City and areas in the M.D. This project began with public engagement in 2022, with the final plan being adopted by Council in July of 2023.

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS 2015-2023

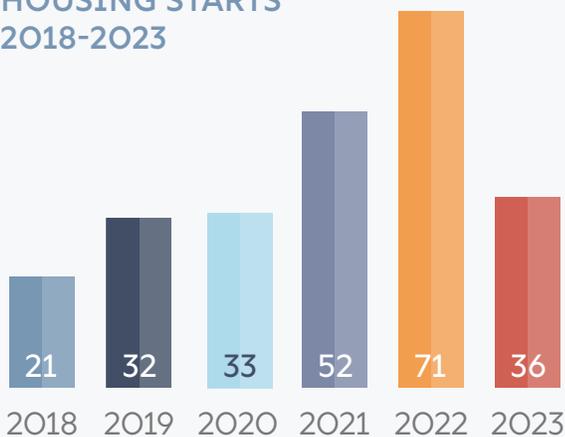


Planning and Development

Building and Development activity in 2023 slowed, likely due to rising interest rates, inflation and issues in the supply chain affecting building materials.

In 2023, total development permits for the year dipped to 156 after hitting a six-year high in 2022, when 196 development permits were issued. Housing starts also dropped to 36 new homes in 2023 compared to 71 new homes being approved in 2022. The total construction value of all building permits issued in 2023, however, increased to \$42,278,386, from the 2022 total of \$40,124,810. A significant portion of the new construction value recorded in 2023 was a result of the building permit for the new Public Works Operations Centre being issued in January 2023.

HOUSING STARTS 2018-2023



GOING GREEN

The City continued to work in conjunction with Alberta Municipalities to develop and implement the Clean Energy Improvement Program to assist homeowners who wish to make energy-efficient upgrades to their properties. A significant milestone was achieved in 2023 when the City received grant funding approval from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). The FCM grant provides the base funding that will enable the City to offer homeowners low-interest loans to undertake energy-efficient upgrades. One advantage of the program is that the loan is tied to the property itself and is repaid as a levy on the property tax. This means if the home is sold, the balance of the loan would be repaid by the new owner.

MARINA TRANSFER

In July of 2023, the Federal Government officially completed the transfer of their facilities at the Cold Lake Marina to the City, ending the divestment process that had begun in 2011. The transfer saw the ownership of the wharf, boat launch and breakwater come to the City. The agreement came with \$500,000 in funding to assist with the repairs of any existing deficiencies at the time of transfer.



TIPTOP MARINA!

”

I've been to the marina for the last few years and have always had a great experience. Well kept and great size for all boats!

*Josh Wright,
Fort Saskatchewan, AB*

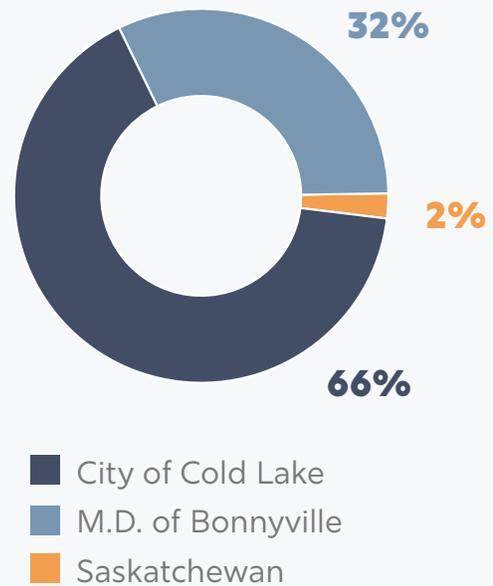
Cold Lake Fire-Rescue

With a quarter-century of history behind it, Cold Lake Fire-Rescue’s membership remains committed to serving the community to the highest standards.

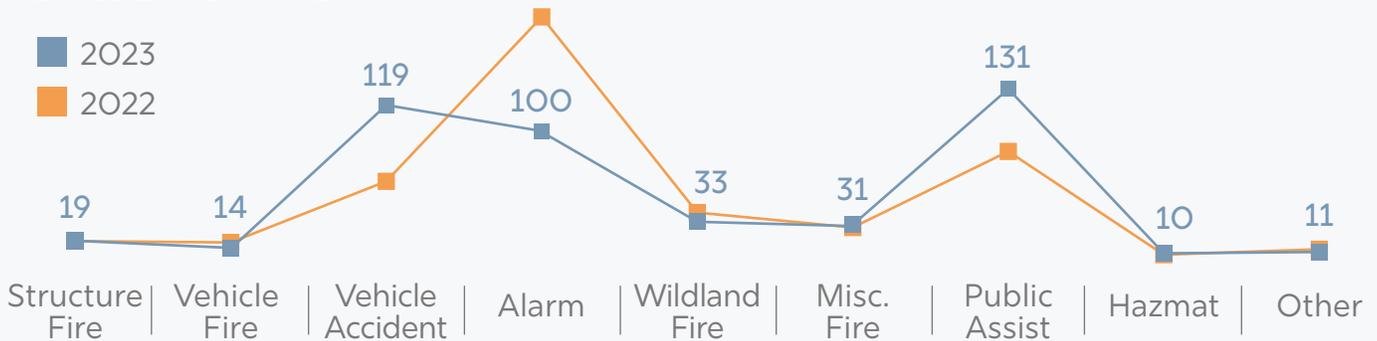
Cold Lake Fire-Rescue celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2023, and the men and women carried on its proud history of service. With over 60 paid on-call members, a full-time Fire Chief, two full-time Deputy Fire Chiefs and a full-time administrative assistant, over 13,000 hours were dedicated to the service last year. This included over 2,870 hours in weekly training sessions, 6,508 hours at fire calls at over 468 calls for service, almost 2,000 hours volunteering in the community, and almost 1,500 hours studying certified firefighter training courses.

The service operates from two fire stations: the Lake District Station and the Downtown District Station. It covers about 2,500 square kilometres, including the City of Cold Lake, parts of the M.D. of Bonnyville, and an area in northwestern Saskatchewan, responding to over 300 incidents annually.

2023 INCIDENT BY LOCATION



INCIDENT BY TYPE



TOGETHER WE SERVE

In 1998, amalgamation posed the challenge of bringing two distinct and competitive fire-service cultures together as one team. As part of the amalgamation process, respect and recognition of the services that came before was key, as well as setting the stage for moving the new fire service forward into the new millennium. The new service's name "Cold Lake Fire-Rescue" was chosen to set the new service apart. "Together We Serve," was chosen as a motto that captured the past and set the stage for the future. Since its founding after the amalgamation of Medley, Grand Centre, and Cold Lake, the service has continued to grow with the community to meet the region's needs.

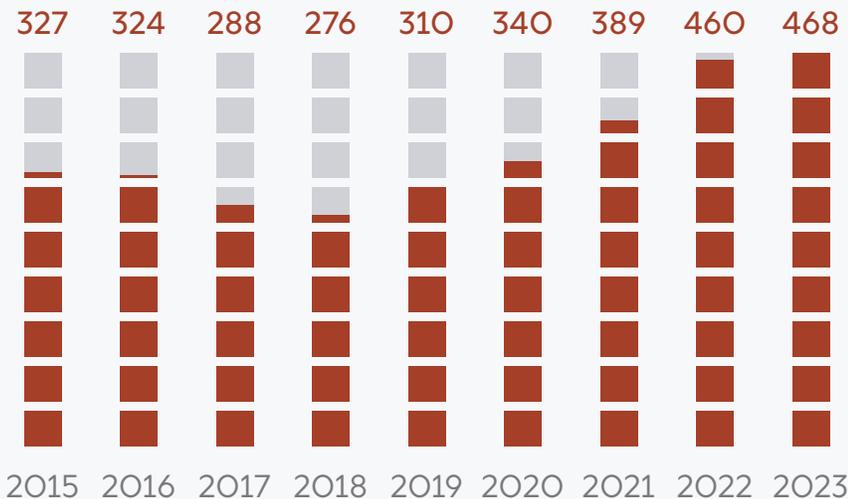
Last year, a new dispatching agency and a new model for verifying alarm calls led to a significant reduction in calls to alarms, down to 100 in 2023 from 184 in the previous year. Calls to motor vehicle accidents nearly doubled, however, rising to 119 from 63 in 2022. Calls to assist the public and other emergency services agencies also rose sharply, to a total of 131 in 2023, up from 85 in 2022.

2023 TOP CALLS IN CITY OF COLD LAKE

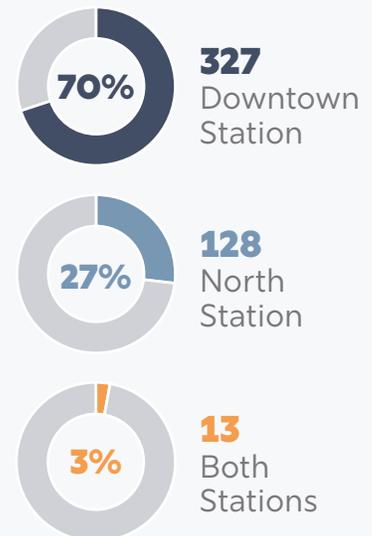


- 94 Public assistance
- 88 Alarms
- 59 Vehicle accident
- 27 Misc. fire
- 15 Wildland fire

CALLS FOR SERVICE 2015-2023



2023 RESPONSE BY FIRE STATION



Cold Lake Municipal Enforcement

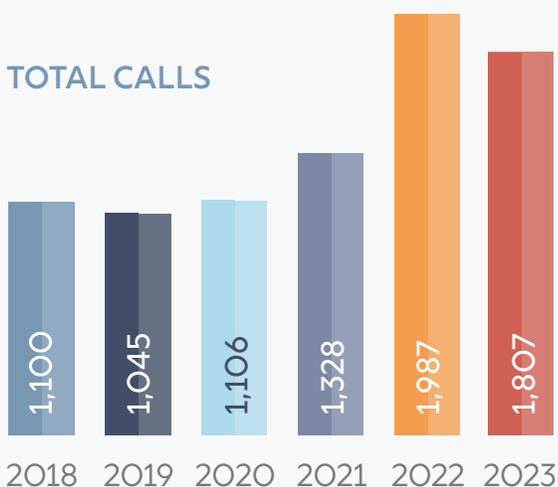
The City of Cold Lake’s Municipal Enforcement division now sits with a new manager in the newly formed Planning, Development, and Regulatory Services Department. Officers work closely with other agencies and the public to ensure public safety and community standards.

Throughout 2023, the Municipal Enforcement division of Cold Lake Planning, Development, and Regulatory Services maintained a committed service to the City of Cold Lake. During this time, the department retained six Community Peace Officers, along with one full-time and three part-time Bylaw Officer positions.

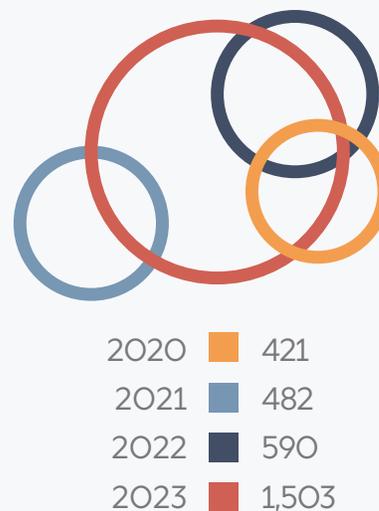
The department had another busy year in 2023 in relation to calls for service and files addressed by officers. Officers worked proactively regarding community standards, and engagements increased regarding people living in a vulnerable lifestyle.

In 2023, Municipal Enforcement underwent major changes in the reorganization of its internal structure,

as it transitioned from being Protective Services to a newly created department called Planning, Development, and Regulatory Services. With this change, a new manager and a Team Lead position were hired. The team continued to action bylaw matters focusing on seasonal-based objectives. The department provided ongoing 24-hour coverage on a rotating schedule, operating through a 10-hour workday. On the day-to-day shift, officers fulfilled duties and tasks in an education-and-enforcement focused approach to address infractions of municipal bylaws and provincial legislation.



PENALTY TICKETS ISSUED



The Municipal Enforcement officers performed various functions throughout their shifts to ensure and promote public safety. They sought to provide prompt, professional customer service to community residents and visitors to Cold Lake. Officers regularly respond to complaints from the public in respect to animal care concerns, traffic control, and unsightly property issues. They also participate in community wellness initiatives, special event duties, assisting external agencies, monitoring City parks and facilities, encouraging school zone safety, and conducting educational presentations to promote a safe community.

Municipal Enforcement works collaboratively alongside the RCMP, Cold Lake Fire-Rescue, Associated Ambulance, Cold Lake Victim Services Unit, Alberta Fish and Wildlife Officers, Conservation Officers, Municipal District of Bonnyville Public Safety Department, Alberta Health Services, Alberta Sheriffs, and the Cold Lake Canadian Forces Base 4-Wing Military Police.

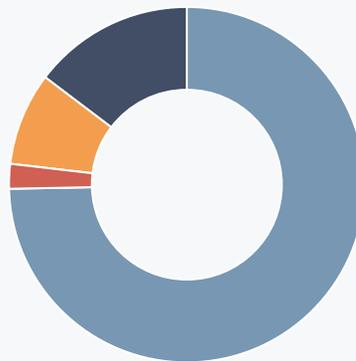
PROACTIVE ENGAGEMENT



We have observed many students rewarded with positive tickets for following safety protocols, such as using crosswalks correctly, walking their bikes, and wearing helmets.

*Ms. Jacqueline Densmore,
Principal, St. Dominic School*

2023 DAILY EVENTS



- 9,702 Community & Facility Patrols
- 323 School Zone Patrols
- 1,069 Traffic Stops & Initiatives
- 1,890 Follow ups

2023 CALLS FOR SERVICE



Cold Lake Victim Services

Thank
you

2024 MARKS THE
FINAL YEAR OF THE
COLD LAKE VICTIM
SERVICES UNIT

Cold Lake Victim Services has proudly served the Cold Lake community and area for 32 years, assisting those impacted by crime or tragedy in the community.

In 2024 the Alberta government will be replacing its current 62 police-based Victim Service units with four new regional boards, each linked with a local RCMP detachment – West, East, Central, and South. Cold Lake and area will fall under the Eastern Alberta Regional Victim Serving Society. Thus this will be the final year for Cold Lake Victim Services. Cold Lake Victim Services spearheaded multiple community programs while in operation, including advocating for a sexual assault centre in northeastern Alberta, developing the Better Way Men's & Women's domestic violence groups, and co-ordinating Cold Lake Operation Red Nose with the RCMP for eight years.



28,000+
VOLUNTEER HOURS

Thank you



20,000+
TOTAL FILE COUNT



25,000+
TOTAL PEOPLE SERVED



Cold Lake Victim Services wants to give a heartfelt thank you to the community for all the support over the years and highlight their appreciation for the partnerships they have had with the RCMP and many other community agencies.

YEARS

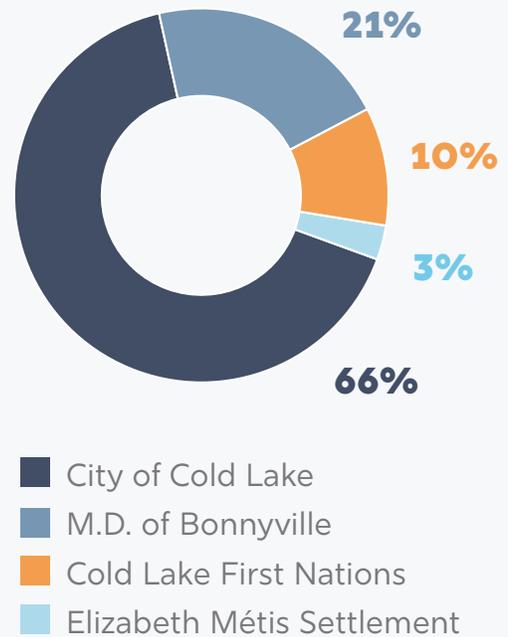
Cold Lake RCMP

The Cold Lake RCMP Detachment saw a nearly 2% increase in calls over 2022. Police Service Dog Harp retired, handing the leash to Chase. Together they totaled 186 calls and made 55 captures in 2023.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police at Cold Lake ended 2023 with a detachment strength of 50 personnel, including one Staff Sergeant, two Sergeants, five Corporals, 27 Constables, one Police Dog Service member, 11 administrative staff and three victim services staff members. The detachment area is geographically large and diverse with policing responsibilities for the City of Cold Lake, the eastern portion of the M.D. of Bonnyville, the Cold Lake First Nations, and the Elizabeth Métis Settlement. The RCMP at Cold Lake provides 24-hour policing services every day of the year.

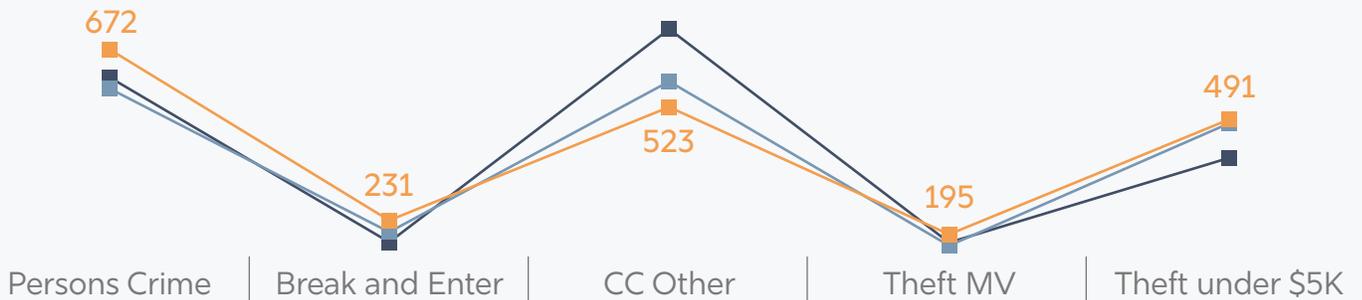
The detachment handled a total of 11,606 files in 2023, up from 11,410 the prior year, with 66% of its call volume coming from within the City of Cold Lake.

2023 LOCATION OF CALLS



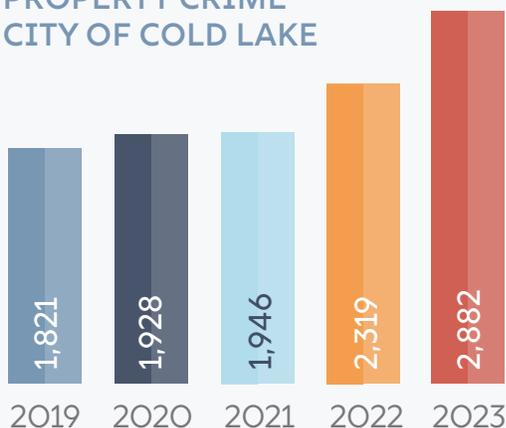
CRIME BY TYPE CITY OF COLD LAKE

2023 2022 2021

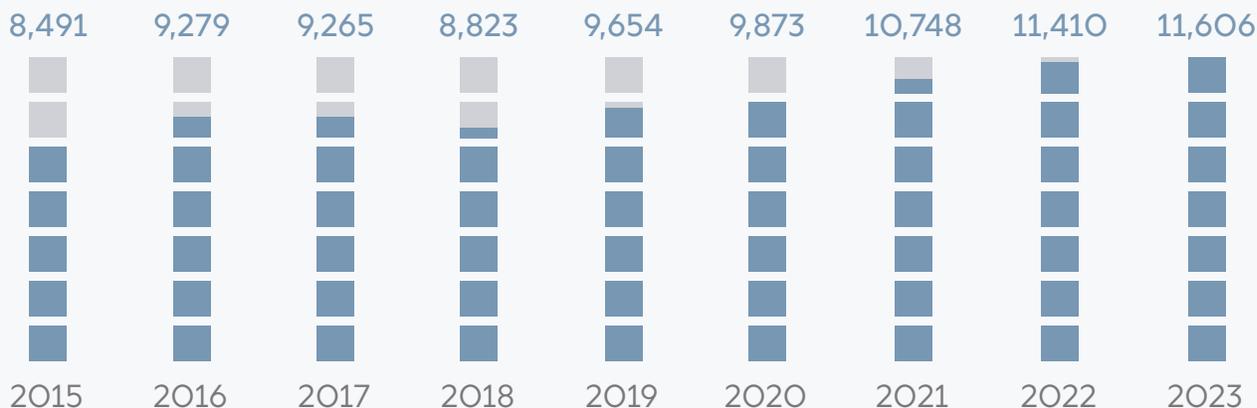


The City of Cold Lake saw a 17% increase in criminal code offences in 2023 with the largest increase in property crimes (24% increase) and persons crime (18% increase), while all other offences dropped by about 11%. Criminal code files per member sat at 214.6 for 2023, while the average across Alberta for the same time period was 94 criminal code files per RCMP member. The Cold Lake Detachment had three top priorities for 2024. Crime reduction through curfew and street checks, as well as warrant “round ups” topped the list along with increasing community engagement and proactive patrols and focusing on the drug trade in the region.

PROPERTY CRIME CITY OF COLD LAKE



TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE



2023 RCMP STATS

GENERAL INVESTIGATION SECTION

- 66 charges laid
- 20+ years jail time
- 20 judicial authorizations

POLICE DOG SERVICE HARP & CHASE

- 186 total files in all detachments
- 55 total captures
- 553 hours deployed
- 80 Cold Lake area files

LAKELAND CRIME REDUCTION UNIT

- 7 individuals arrested on Canada Wide Warrant
- Assisted on 160 files to locate prolific offenders
- 15 Judicial Authorizations

GENERAL DUTY

- Responded to 11,606 calls for service
- 7,729 calls in the City of Cold Lake
- 1,122 prisoners held in Cold Lake detachment cells

Cold Lake Animal Care and Control Centre

In its first year of operation, the Animal Care and Control Centre provided care to 259 animals – 132 cats and 127 dogs. The City’s skunk removal service was accessed 33 times, resulting in 14 skunks captured.

The City of Cold Lake’s Animal Care and Control Centre completed its first year of operations at its new facility located at 5008 62 Street in Cold Lake South.

The Animal Care and Control Centre is the first point of contact for Cold Lake Municipal Enforcement Officers and residents who find stray animals in the City. Pets with identification are kept for a minimum of 10 days, while animals without identification are kept for a minimum of three days before being transferred to an animal adoption agency. In 2023, the owners of impounded pets were charged a \$50 intake fee and a \$20 care fee for each

day of impoundment, along with any veterinarian fees incurred for the animal.

Staff at the facility strive to provide excellent customer service and reunite animals with their owners as soon as possible. They also manage the City’s skunk removal service, which had 33 service requests and resulted in 14 captures during 2023. Staff work closely with local veterinarians, local animal groups, and the team at Cold Lake Municipal Enforcement to provide animals with the care they need before they are reunited with their families or rehomed.

PAWSITIVE PARTNERSHIP

” The City of Cold Lake and the Lakeland Humane Society are committed to work together to care for animals in need within our community.

*Danielle Donovan,
Executive Director,
Lakeland Humane Society*

2023 STATS



- 259 Animals cared for at ACCC
- 128 Transferred to animal care organizations
- 110 Animals reunited with owners
- 33 Skunk removal requests

Cold Lake Golf & Winter Club

The Cold Lake Golf & Winter Club returned to its winning ways, seeing increases in memberships, driving range usage, and playing host to a number of golf and curling events.

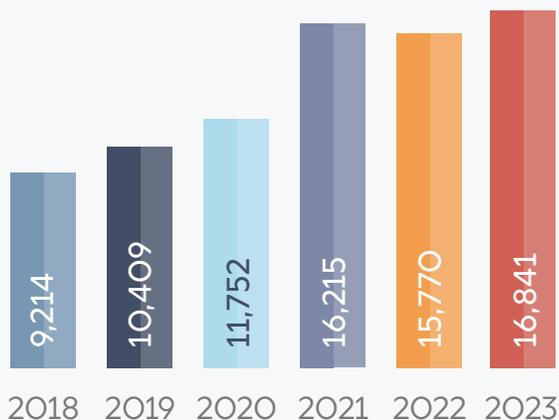
The 2023 season was the 11th since the City of Cold Lake took over operations of the Cold Lake Golf & Winter Club, and the seventh season since the City took over the responsibility of the turf maintenance at the course. Course conditions continue to improve and favourable spring weather had the course open on April 28. A total of 16,841 rounds of golf were played over the 2023 season.

Five bunkers over four different holes were revitalized, while new sand bunker grooming equipment kept the maintenance standards high. The Cold Lake Golf & Winter Club had a roster of 223 members for the season, an increase over the previous year's 198,

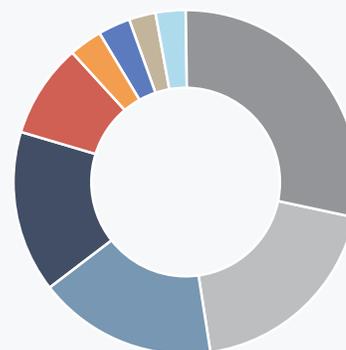
with increases also seen in usage of the driving range and the total revenue from green fees.

Curling also had a busy year, with the facility playing host to the High School Zones in February, which was the biggest curling event of the season, bringing in over 100 participants from a number of areas stretching from Fort McMurray to Edmonton.

TOTAL ROUNDS PLAYED



2023 REVENUE



- \$267,316 Green Fees
- \$183,305 Cart & Club Rentals
- \$157,122 Memberships
- \$143,691 Pro Shop Sales
- \$86,000 ICF Funding
- \$27,908 Other
- \$27,856 Curling Ice Rentals
- \$23,500 Driving Range
- \$25,576 Advertising

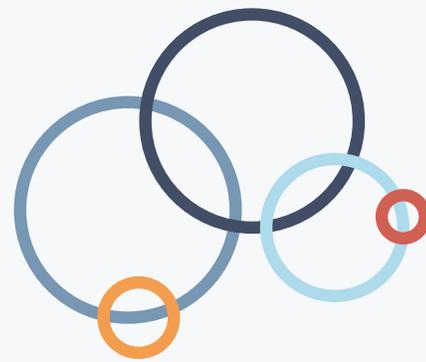
Cold Lake and District FCSS

A community's most valuable resource is its people, and FCSS strives to create an engaged and empowered community of caring, compassionate and supportive individuals.

Cold Lake and District FCSS and the Family Connections Centre staff expanded slightly in 2023 to meet the growing needs of the Cold Lake community. An additional person was added for a total of 11 program-related staff positions. Its operations and programming are overseen by a committee consisting of five community volunteers and two Council members.

In an effort to bring more mental health supports to the area, FCSS partnered with a local school board to start a two-year pilot program: Mental Health in Schools. One of the program goals is to reduce the stigma surrounding mental health in both youth and caregivers, and was connected with three different schools in Cold Lake.

2023 FCSS STATS



- 4,403 Adaptive transit
- 4,371 Community rentals
- 1,718 Meals on Wheels
- 451 Volunteer Income Tax Program
- 181 Government form assistance

INFORMATION AND REFERRALS



COLD LAKE FAMILY CONNECTIONS

In 2023, Cold Lake Family Connections staff offered daily unstructured play and facilitated additional structured programming, including programs for babies, children, parents and caregivers. The Family Connections space is a nurturing environment designed to help children and parents navigate life as a family both at home and in the community.

CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY

Information and referrals are a large part of Cold Lake and District FCSS. Staff endeavor to bridge connections between individuals and a multitude of service providers, bringing people together with social supports. FCSS saw a significant increase in information and referral requests over the last several of years. Referrals went from 4,891 in 2021 to 4,172 in 2022 to reach an all-time high of 5,464 in 2023. Each request is unique, and FCSS prides itself on providing a responsive, personalized support structure through connection.

COMMUNITY GRANT FUNDING

In 2023, FCSS provided \$99,129 worth of services in the following areas through their success in seeking grant funding. FCSS gave \$6,800 directly to partner organizations for initiatives that supported preventative outcomes which aligned with the FCSS Act and Regulation.

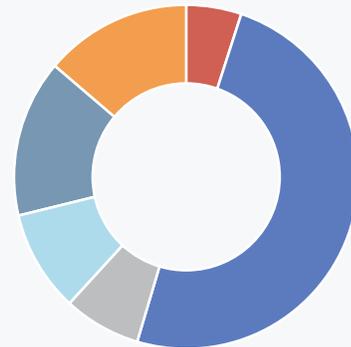
Cold Lake and District FCSS also disburses grants to organizational initiatives that help enhance the social well-being of individuals and families through prevention or intervention strategies. Project-specific initiatives that support, educate, build awareness, develop leadership skills, strengthen family life, and promote volunteerism are some programs that often receive funding.

VOLUNTEER FAIR

We appreciate you organizing this. It's great to not only meet people looking to volunteer but other agencies and groups as well!

Anonymous survey respondent

2023 COMMUNITY GRANT FUNDING



- 50% Imperial Oil Counselling
- 15% New Horizons
- 14% Food Security
- 9% Rural Mental Health
- 7% National Volunteer Week
- 5% Cenovus No School Fridays

For more information on municipal grants, visit www.coldlake.com/grants.



FCSS Programs

Cold Lake and District FCSS assists the community through preventative programming and services. The following programs were delivered in 2023.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Active Parenting
- Baby Connections
- Celebrating Families
- Choking for Infants and Children
- Circle of Security Parenting
- Cooperative Parenting and Divorce
- Cowboy Town
- Effective Co-Parenting
- End of Summer Celebration
- Family Adventures
- Family Fun Night in a Box
- Family Night Programming / Family Tree
- Financial Literacy Kits
- Infant Massage
- Intergenerational Event
- National Child's Day
- National Family Week
- Passport to the World
- Positive Discipline in Everyday Parenting
- Psychological Parenting Sessions
- Routine Charts / Teddy Bear Picnic
- Winter Wonderland
- Wilderness Awareness

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

- Adulting 101 / Art Attack / Art in the Park
- ASQ Screening / Baby Signs
- Bee-Awareness Kit
- Cold Lake Youth Council
- Community Helpers / Day Trippers
- Design a Button Contest
- Easel Does It / Function Junction
- Garden Gnomes / Global Exploration
- Grief and Loss Support for Youth
- Grub Club / Healthy Wealthy and Wise
- Healthy Relationships
- Home Alone / LEGO
- It's Not Right / Just Teens in the Loft
- Literacy / Sensory Exploration
- Make and Take
- Mathematicians / Mystic Tea
- Nature Play / Gross Motor Play
- No School Fridays
- No Such Thing as a Bully / Pizza Dough
- Preschool Development
- Rainbow Movie Night
- Student Leadership / That Bites!
- The Babysit Tool Kit Workshop
- The Science Lab
- The What to do When Series
- Under the Sea / Virtues Colouring Contest
- Vision Board Workshop
- Winter Break Science Week
- Word Wizards
- Youth Empowerment and Engaging Tween
- Youth Emotion Kits
- Youth Mentorship / Youth Volunteers



ADULT

Adulting 201 / Budget Friendly Meal Prep
 Community Friends
 Coping with Holiday Stress
 Compass for the Caregiver
 Couple's Cooking Date Night
 Dealing with Difficult People
 Emergency Management Training
 Gratitude Journaling
 Grief and Loss Workshop
 Healthy, Wealthy and Wise
 Intro to Indigenous Beading
 Money Talks / Older Persons Pie Social
 Personal Development

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Board Kits / Coffee Cards for Volunteers
 Cold Lake Bully Free
 Cold Lake Interagency
 Cold Lake Turkey Race
 Community Friends
 Community Needs Survey
 Community Volunteer Fair and Breakfast
 CVITP Volunteer Income Tax Program
 Emergency Management Training
 Emergency Preparedness BBQ
 Equipment Loan Out / Fill-a-Bus
 Information, Support and Referrals
 Intergenerational Garden Tea Party
 Just in Case / Meals on Wheels
 Opioid Overdose Coalition
 Lakeland Safe Space
 Neighbourhood Block Party / Pink Shirt Day
 Pride Month / Rainbow Run

Rural Mental Wellness Coalition
 Seniors Pancake Breakfast
 Shoreline Cleanup / Snack Attack
 Snow Angels / Volunteer Appreciation
 Volunteer AB Membership
 Volunteer Opportunities / Volunteer Fair
 Volunteer Management

SENIORS

Community Response to Elder Abuse
 Create Your Age in Place Plan
 Diverse Generations
 Intergenerational Programming
 International Day of the Older Person
 Making Tough Decisions
 National Financial Literacy Month
 National Seniors' Week
 Preparing for Retirement
 Seniors and Scams / Soup and Savvy
 Wills, Estates and Directives

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Beyond the Hurt / Safety Planning
 Colourful Experiences
 Counselling Services
 Emotion Kits / Form Assistance
 Historic Lakeshore Walking Tour
 Lawn Busters Program
 Life Coaching / Mascot Day
 Neighbourhood Block Party Program
 Parent / Caregiver Wellness Kits
 Safe Zone Training
 Shoot to Score Presentation
 Toy & Book Lending Library



2023 PROVINCIALS

The event held in Cold Lake was a great provincial event for Alberta Soccer. The venue and volunteers were outstanding. The ASA would be very happy to return to Cold Lake in future years.

*Lisa Grant,
Executive Director
Alberta Soccer*

”

Cold Lake Energy Centre

Attendance at tournaments and events skyrocketed at the Cold Lake Energy Centre, which played host to several provincial tournaments and returned for its first full year of regular programming.

Energy Centre memberships rose slightly to total 4,057, up from 3,539 memberships in 2022. Private functions at the venue were also up, with rental revenue coming in at \$689,600, a nearly 15% increase over the previous year.

Attendance at events saw the largest increases, with an estimated 17% increase for Aqua Days, a 30% increase on Canada Day, and the Santa Claus

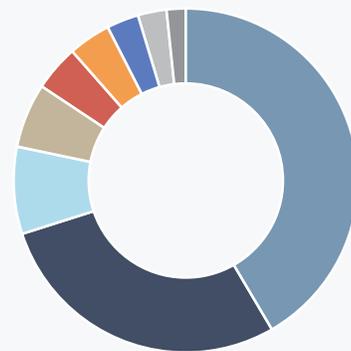
Parade, drawing almost four times as many people in 2023 than in 2022.

The finishing touches were put on renovations at the North Arena, while new facilities were completed at Imperial Park and upgrades to various other facilities kept the City's recreation infrastructure ready for the crowds that followed throughout the year.

TOP 10 EVENTS BY ATTENDANCE

Santa Claus Parade	7,500
Canada Day	6,500
Aqua Days	3,500
U of A vs. U of S Hockey Games	2,064
Remembrance Day	1,400
Snow Fever	1,000
Santa Kick-off Party	1,000
Easter Party	750
Halloween Party	400
Shanneyganock Concert	373

2023 REVENUE



- \$520,021 Arena rentals
- \$354,332 Memberships
- \$98,287 Reid Field House
- \$78,114 Facility rentals
- \$54,791 Drop ins
- \$48,083 Programs
- \$39,563 Climbing wall
- \$31,149 Outdoor fields
- \$21,485 Turf field

Cold Lake Energy Centre

Cold Lake’s recreation facilities continued with upgrades to keep up with the demand that the various facilities see. Whether locals are working on their fitness goals, or teams are visiting for a tournament, the facility has a strong reputation of meeting a wide variety of recreation needs.

CENOVUS ENERGY WELLNESS CENTRE

Cenovus Energy Wellness Centre went through another round of expansion with the demolition and conversion of the previous concession space. The centre also received equipment upgrades which included nine new pieces of equipment along with over 38 new attachments and accessories.

ARENAS

Interior renovations at the North Arena were completed and came with new furniture for the facility. The exterior of the building is slated for a facelift, with new siding scheduled to be installed and new outdoor signage.

IMPERIAL PARK

Imperial Park saw one of the slo-pitch fields rehabilitated, with the infield clay removed and upgraded. Outdoor field use skyrocketed in 2023, with slo-pitch tournaments, provincial soccer tournaments, and provincial baseball among the sports that saw visitors take to the fields. A new multi-use court was also completed, which can be used for basketball, volleyball, and pickleball.

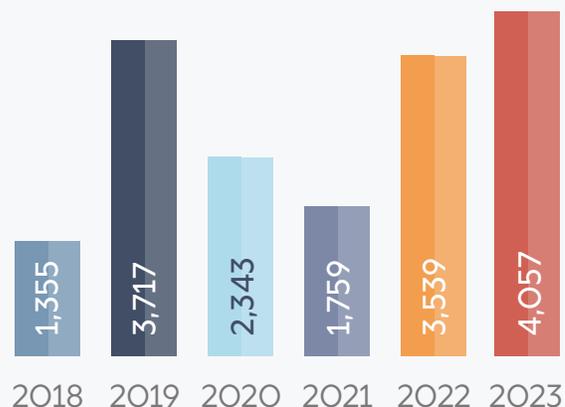
MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK

The mountain bike park had its first full year of operation in 2023, with all major phases having been completed. The park now boasts a pump track, platforms, berms, rollers, skills area, and a variety of jumps and trails to challenge the most seasoned rider, or to ease beginners into the sport.

CLIMBING WALL

Climbing wall memberships rose slightly to total 66 from 62 the previous year. The facility also had its auto-belay systems sent out for maintenance throughout the year, as well as upgrades to the climbing equipment available for rent.

GYM MEMBERSHIPS



Cold Lake Public Library

Cold Lake City Council continued to fund library memberships in 2023, maintaining an initiative that started in 2016.

It was a busy year for the Cold Lake Public Library with people from the Lakeland visiting the two branches to borrow materials, pick up interlibrary loans, or to use the public computers and Wi-Fi. The library held many programs at both branches for a variety of ages and interests. Newer programs included an evening cookbook club, more seniors' programs – including Books on Wheels – and a continuation of Pop-Up Library Services to the Cold Lake Native Friendship Centre and Cold Lake First Nations at English Bay.

The library received donations and grant money to continue its very successful monthly Spice Kit Program, to enhance its Summer Reading Program, and to continue beautifying its Reading Garden by hiring a summer student.

2023 LIBRARY STATS



- 15,297 Website visits
- 12,143 Items brought in
- 6,132 Library visits
- 4,043 New items added

LIBRARY MEMBERSHIPS



The Cold Lake Public Library operates separately from the City of Cold Lake. The information presented here was provided by Cold Lake Public Library and is included in this annual report for the public's information.

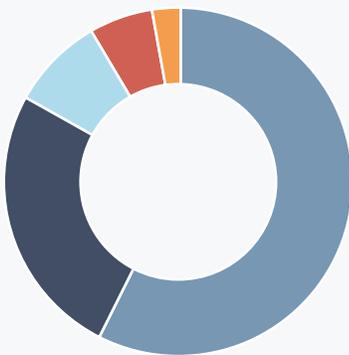
Marina & Parks

The City's greenspaces and the Cold Lake Marina are popular leisure spots in the summer, and parks staff worked diligently in 2023 to ensure that Cold Lake's greenspaces were of a national calibre.

The Cold Lake Marina held 236 slips for the 2023 boating season, and all were allocated. A total of seven slips were not renewed from 2022 and were filled by people on the Cold Lake Marina Slip Waiting List. At the end of 2023, 188 individuals remained on the list.

Another set of storage lockers was added to the marina. The lockers can fit non-motorized boats for storage, allowing people to store their kayaks, canoes, and paddle boards in a convenient location close to the launch area.

2023 MARINA REVENUE



- \$500,000 Federal grant
- \$216,217 Berth rentals
- \$74,128 Fuel
- \$51,731 Service and building rental
- \$20,000 ICF Funding

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

In September of 2023, Cold Lake learned that it had taken first place in the national Communities in Bloom competition. Cold Lake was up against three other short-listed municipalities: Chipman, NB, Provost, AB, and Wolseley, SK. Over the summer, volunteer judges travelled to participating communities for evaluations. The judges looked at municipal efforts in floral displays, the community's appearance, environmental action, heritage conservation, and tree management. The effort was led by the Cold Lake Communities in Bloom and Environmental Society with the support of the City of Cold Lake.

PARK MAINTENANCE

Park staff had a busy season in 2023, focusing primarily on maintenance of the City's greenspaces and recreation facilities. The department also restocked its seasonal lights for display in the winter, replacing the last of the City's dated and damaged units.

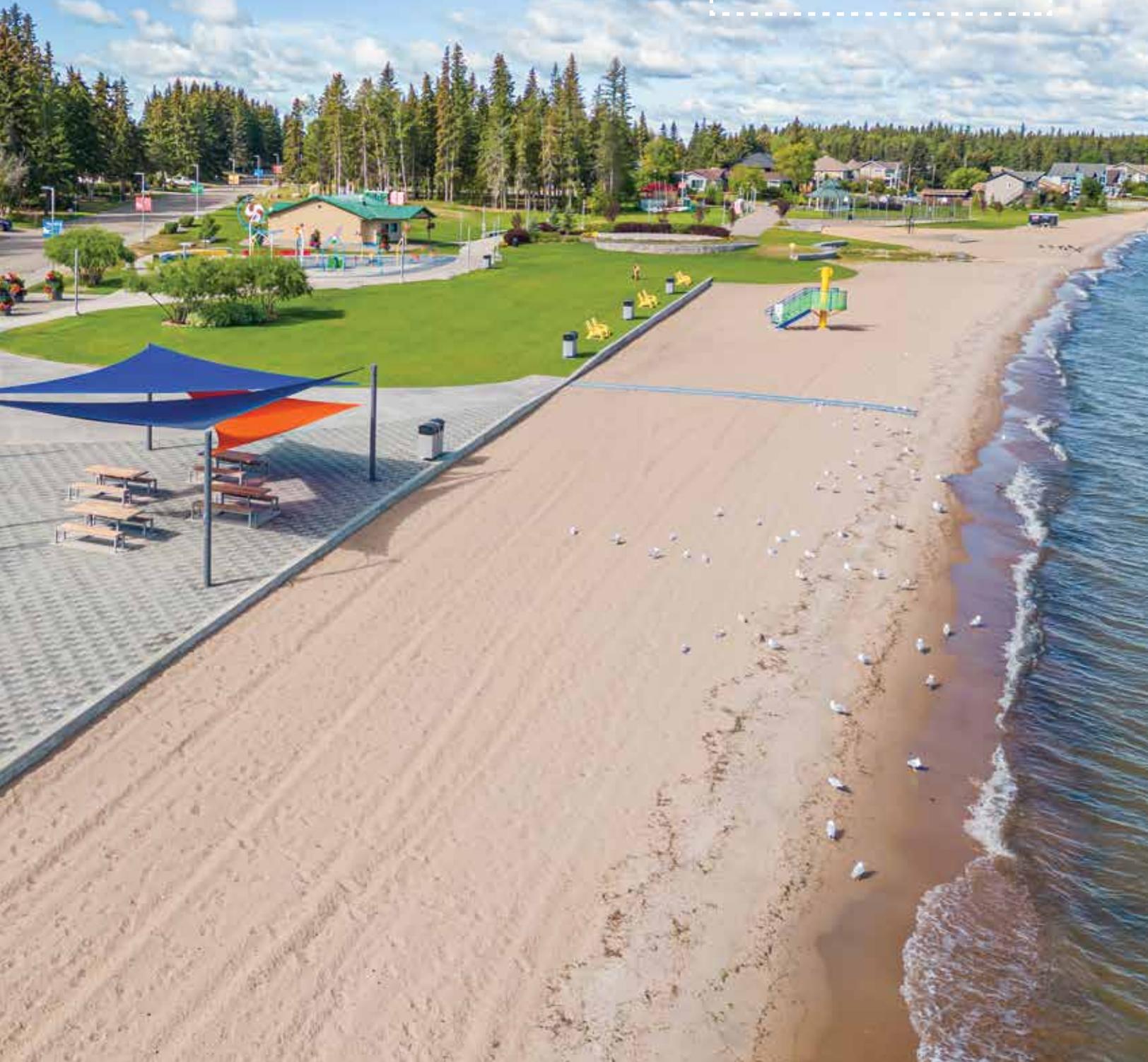
Staff added new, self-watering planters to Kinosoo Beach and in the north entrance of the Energy Centre for an indoor scape in the north foyer.

Downtown, new waste receptacles that have space for recyclable materials were added while additional pet waste receptacles and bag dispensers were added throughout the City in high-traffic areas.

TOP 25 BEACH IN CANADA!

Kinosoo Beach and the waterfront stand out. It is clear to see why it was named one of the top 25 beaches in Canada by Canadian Geographic! The day we visited it was full of families clearly enjoying this spot!

*Susan Ellis, National Judge
Communities in Bloom*





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