



Town of Pincher Creek
Community Information Evening
Information Handout
Committee Updates
March 25, 2021



Councillor
Lorne Jackson



Councillor
Wayne Elliott



Deputy Mayor
Brian McGillivray



Councillor
Mark Barber



Councillor
Scott Korbett



Mayor
Don Anderberg

Councillors are required to sit on numerous committees as part of their role as Councillors, committee appointments are reviewed on an annual basis. The following pages are updates from these committees to the public put together by your Council prepared with information accurate as per the beginning of March 2021.





ALBERTA SOUTHWEST REGIONAL ALLIANCE

Mandate: Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance Ltd. (AlbertaSW) is a Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA) of 16 communities working together to help each other succeed.

Member(s): Scott Korbett

Update provided by: Councillor Korbett

I'm part of Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance and we work collaboratively as a region promoting economic development. While we didn't meet face to face since May of 2020, we have still been busy. Our funding has been challenged with a lower amount coming from the provincial budget, but we have still managed to work together and get things done. For information on current and completed projects please go to <https://www.albertasouthwest.com/>

COMMUNITY EARLY LEARNING CENTRE BOARD

Staff Lead: Community Services Director and FCSS

Member(s): Scott Korbett, Brian McGillivray, Don Anderberg

Alternate: Wayne Elliott

Update provided by: Mayor Anderberg

There have been many questions raised by residents regarding the two Early Learning Centres. The three comments that dominate this conversation are: why would Town Council proceed to build these centres, why two buildings and how are my taxes going to be affected?

Daycare and Childcare have been a topic of conversation in Pincher Creek for many years and has been discussed by all the Town Councils of the day.

In 2006, an Economic Development Strategy session was held with residents of both the Town and the MD of Pincher Creek. Childcare was determined by the community to be the most important need identified in this strategy session.

The Town did major upgrades to the South Wing of the Town Office in 2006 / 2007. This is the space that Children's World Daycare occupied for 40+ years. As early as this, it was identified that the space was not in compliance with Provincial Childcare and Health Regulations and there were Safety concerns.

The Town, working with all parties, addressed as many issues as possible to Grandfather this space.

Because of the demand for Childcare in our community, Children's World obtained additional space at St Michaels School and ran two separate daycare sites. Town Council and Administration were supportive of Children's World Daycare (a Not for Profit Society), helping over the years with upgrades to





washrooms, painting, flooring etc. Council has also contributed supplies, rent reduction and monetary grants to sustain cashflow and operations . The board members of Children’s World worked extremely hard for 42 years providing the best quality childcare that they could for the Community of Pincher

Creek. Rising costs, cashflow issues and increased Government Regulations were some of the reasons that Children’s World decided to quit operating. They had also lost their space at St. Michaels school because of upgrades and right sizing of the school.

The conversation about a different space or a new facility for daycare was an ongoing topic of conversation . Daycare/ Childcare had been identified in the Towns Strategic Plan for many years. Early Childhood Education and Daycare is highly regulated by the Province and the Health Department.

The Town had been working with Children’s World to find a solution to the facility issues, both at the Town Hall site and knowing that the St. Michaels site was going to be gone.

As the conversation continued, it became very clear that Council and Administration did not have the information or expertise to fairly evaluate what childcare or childcare facilities should or could look like in Pincher Creek. Council hired a firm, Motivention, Inc. to do a comprehensive analysis of childcare in our community. This study included the Town and surrounding area. This report was well done and provided reliable and factual information to base decisions on.

The face of Pincher Creek has changed . We are a relatively young community with many families and young children. The recent Social Needs Assessment and Economic Development Strategy Report both report and support this view.

When Children’s World announced that they would no longer be the Childcare Provider for Pincher Creek, a great many families and children were put into crisis mode. Childcare, we have learned is not a nice-to-have, but an integral part of life for many families in our community. In fact, it is an essential service. Town Council made the commitment to continue to provide Childcare services to the community.

We negotiated with Holy Spirit School Division to get classroom space at St Michaels School on a temporary basis. The School Board fully supported our community in a time of need and found the space. A new organization was formed, a Not-for-Profit Municipal Corporation operating under the

name of Pincher Creek Community Early Learning Centre Lt d. with an Operating Board consisting of nine members responsible for the oversight of operations at the two centres.

Council made the decision to move forward with two new facilities for Childcare . Both Holy Spirit and Livingston Range School Divisions found sites adjacent to St. Michaels and Canyon schools. The buildings were designed, construction cost estimates were evaluated and proforma operating cost analysis were done. Based on this information and backed up with projected usage numbers Council moved ahead to Tender the project. The number of licensed spaces in the two new centres are very similar to the total





number of spaces that were previously licensed. The three previous sites have been consolidated into two properly configured Childcare Centres, making them more user friendly and more efficient.

From the Motivation report we heard that it was very difficult for families when they had to drop off and pickup children at multiple sites. To make it a " one stop shop" the decision was to build adjacent to the two school sites. As an example, children in after school care can walk from school to the Childcare Centre, requiring no special transportation. The sites were transferred to the Town at a cost of \$1.00 per site .

The tendered cost including contingency to build both buildings was \$ 4,163,840.56. The actual cost is \$3,996,199.15 which is \$ 167,641.41 under budget.

As soon as we had a solid cost the MD of Pincher Creek was approached to ask for their financial assistance to help pay for these facilities .

The MD generously agreed to contribute One Million dollars toward the capital cost: \$ 500,000 in 2020 and \$ 100,000 annually for 5 years .

The cost breakdown is as follows

Total Capital Cost Town	\$ 3,996,199.15
Reserve Funding	(\$ 1, 505,870.55)
Municipal Sustainability Grant 2020	(\$ 589,404.00)
Bank Loan CIBC	(\$ 1,900,924.60)

Town Council and administration have re-evaluated the Town's financial situation and organizational goals through the 2021 Budget Deliberations . Because the PCCCLC project came in under budget, Council has made the decision to include the irrigation system expense of \$70,000 .00 within the overall construction budget rather than using Town reserve funding . The current \$500,000.00 contribution from the MD of Pincher Creek will also be applied to the outstanding CIBC loan.

CIBC Loan	\$1,900,924 .60
Irrigation System	\$70,000.00
MD of Pincher Creek Funding	(\$500,000.00)
Outstanding Loan CIBC	\$1,470,924.60

Future contributions from the MD of Pincher Creek of \$100,000.00 / year for 5 years (\$ 500,000.00) will be applied to the Outstanding Loan Principle.

The decision to continue with an outstanding loan was influenced by a number of other funding decisions. Ultimately a very favorable interest rate of 2.29 % and the ability to prepay principal with no penalty and having this loan already in place made the most financial sense. Loan payments have been included in the 2021 budget.





Cost of operations is also a concern that has been expressed. PCCLEC has been operating the St. Michaels site (Sage) for nearly two years. Since moving into the new building we are maintaining a positive cash flow position. Sage was shut down by the Province for Covid and then we applied to the Province to reopen for essential workers under Provincial guidelines. Because of the Covid protocols and shutdown the Town provided \$ 45,000.00 of cash flow and operating funds to PCCELC in 2020 .

The Town has applied \$45,000.00 of Provincial MOST grant funding to offset this expense. The purpose of the Provincial MOST funding is to help offset operational cost and expenses incurred due to Covid 19.

Having more space available, we are currently at the number of children that were enrolled at the temporary school site. To meet Covid standards, it takes about twice as many childcare workers to take care of the same number of children. There is a waiting list for space and we are currently operating at about 60% capacity.

The estimate coming out of our Proforma Financial Analysis indicated that at around 60% capacity, the operation would break even. This has proven to be the case.

Canyon Creek Centre comes under the umbrella of PCCELC on April 1, 2021. We foresee the same positive cashflow.

The Town owns both buildings. They are leased to PCCELC under agreement. Each centre is budgeted to PAY RENT to the town.

This is a good news story. New facilities serving a large segment of our citizens. Positive cash flow and loan payments included in the 2021 Budget. NO PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

Everyone is positively affected by Quality Childcare. We all use the Hospital and Clinic. Many of the Healthcare Professionals in our community rely on childcare so they can go to work to serve you. Teachers, other health care professionals, business owners, banking staff. We rely on them to get us through our day, they rely on Quality and affordable Childcare to allow them to be there for us.

THIS IS AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE AND IS MARKETABLE THROUGH AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY. WE CAN ATTRACT AND KEEP YOUNG FAMILIES IN PINCHER CREEK.

COMMUNITY FUTURES ALBERTA SOUTHWEST

Member(s): Mark Barber

Update provided by: Councillor Barber

CF Alberta Southwest continues to be relevant to small businesses in our region. In the past year they provided loan funds in excess of \$1,000,000 to ten businesses. Their protocols determine that a business would not be an appropriate candidate for traditional business lending streams prior to our involvement with loan funding.





In addition to the loan programs they provide training and business planning services. Last year they provided advisory services and training to over 380 clients.

In 2020 they embarked on a succession planning project that involved all of Southern Alberta. The two-year project will continue into 2022. The objective of the program is to better situate business owners for the day they want to sell or retire.

The Business Recovery and Retention Project became challenged by Covid-19 in 2020. Instead of providing important business sessions in person, the courses were provided online. Regardless, the program was successful.

Community Futures Alberta Southwest continues to support economic development programs. They have recently approved a grant to the Pincher Creek & District Chamber of Commerce to help ensure the continuation of the Business Recovery Support Program (BRSP).

Community Futures Alberta Southwest looks forwards to collaborating on many projects in the future.

COMMUNITY HALL BOARD

Mandate: Established in 1972, Pincher Creek's Community Hall is an immaculately maintained multi-use facility that serves as the heart of this community.

Staff Lead: Economic Development, Marketing and Events Officer

Member(s): Lorne Jackson

Update provided by: Councillor Jackson

I am the current Council representative on our Community Hall Board of Directors. This past year has been a difficult one with regard to lost income related to the COVID 19 pandemic, as can be expected. Fortunately though, through the Joint Funding Program shared with our M.D. Municipal partners, it was recognized there as well, and the Hall was awarded their full ask of \$15,000 in an effort to assist with the issue. In spite of problems beyond the control of local, and even Provincial jurisdictions, the Board does have important plans for the Hall, the largest being planning for the replacement of the tile floor which is long past it's expiration.

COMMUNITY HOUSING COMMITTEE

Mandate: Study and provide advice regarding matters related to housing.

Staff Lead: FCSS Coordinator

Members: Don Anderberg, Wayne Elliott and Brian McGillivray

Update provided by: Mayor Anderberg

Housing Committee/Pincher Creek Foundation Capital Plan submission October 14, 2018 (still on hold)





20 unit modular home development	\$4.2M
• Provincial funding	\$1,326,164.00
• Federal funding	\$1,326,164.00
• Town	\$1,417,400.00
• Town land	\$ 139,670.00

Pincher Creek Foundation – Housing Management Body

Seniors Housing, Owned by Pincher Creek Foundation

Crestview Lodge - 50 Units of Lodge Accommodation (44 studio and 6 one-bedroom)

Government owned and subsidized

24 Units of low-income one-bedroom independent living units

- Canyon Manor – 2 one-bedroom Apartments (two story building)
- Canyon Manor Cottages – 6 one-bedroom apartments (next to Canyon Manor)
- Willow Court – 6 one-bedroom apartments

Family Housing – Government owned and subsidized

12 low-income family housing units – 2 and 3 bedroom units

PC Foundation also administers the Direct Rent Supplement Program (direct to tenant).

The “DRS” addresses rent shortfall and assists those with low income who have difficulty meeting monthly rental costs.

Habitat for Humanity – duplex completed and occupied

COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Mandate: Study and provide advice regarding matters related to transportation.

Staff Lead: Director of Operations

Membership: Lorne Jackson and Brian McGillivray

Update provided by: Councillor Jackson

Transportation Committee, I can report that the Town bus purchased with Green Trip grant funding is being looked at in a number of ways to utilize it for the community, whether it be to replace aged out equipment, or for a transportation option for groups and organizations. Two of the three bus shelters are being repurposed for our childcare facilities. Transportation needs in our area remain a concern for segments of our populace, especially those who for reasons of health or disability cannot drive, and we continue to work with those in the greater community that are passionate toward those folks in need.

Handi-Bus – A key piece of the transportation issue.

The Pincher Creek Handi-Bus is a non-profit organization providing accessible door-to-door transportation for seniors and for those with physical and/or special needs in Pincher Creek and area.





The Handi-Bus is committed to providing residents with access to the community and promoting independence. All clients are treated as unique individuals with respect and dignity.

The Handi-Bus is committed to making a difference in people's lives and strengthening our community.

It is important to note that in recognition of the valuable service provided by the Handi-Bus, the organization continues to be supported by the Town (with the purchase of a new bus) and also through the Joint Council funding process (operational support).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mandate: To advise Town Council on various economic development issues.

Staff Lead: Economic Development Officer

Member(s): Scott Korbett

This committee has been suspended while an Economic Development Strategy is completed.

EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMISSION

Mandate: To manage fire and ambulance services.

Staff Lead: Fire Chief

Member(s): Don Anderberg and Scott Korbett

Alternate: Lorne Jackson

Update provided by: Councillor Korbett

Did you know: There were 85 fire calls, 52 Rescue calls, and 1739 Ambulance calls for 2020? This seems like a staggering amount of effort from our dedicated individuals in our Fire/Ambulance service. We have volunteers in Beaver Mines, Lundbreck and Pincher Creek who work along side our full and part time staff to keep our community safe. The Village of Cowley is part of our Mutual Aid Partnership assisting us as we do them.

We are one of the few locations in the Province offering an integrated Fire/Ambulance service. This allows us to cross-train our volunteers to serve our community better! We contract our Ambulance Service to AHS and are currently completing the accreditation process that all medical service providers are required to do.

At the Commission, we work with our partners (Municipal District of Pincher Creek) to ensure that our community is kept safe during any sort of emergency. From house fires, to grass fires and any type of medical emergency, we are equipped to serve the community.

FACILITIES PLANNING STUDY STEERING COMMITTEE





Mandate: To study and provide advice to the Town of Pincher Creek regarding the future development, renovation or expansion of facilities including sport, recreational, community and other Town owned facilities.

Staff Lead: Director of Community Services

Member(s): Mark Barber and Wayne Elliott

Facilities committee has been suspended until further notice.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Mandate: Agreement between Her Majesty in Right of Alberta and Town of Pincher Creek to provide for the establishment, administration, and operation of a Family and Community Support Services Program in accordance with the Family and Community Support Services Act and Regulation

Staff Lead: FCSS Coordinator

Member(s): Don Anderberg

Update provided by: Mayor Anderberg

"The Pincher Creek and District Family and Community Support Service facilitates initiatives which contribute to community and family wellness and build community capacity in the Town of Pincher Creek, the Municipal District of Pincher Creek #9 and the Village of Cowley." Under the terms of a Regional Agreement, Pincher Creek and District FCSS administration offices are located at the town office, 962 St. John Avenue.

Pincher Creek and District FCSS is part of a Province-wide program that benefits from an 80/20 funding partnership between the Government of Alberta, local municipalities and Metis Settlements. FCSS receives its mandate from the provincial Family and Community Support Services Act and Regulation.

For Pincher Creek and District, the 80/20 funding split means that the combined contributions of the Town, the MD and the Village (\$57,305.00) leads to a Provincial grant of \$229,219.00 for a total annual budget of \$286,524.00. (The Provincial FCSS budget remains locked in for at least one more year.)

The Pincher Creek and District FCSS Board of Directors consists of one elected official from each of the three municipal jurisdictions and four members-at-large. The Board meets monthly. The Coordinator position is a part-time position.

Using FCSS Provincial Eligibility Guidelines, Pincher Creek and District FCSS assists with design, funding and delivery of programs that impact the social well-being of individuals and families and promotes and facilitates the development of a stronger, more resilient and adaptive community. FCSS-funded programs depend on community resources, volunteers and strong partnerships. With the exception of internally managed Community Development Initiatives such as the recent Social Needs Assessment project, programs in our community are managed externally.





One of the key principles of the provincial FCSS Program is “local responsibility in priority-setting and resource allocation”. This is based on the belief that communities have the desire, energy and resources to build capacity. While FCSS emphasizes and encourages local decision-making, it is understood that FCSS is not responsible for programs and services offered by Provincial Government departments. Each municipality or Metis settlement determines how the dollars they receive should be allocated to meet local needs. Ultimately, FCSS across the province contributes to stronger communities, builds citizen and volunteer involvement and promotes the effective and efficient use of resources while allowing local organizations to give traction to projects and programs that fulfil their mandates while meeting provincial eligibility guidelines.

All program funding applications are reviewed by the Board. Project managers and volunteers are sometimes asked to present funding proposals in person to the Board. At the close of the funding year, all programs must provide an annual report to describe use of FCSS funds as well an Outcome Measures report following Government of Alberta guidelines.

During the year, the FCSS Coordinator functions as Chairman for the Police Advisory Committee, Facilitator of the Interagency Group, and Director of Emergency Social Services. Although it has only one employee, FCSS benefits from a strong administrative support team within the Town Office.

It is important to remember that all projects and programs, totally or partially funded by our community, contribute to the strength of the social fabric of our community. As such, they represent shared responsibility, and they are “social services” in the truest sense.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ATTRACTION AND RETENTION COMMITTEE

Mandate: Attract and retain rural health professionals

Staff Lead: Chief Administrative Officer

Member(s): Scott Korbett

Update provided by: Committee Chair, Dick Burnham

After our great 2019 with the Rhapsody Award to our Respiratory Staff and a successful Students Skill Days, 2020 turned out to be a little downer, but very interesting for the Pincher Creek Health Professions Attraction and Retention Society. We have managed to maintain our monthly meeting schedule through ZOOM meetings and have actively promoted Pincher Creek to attract Health Professionals required and have tried to acknowledge the great Health Professionals that continue to provide us with excellent Health Care

The year started out with Alberta Minister of Health messing with the negotiations with the Doctors, making statements that upset the local Health Professionals their patients and the Pincher Creek residents. The Minister finally tore up the contract with the Doctors. The Attraction and Retention Society in a short period of time convened a Public Town Hall on March 1, 2020 providing the Local Medical Staff and other Health Professionals an opportunity to express their concerns and status. Our local MLA and the Health Minister were invited but declined. The Town Hall was well attended with





standing room only. We provided letters to the Minister of Health and our MLA and collected over 300 that evening, which Mayor Anderberg and Councillor Korbett Hand delivered to the Minister and MLA in Edmonton. Also talking points were made available so Minister Shandro and MLA Reid could be phoned or emailed.

The COVID19 hit and everyone changed how they had to deal with the Health system. Alberta Health and AHS kept sending out conflicting messages and putting stress on our Local Health Practitioners and our citizens were concerned that we could loss our Health Facilities and Doctors or they would be drastically changed. (we have dropped from 12 doctors to 8 at present). To support our excellent local Health Care System and the Capable, Caring, Trained people who look after us, the PC Attraction and Retention Society arranged the "RALLY TO SAVE RURAL HEALTH", with the assistance of many volunteers we pulled it off and received Provincial and National Coverage. We thank those who took part in the Rally, expressing their appreciation for our Health Workers. Also, to Mayor Anderberg and the Town Council and staff for their support and assistance in making the event happen.

The various Health restrictions, COVID-19 restrictions cancelled many of the planned activities for 2020, the Attraction and Retention Committee have tried to acknowledge our dedicated Health Workers by providing hand lotion to staff; honoring different Health Professionals by presenting Coffee Mugs personalized with names and "Health Hero" engraved and providing coffee from a local Main Street shop. We will continue to recognize and honor our local Health Professionals in 2021 as we are able. Our objective is to recruit the needed Health Professionals to Pincher Creek and provide them with the lifestyle and environment to make them remain as contributing citizens to our Community.

We again want to express our THANKS to Mayor Don Anderberg and Pincher Creek Town Council for their support and assistance with The Society's endeavors and position on Local Health Care and Health Professionals.

The Community Residents of Pincher Creek and District, we thank you also for your support of the Health Professionals and the Pincher Creek Attraction and Retention Society.

HIGHWAY #3 ASSOCIATION

Mandate: Members to this committee must be approved by the Association Board.

Staff Lead: CAO

Member(s): Don Anderberg

Alternate: Brian McGillivray

Update provided by: Mayor Anderberg

This organization has been promoting the twinning of Highway 3 from the Crowsnest Pass to Medicine Hat for nearly 20 years. The Town of Pincher Creek has been an avid supporter and funding partner of this group. In the past several years the Highway 3 group has raised its profile and advocated more strongly to the Province for long term planning, local upgrades and the twinning of the remaining portions of single lane roadway.





Most of the Urban and Rural Municipalities along the Highway 3 corridor are members of the association. Other member organizations include a number of local Chambers of Commerce, Regional Economic Development Associations, namely Alberta Southwest and Southgrow, Regional School Divisions and many private enterprises such as Cascade Carriers, Good Year, Lamb Weston and the Alberta Motor Transport Association to name a few.

The last several years of advocacy to the Provincial Government has resulted in a number of upgrades along the corridor. Crosswalks and traffic lights in the Crowsnest Pass and realignment of the Coalhurst corner. Functional studies have been completed for the Crowsnest Pass, Bellevue to Pincher Creek and Taber to Burdett. There has been extensive public consultation in the development of Functional planning Studies by Alberta Transportation. A functional study is a planning document that is an integral step in moving into engineering and construction phases of Highway Development.

The Alberta Government has announced and is actively working on engineering and construction of Twinned Highway from Taber to Burdett. This project is scheduled for completion in 2022. This project was considered “Shovel Ready “ because the Functional Study was completed on this section of Highway 3.

An Economic Impact Study spearheaded by the Highway 3 Association shows that for every dollar spent on twinning Highway 3 there is at minimum a Three dollar return in direct economic benefit to the region.

Highway 3 is an economic driver for Southern Alberta and for communities in the Southwest a twinned Highway 3 would help with traffic and safety concerns, enable easier travel for local tourism destinations and enhance the movement of goods and services into and out of our area.

INTERMUNICIPAL COLLABORATIVE FRAMEWORK

Staff Lead: CAO

Member(s): Don Anderberg and Brian McGillivray

Update provided by: Councillor McGillivray

Brief Overview: The ICF has been mandated by the Alberta Provincial Government as an inclusion of the Municipal Government Act. Its purpose is to provide a framework for planning, both integrated and strategic pertaining for the delivery and funding of shared intermunicipal services and further, to ensure municipalities contribute funding for services benefitting their residents. The process must be completed by April 30, 2020.

Recent Activities: The working committee consisting of two Councillors each from Town of Pincher Creek and Municipal District of Pincher Creek have worked collaboratively to shape the ICF document. Meeting monthly, the committee set out its terms of reference and has worked towards gaining consensus regarding sharing opportunities of the resources, amenities and services available between the Town and the MD. I am pleased to report an Intermunicipal





Collaborative Framework Agreement has been ratified by both councils. This ICF agreement approved by both municipal councils, resulted from a true desire to accomplish mutually beneficial services and was done collaboratively. It should be noted that this success has been accomplished by very few municipalities in our province and has initiated a new spirit of co-operation between the Town and the MD of Pincher Creek.

INTERMUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mandate: As per Bylaw No. 1526, Intermunicipal Development Plan.

Staff Lead: Manager of Legislative Services

Member(s): Mark Barber and Lorne Jackson

Update provided by: Councillor Jackson

An update on this committee has not been provided due to not meeting.

LIBRARY BOARD and CHINOOK ARCH

Mandate: Pursuant to the Libraries Act of Alberta, the Pincher Creek & District Municipal Library will provide full and equal access to information, resources and ideas, and promote an atmosphere of life-long learning.

Staff Lead: Head Librarian

Member(s): Mark Barber

Update provided by: Councillor Barber

I have mentioned before that our community is significantly enhanced with an outstanding library. This enhancement is due to the exceptionally dedicated library staff and the many wonderful library volunteers. We also benefit from our participation with the “Chinook Arch Regional Library System”

The culmination of the above determines that we have access to an almost infinite amount of reading material. If the requested material is not available in our local library, our partnership with “Chinook Arch” will provide access to the materials, often within 24 hours. Chinook Arch continues to provide numerous programming opportunities regarding technology.

The past year has presented numerous challenges. Our staff and volunteers have endeavoured to provide a very high level of service within a reality that determined that restrictions were constantly changing. When restrictions were significant, our library offered curb side pickup. When restrictions were lessened the library opened with limited citizen participation and stringent cleaning protocols. During all of these challenges our staff and volunteers cleaned, re-





organized, painted, and planned.
They made the best of the very challenging reality.

In previous messages I have provided that our library is short of space. A previous renovation allowed the library to become more efficient. However, the footprint of the library did not expand. As such the library is initiating discussions to expand the building to the east. The expansion will also incorporate a small performing arts centre. A donation of consequence determines that this vision should become a reality.

MAYORS & REEVES OF SOUTHWEST ALBERTA

Mandate: Mayors & Reeves of Southwest Alberta.

Member(s): Don Anderberg or available Councillors

Update provided by: Mayor Anderberg

Approximately forty mayors and reeves from southwest Alberta gather monthly in Lethbridge to discuss items of mutual concern. This group has been active for close to twenty years. In recent years the focus has changed from being just an information group to more of an active lobbying body for our region. This group represents a population of close to 200,000 people. Our regional members of parliament and members of the legislative assembly are invited to attend and provide reports on a monthly basis. Some of the successes over the years include keeping 911 ambulance dispatch services in Lethbridge, successfully lobbying to keep the rural physicians action plan in our care and control and getting real results on highway 3 upgrades and twinning.

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT AND SUBDIVISION AUTHORITY (MDSA)

Mandate: Pursuant to the Municipal Government Act and MDSA Bylaw #1543, to review applications for discretionary developments.

Staff Lead: Manager of Legislative Services

Member(s): Wayne Elliott, Brian McGillivray and Lorne Jackson

Update provided by: Councillor McGillivray

2020 Development Quick Facts:

36 Development Permits for an estimated aggregate total value of \$3 983 945

7 Sign Permit Applications

1 Home-Based Occupation Permits

33 Compliance Certificates issued

25 MDSA Applications heard/decided





Brief Overview: The Municipal Development and Subdivision Authority (MDSA) oversees the construction developments in the Town of Pincher Creek. When a planned construction development contravenes the Town’s Land Use Bylaw, an application can be made to the MDSA for consideration and possible approval and a variance to the Land Use Bylaw so the construction can proceed.

Recent Activities: The MDSA meets monthly and has given consideration to many construction requests. Citizens requesting variance from the Land Use Bylaw are welcome to make an application the MDSA and can present their intentions in person or virtually.

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION (ORRSC)

Mandate: Concerns matters of subdivision, planning, etc.

Staff Lead: CAO

Member(s): Don Anderberg

Alternate: Brian McGillivray

Update provided by: Mayor Anderberg

ORRSC is a regional service organization owned by 40 Southern Alberta Urban and Rural municipalities that provides land planning, subdivision administration and GIS services to its members and other municipalities in Alberta.

Funding for ORRSC comes from fee for service for planning and subdivision. GIS services are calculated on a per capita basis. Members also pay a membership levy based on their most recent property assessment valuation.

Good community planning is a necessity and we get sound advice from our assigned Planner. There are a number of planning documents that are required by the Province that ORRSC develops for the Town. The Land use Plan and the Intermunicipal Development plan are two examples.

The Town of Pincher Creek also uses the GIS Program that ORRSC has developed. It has many layers of information from Plan #'s to water, sewer and storm drain overlays. Public GIS service can be accessed through the Towns website to access a variety of information for citizens and developers.

ORRSC is a Regional Services Commission, regulated by Provincial Statute through the Municipal Government Act. The Commission is governed by a Board, consisting of elected officials assigned by their respective Councils. Day to day operations are handled by the Chief Administrative Officer (Manager) and an Executive Committee of seven members elected by the Board on an annual basis.

ORRSC owns an administrative building located in NorthEast Lethbridge, has reserve funding available and has no debt.





The Town of Pincher Creek has been a member of ORRSC since its inception. We pay a fraction of what it would cost to hire our own planning department and to run a GIS system. The Town has been well served by ORRSC for many years.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

- Mandate: Study and provide advice regarding matters related to operational services.
- Staff Lead: Director of Operations
- Member(s): Brian McGillivray, Lorne Jackson, Wayne Elliott

Update provided by: Councillor Elliott with support from Operations administration

The Operations Committee meets on a quarterly basis with the first meeting of 2021 happening on March 30. The committee acts in an advisory capacity to Town Council and addresses special requests the Operations Department receives from residences. Ensuring the Operations department is providing a consistent level of service is what the committee strives to achieve. Having multiple perspectives review and discuss these public requests help determine if the Operations resources are being used in an efficient and effective manner.

The agenda not only consists of requests for additional services surrounding water, wastewater, streets, cemetery, and infrastructure but also a review Operations Policy and procedure takes place. Some procedures receive more discussion than others, like winter maintenance and snow removal but in reviewing these procedures, areas can be identified where new processes need to be created like back-alley repair and maintenance.

Operations Committee Meetings are open to the public. So please continue to submit citizen requests or contacting the town if a matter needs to be discussed at this committee.

PINCHER CREEK FOUNDATION BOARD

- Mandate: Manages the Housing Units in Pincher Creek.
- Staff Lead: Pincher Creek Foundation CAO
- Meetings: Third Wednesday monthly at 3:00 pm
- Member(s): Lorne Jackson and Brian McGillivray

Update provided by: Councillor Jackson

The Pincher Creek Foundation, which I also chair, is the overall Housing Authority for our area. While some believe that we are solely the Board of Directors for Crestview Lodge, Canyon Manor, and self-contained cottages, the Foundation also oversees all affordable housing options in Pincher Creek. Circumstances have recently left two Board positions open to the public, but I am pleased to report that the Foundation has received a number of very impressive applications to fill those vacancies, and we are now in the process of selecting our new colleagues from among those individuals.





POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Member(s): Lorne Jackson, Brian McGillivray

Update provided by: Councillor McGillivray

Brief Overview: The Policy Review Committee meets monthly to review existing policies as required by the Municipal Government Act and to create new policies when required by Council to do so. This committee consists of two Councillors and the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). The CAO invites specific Town management to attend meetings where their expertise is of value.

Recent Activities: The Policy Development Committee presents reviewed and new policies to Council for approval and endorsement. The Covid19 pandemic environment has limited the ability of the Policy Review Committee over the past year where more pressing health matters required focus.

POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mandate: formalize the process for receiving input from the community and the partnership between the community, the RCMP and local government.

Staff Lead: FCSS Coordinator

Member(s): Mark Barber

Alternate: Wayne Elliott

Update provided by: Councillor Barber

This committee meets on a bi-monthly basis. During these meetings we discuss policing concerns and possible solutions in our community. To quote RCMP Sergeant Ryan Hodge, " This is a very important part of policing in Pincher Creek. This provides a forum for open communication between the community and the RCMP. This two-way communication allows the RCMP to hear the concerns of the public and it also allows the RCMP to bring new ideas forward and also clear up concerns within the community. Further to that, Sgt. Hodge indicated that he "genuinely wants to hear from the community and have the discussions needed to deliver policing services."

Over the past few years our town council has emphasized three policing priorities. These priorities include vehicles driving at excessive speeds, and other concerning traffic violations, the need for higher visibility of our RCMP members in the community, and the potential proliferation of extremely harmful street drugs in our community.

Our committee continues to discuss the prevalence of speeding vehicles. It was determined that this infraction is especially concerning in our school zones. I want to thank our community peace officers and the RCMP as they have increased their presence at our local schools in an effort to ensure that our





motorists comply with posted speed limits. Our committee has also requested the installation of electronic speed sentries near our schools. The 2021 town budget includes the purchase of one sentry. We will continue to lobby our town council for additional sentries in the coming years. We recognize that the speed sentries provide motorists with their actual speed and our committee provides that motorists will slow down when presented with this information.

Our new RCMP detachment commander, Sergeant Ryan Hodge is committed to ensuring that his members are more visible in our community. Our committee recognizes that the increased level of visibility will deter motorists from committing traffic violations and it will also deter the criminal element. We also recognize that the increased presence will provide our community members with an enhanced feeling of security. This enhanced feeling of security has been most welcome over the past year as we have tried to comprehend the many challenges of an unknown virus.

We are aware of an increase in crime related to the challenged Alberta economy. Further, we recognize that the vast majority of this crime is related to the opioid crisis. We are fortunate that we are located away from major urban centres where urban and rural property crime is rapidly accelerating.

Recently, the RCMP formed the "Crime Reduction Unit." This special task force has determined that the vast majority of property crime is committed by a very small number of individuals. The task force success is the result of enhanced communication and partnerships with the citizens in our community, detachment cooperation and attentiveness, and the intelligence analysts with the RCMP Crime Reduction Unit in Alberta.

The crime reduction statistics are significant in our community as the RCMP concentrate on the pursuit, apprehension and conviction of this small number of habitual offenders. Two statistics of note include a drop of 25 percent in persons crimes (assault, harassment, uttering threats) since 2017 and an 18 percent drop in property crimes (theft, break and enter, fraud and mischief) when compared to 2017. Sergeant Ryan Hodge indicated that "Overall crime is down in Pincher Creek and is at its lowest level since 2017."

RCMP Sergeant Ryan Hodge emphasizes, "The safety of Pincher Creek and its residents is dependent on cooperation and communication between the public and the RCMP. We are here to listen and discuss community needs."

To conclude, I always try to promote the reality of how fortunate we are to have outstanding and responsible youth in our community. Very seldom do we witness our youth driving dangerously. Further, the amount of vandalism is very minimal in our community.

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mandate: Reviews Recreation and Parks issues, makes recommendations and identifies issues.

Staff Lead: Director of Community Services

Member(s): Mark Barber





Update provided by: Councillor Barber

As with most committees, our meetings have been challenged due to the limitations and requirements of the virus protocols. It is very appropriate to thank our amazing recreation and town staff for their significant efforts to set up online meetings. The online meetings have allowed us to proceed with minimal interruptions as we endeavour to fulfill the mandate of this committee.

Virus protocols determine that the past year has presented numerous challenges. I commend our recreation staff and the many volunteers that have worked tirelessly to provide some semblance of recreational programming in the midst of the current pandemic. Initially, recreational facilities and programming remained accessible with the introduction of significantly enhanced health measures. Venues and programs were then cancelled as case numbers rose. With the approach of summer of 2020 altered programming was introduced as case numbers declined. As case numbers increased in the late fall of 2020, facilities were closed and programming was again ceased. We look forward to opened facilities and the commencement of recreation programming in the very near future as case numbers decline.

Regardless of the many challenges of the past year, the Recreation Committee worked on the following projects:

- Recommended trails Hwy #6 loop connector and Hwy #6 to Juan Teran Park
- Planting of tree's - The town planted 35 trees at the Veterans Campground. Another 50 trees were donated and a volunteer planted the donated trees at JJT Dog Park. The new day care centers also benefitted from one tree being planted at each
- A Bike BINGO will be held in the month of June. June is also Parks & Recreation Month
- The Recreation Master Plan was initiated and the final draft should be available in the near future.
- The community campground was fully booked throughout the 2020 season.
- The Toddler Park was started this past year and should be completed early this year
- A cash donation was provided for the Library lending program in order that additional snowshoes could be purchased
- The Moonshadow Run would be considered to be an exceptional success this past year. With all of the virus protocols in place the 75 participants ran a physically distanced event. We remain exceedingly hopeful that the 2021 Moonshadow Run will be run this fall without the constraints of virus protocols. The volunteers that ensure that this outstanding event is a success each year are to be commended.

I thought I would comment on the changed football programming of last fall. Unfortunately, the senior program was cancelled. However, the bantams and peewees did enjoy the fall season. They met three times a week for practices. As away games were cancelled, the coaches held inter squad games each week. The exceptional dedication of the coaches provided many of our youth with a much needed distraction from the virus reality. One mother stated, " My son hasn't smiled since the pandemic started. It is wonderful to see him smile again." Many youth in our community are isolated during the





best of times. For different reasons, they are unable to participate in extracurricular activities. The virus has drastically increased this isolation challenge.

Many of you know that I coached football in Pincher Creek for many years prior to joining town council. I was feeling rather old this past fall as I watched a football practice. I realized that I had coached all of the five coaches on the field and that they were coaching at a much higher level than what I and my associate coaches did in previous years. Of further interest, all five of the coaches were under the age of 30. A recent recreation survey provided that our community is becoming challenged with a lack of new volunteers. If football is any indication of young volunteer participation in our community, I think we will be okay.

Again, I want to thank our town staff and the many volunteers that have worked exceedingly hard through challenging circumstances to provide our community with recreational opportunities.

RECYCLE COMMITTEE

Mandate: Manages recycling with MD and Cowley

Staff Lead: Director of Operations

Member(s): Scott Korbett

Update Provided by: Councillor Korbett

As has been publicly announced in our local media, the way we recycle is changing. We thank Wes Whitfield and his staff for providing this much desired service in our community for many years. The local region is working to provide a more comprehensive recycling and waste transfer station to serve the greater community. More details will follow as they become available, but the program is set to be running by the end of June 2021 to allow for a smooth transition.

REGIONAL AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Member(s): Lorne Jackson

Alternate: Brian McGillivray

Update provided by: Councillor Jackson

The Airport Committee, now comprising of Municipal members from the Town of Pincher Creek, M.D. #9, Cowley, and the Crowsnest Pass, are excited for the potential of our Municipal Airport or as it is known in aviation circles as ZPC. The airport is a virtual untapped resource in terms of economic development, tourism, transportation of goods, and people moving. We are in the process now of exploring the opportunities that our airport can provide, and a partnership structure that includes our local geographic region.





REGIONAL DESTINATION MARKETING AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

Staff Lead: Chief Administrative Officer

Member(s): Scott Korbett and Wayne Elliott

Update provided by: Councillor Elliott

This committee has not met over the last year.

REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION (REMO)

Mandate: To act as an agent of the Council to carry out the Council's statutory powers and obligations as prescribed in the Emergency Management Bylaw.

Staff Lead: CAO

Member(s): Don Anderberg and Scott Korbett

Alternate: Lorne Jackson

Update provided by: Mayor Anderberg

REMO is a regional partnership of the Town of Pincher Creek, the MD of Pincher Creek and the Village of Cowley to provide Emergency / Disaster Response to our local communities. The agreement between our local jurisdictions encompasses the mandate and functional operation guidelines for the REMO organization. REMO is governed by a board of directors who are all elected officials. Two each appointed by the Town and MD Councils and one member appointed by Village of Cowley Council. The mandate for Emergency Management is legislated by the Province of Alberta, under an extensive set of Legislation and Guidelines.

The REMO Committee develops a budget each year which encompasses expenses to run the day to day operations and to support a dedicated Director of Emergency Management. This budget is presented to individual councils for approval. Each jurisdiction also appoints a Deputy Director of Emergency Management in accordance with Provincial Regulations.

The Emergency Management Agency also falls within the REMO framework. This is the operational planning group which includes representation from Alberta Health Services, RCMP, EMS, the Province, Alberta Parks, Town Peace officers and many more.

Day to day administration has been a function of the MD of Pincher Creek but through consultation within our group it has recently been directed by all three municipal partners to move the operational oversight to the Pincher Creek Emergency Services Commission

This will be a seamless move and all agreements and Provincial requirements will remain in place.

We have had a number of emergency events over the past few years. We feel the REMO organization has done an extremely good job at monitoring and addressing the challenges and working within the Guidelines set out by our local Jurisdictions and Province of Alberta Mandates.





Update provided by: Councillor Korbett

The Municipal Government Act requires all municipalities to have a Regional Emergency Management Organization. Together with Municipal District of Pincher Creek, and the Village of Cowley, we have set that up to be a functioning organization. With the help of Brett Wuth, the policies and procedures have been set up to protect our community in time of crisis. We have had to declare a state of local emergency in Pincher Creek during the King Edward Fire in February of 2020 and were also at a heightened state of awareness during most of 2020 due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Currently, we are moving toward PCREMO moving under the umbrella of our Emergency Services Commission and will activate as needed.

REGIONAL LANDFILL – Town/MD/ Cowley/Crowsnest Pass

Mandate: Pursuant to landfill Authority bylaws

Staff Lead: Open

Member(s): Brian McGillivray

Alternate: Mark Barber

Update provided by: Councillor McGillivray

Brief Overview: The CNCP Landfill occupies 16 acres of land located about 3 km southwest of the Village of Cowley. The Landfill services the needs of the Regional District of CrowsNest Pass, Town of Pincher Creek, Village of Cowley and Municipal District of Pincher Creek. CNCP Landfill is organized under the Alberta Society Act with each municipality a member of the society. Councillors from each member municipality are appointed to serve as the Board of Directors.

Recent Activities: Unaudited landfill revenues were about \$2,700,000 in the year 2020 resulting in an operating profit of approximately \$700,000. Waste processing revenues were approximately \$300,000 higher than the previous year and expense management worked to produce the increased profit. The management and employees of our landfill operation deserve a hearty well done and thank you when the implications of the Covid19 pandemic are taken into consideration. The Board decision to not proceed with incinerator project remains in effect. A major review of the governance structure and Bylaws of the landfill was successfully completed during 2020. The landfill is currently working on the logistics to permit the CNCP Landfill to handle the recycle requirements of the member municipalities.

