



TOWN OF BLACKFALDS

# REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

# 2024

**BLACKFALDS**  
ALBERTA

# CONTENTS

<b>ORGANIZATIONAL CHART</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>MAYOR'S MESSAGE</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>CAO'S MESSAGE</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2024 HIGHLIGHTS</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>CORPORATE SERVICES/BUDGET</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &amp; TOURISM</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>PLANNING &amp; DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE &amp; ENGINEERING SERVICES</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>PROTECTIVE SERVICES   MUNICIPAL</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>PROTECTIVE SERVICES   RCMP</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>PROTECTIVE SERVICES   FIRE</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICES   PARKS &amp; FACILITIES</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICES   ABBEY CENTRE</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICES   FCSS</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>CONTACT INFO</b>	<b>BACK PAGE</b>

# Mayor & Council

## Chief Administrative Officer



# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

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*As we reflect on the past year, 2024 was certainly a continuation of the growth that Blackfalds has experienced in recent years. However, the best way I can describe this past year is that we started to fill in some gaps while also laying foundations for future expansion.*

*One of the key indicators of change in 2024 was the number of new businesses and business developments emerging in our community. Blackfalds is now the third rapidly growing community I have lived in while growing up in Alberta. Aside from new neighbourhoods and recreation facilities appearing during times of growth, large commercial developments have always been one of the most visible signs of rapid change in a fast-growing municipality—and that is exactly what I am seeing in Blackfalds. As we continue to attract new commercial development, the open spaces around our community's access points are beginning to change. I can't tell you how many times residents have asked me—curious and excited—“What's that being built over by Highway 2A and 597?” or “over by the Abbey Centre?” Our community is becoming more and more attractive to businesses and industries, and 2024 was a year where that transformation became particularly noticeable.*

*With our shift from a growing small town to what is now a large town—and likely a city in the future—your Town Council and Administration spent a great deal of time working on strategic planning and infrastructure to accommodate our continued growth. As I mentioned, we focused on filling in the gaps left by previous growth spurts. No doubt everyone*

*noticed the opening of the new high school this past year, which will play a major role in meeting the needs of our youth for decades to come. Additionally, another elementary school broke ground. Even Canada Post moving into a larger, more accessible location was a significant milestone.*

*Council approved four new subdivisions in 2024 and received applications for two more. This level of development rivals 2016, which was one of the biggest population growth spurts Blackfalds had ever seen.*

*With what I believe will be a construction boom on the horizon, we should all be prepared for more detours and construction activity as hundreds of new homes, many new businesses, and a growing number of new residents join our great community. In 2025, a new Town Council will be elected, and whoever you choose to lead this community for the next four-year term will have their work cut out for them in meeting the current and future needs of our residents. These are exciting times!*

*As always, I am grateful for the trust you have placed in me to help lead Blackfalds into the future. I look forward to hearing from you in the coming year.*



Mayor of Blackfalds  
**Jamie Hoover**

# CAO's MESSAGE

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Thank you for taking the time to read our 2024 Annual Report. This report outlines the significant amount of work that Council and staff have completed on your behalf.

2024 was a year of firsts for our community. With the first ever Women's National Fast Pitch Championship being held at Sterling Industries Sports Park, the opening of the first high school in the Town's history, commencement of the construction of the football field, launch of the FoodCycler program, and the Abbey Centre Home for the Holidays Pass.

Our firsts didn't end here. From an internal perspective, 2024 allowed departments an opportunity to delve into our operations through the development of an Introductory Service Level Inventory. This inventory will serve as a foundational document moving forward to assist with the establishment of service levels and an educational tool for municipal councils moving forward. In addition, with the hiring of the Town's first Municipal Engineer we applied for and received our first permit to practice from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA). These firsts are significant milestones and we are confident that we will continue to have more of these in the years to come.

We continued to work with our neighbouring municipalities to build upon our collaboration with a new Fire Services Agreement and an upgrade to our Blackfalds Crossing Sanitary Trunk System to allow our Lacombe County neighbours to service the new Dairy Innovation West Plant located in Aspeland Industrial Park.

In the Spring we achieved a 100% completion rate on the 2024 Municipal Census and although we are not seeing the rapid growth of previous years when Blackfalds population increases were above the provincial average, the 1.2% increase represents a modest growth rate that allows the Town to catch up on the infrastructure repairs and upgrades that were difficult to maintain during years of rapid growth. We will take this cooling-off period as an opportunity to prepare for the next wave of growth, which, based on Development and Building Permits, will be soon. The Town of Blackfalds Development/Building Permit November Comparison report showed 469 permits issued in November in comparison to 187 in November of 2023.

I encourage you to go through this report to read about the departmental activities of the past year.

Kim Isaak, CAO  
Town of Blackfalds



***Chief Administrative Officer  
Kim Isaak, her husband  
Lloyd, and dog Hoss moved to  
Blackfalds in 2023.***

# 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

## HOME RUN WEEKEND



This summer, competing teams, fans, and families from all across Canada; Quebec, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Alberta, New Brunswick, and Manitoba came out to Blackfalds for the Ladies National Fast Pitch Tournament!

It is estimated that 800 - 1000 attendees came out to Sterling Industries Sports Park throughout the championship, according to Softball Canada.



## BLACKFALDS CROSSING

Work began on the NE-22-39-27-W4 Sanitary Trunk Project this year, which will allow the new Dairy Innovation West Facility (Lacombe County) to become operational in 2025.

This sanitary trunk project included auguring under the CPKC rail line which required many inspections, surveys, and regulations for this high-risk project.

## MAPPING GROWTH



Blackfalds continues to grow as we conducted a municipal census in 2024 which showed an increase of 1.2% - bringing our population to 11,415! The data collected from the municipal census is invaluable for our growing community.

# COUNCIL 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

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**32 council meetings live-streamed on YouTube**

**With a total of 1,239 views**



**23 presentations/ delegations were made to council from businesses, partners, organizations, and residents**



**There were 412 Resolutions made by Council**



**Council held 9 Public Hearings**



# 2024 OPERATING BUDGET

*In compliance with the Municipal Government Act (MGA), Council approved a three-year operational budget in the amount of \$33,412,430 for the 2024 fiscal year.*

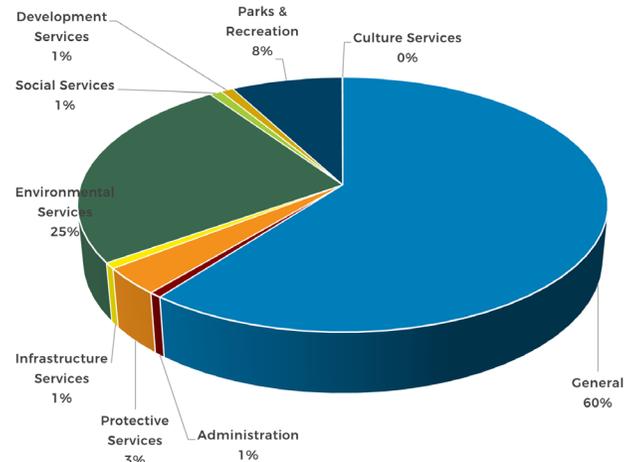
The Town revenue exceeded budget in 2024 by capitalizing again on the high interest rates, earning significant amount of interest income over budget. In addition, Franchise Fees, Permit Fees and Recreation Memberships contributed to higher revenue than budgeted.

The Town also had lower expenses than budgeted for salaries due to several staffing vacancies, and experienced lower costs for contracted services the most significant being with the RCMP contracted services.

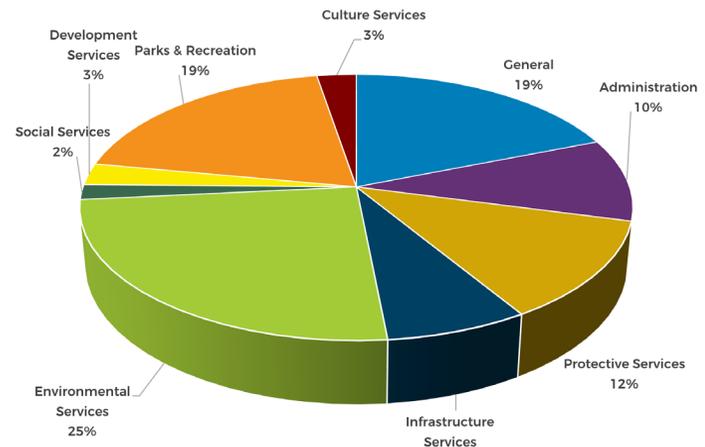
The Town of Blackfalds continues to have strong capital reserves. The five-year capital plan is both practical and achievable, supporting expansion, growth and infrastructure requirements over the next five years.

**The 2024 Operating Budget  
totalled \$33,412,430**

# 2024 Operating Revenue



# 2024 Operating Expenses



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

*We are excited to share that in 2024, we had an incredible total of **456 BUSINESS LICENSES** issued!*

In 2024, the Town of Blackfalds welcomed a new Economic Development Officer! While the beginning of the year had a slow start, the second half was spent re-establishing relationships with local businesses to plan for current and future initiatives to foster those partnerships.

Blackfalds Crossing saw additional development and openings including BarBurrito, Global Pet Foods, and more. The next phase has begun and we look forward to welcoming more businesses to the area!

Southside Plaza also saw development with the completed construction and move in of the Blackfalds Post Office, and Neighbourhood Dental.

We welcomed back Neuron to the community, and e-scooters were available to the community from May

until October. According to Neuron, over **11,500km** were travelled in Blackfalds with an average ride of **12.5 minutes**.

With 2024 being a year of firsts, we were excited to assist the Red Deer Ladies Fast Ball Association in hosting the Ladies Fast Pitch National Championship for the first time in 25 years. **7** teams from across Canada came to our community to compete!

Family favourite events, Monster Bash, and Breakfast & Brunch with Santa **sold out**, and the 2024 Blackfalds Jump Jam was the largest one to date, with over **60** participants at the Parallax Energy Bike Skills Park.

The 2024 Summer Culture Series had **6** performances, totalling over **1,600 spectators**.



# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



*The Planning & Development (P&D) team processes development permit applications, subdivisions, requests for certificates of compliance, works with developers to prepare Area Structure Plans (ASP) to guide the development of new communities, and they work closely with our neighbour, Lacombe County, to ensure development at the Town's doorstep will not impede our future growth and vitality.*

- The 2 year urban hen pilot program was deemed a success when we checked in with the community after the 1 year mark. The program is now permanent and at the time of writing this report submission, we have **6** valid Urban Hen Licenses issued in Town.
- The Development Security Deposit Administrative Policy and Procedures were developed in 2024 which staff are currently implementing. This was a much-needed policy to establish a detailed and predictable governance regarding the collection, refund, and forfeiture of development security deposits relating to the development of properties.
- Not only were we busy with permit and subdivision applications, but there were amendments done to the Aspen Lakes West, McKay Ranch, and Valley Ridge Estates ASPs to reflect more contemporary planning and development trends such as increased density in residential development, and in the case of Aspen Lakes West, to accommodate a new school site. ASPs are statutory planning documents that guide the future subdivision and development of communities, typically on a quarter section basis. Along with these ASP amendments were rezoning applications to accommodate additional phases of

# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT CONT...

development in each of these growing communities.

- The department, along with our colleagues in Community Services, worked with both the Wolf Creek and Red Deer Catholic School Divisions to formally establish operating committees to assist in the planning of new schools, and establish collaborate uses of Town and school facilities.
- The department also completed Land Use Bylaw amendments to allow Front Parking Pads in the Town of Blackfalds again. These amendments were sparked from an individual who went to Council asking them to reconsider a 2009 restriction on Front Parking Pads, which

resulted in community engagement to understand residents' thoughts on allowing them again. Results from the engagement found significant support to allow Front Parking Pads, and Council directed the necessary Land Use Bylaw amendments be made to allow them again.

- Many new trail links and future parks were identified with our colleagues in Community Services. This initiative will ultimately assist P&D and Parks with the responsible allocation of park land when new ASPs are being developed or existing ones are being amended.

## DEVELOPMENT PERMIT COMPARISONS

2023

2024

PERMITS

199

505

## SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS:

1

6

## PAYMENT VALUE

\$18,213,084.00

\$125,587,148.98



# INFRASTRUCTURE & ENGINEERING SERVICES

*The Infrastructure and Engineering Services Department comprises Asset Management and GIS Mapping, Engineering and Public Works.*

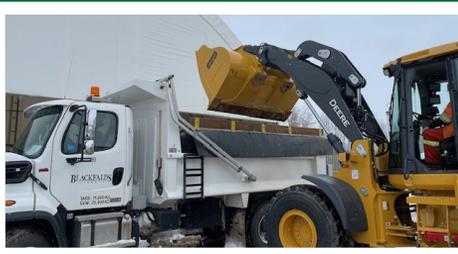
**Services include maintaining roads, sidewalks, water, sewer, stormwater, environmental stewardship, and regulatory management.**

Milestones of 2024 include:

- The 2024 Asphalt Overlay Program included the overlay of three intersections along Highway 2A and an overlay of East Railway Street from South Street to Moore Street, along with the installation of a new trail along East Railway Street across the railway tracks at South Street to the Bark Park crossing.
- Completed the installation of the new operators shack at the Transfer Station and awarded the Phase 2 Transfer Station works to Timcon. Work is scheduled for the 2025 fall season to construct a new Z wall reconfigure for the rubble bins which will be an asset

for bin swap outs as the current practice is somewhat unsafe as well as disruptive to operations.

- Phase 2 of Leung Roadway improvements on the south and far north side of Leung Roadway was completed along with the addition of three new sets of Rapid Flashing Pedestrian Beacons.
- The Blackfalds Sanitary Trunk Crossing underneath the railway was completed along with the connection and commissioning of the trunk line to support the Dairy West Innovations plant being built in the Aspelund Industrial Park. South Street roadwork is planned to be completed in the spring of 2025.
- Completed construction deficiencies on the East Area Stormwater Project in Phases 1, 2a and 3.



# INFRASTRUCTURE & ENGINEERING SERVICES CON'T...

- Completed all Environmental Assessments at 4409 South Street and awarded tender to remove contaminated materials for the future apartment building site.
- Completed emergency repair work at the Stanley Street Lift Station as there was sewage pumping issues.
- The Town was approved for an APEGA Permit to Practice on September 11, 2024. This allows for in-house engineering with the addition of our new Municipal Engineer.
- Engineering Services supported multiple development permit/ agreement and subdivision projects throughout town.
- The Whistle Cessation report was completed and presented to Council.
- Womacks Road and Broadway Avenue intersection design was started and continues to be refined.
- Northwest Stormwater Project design continued after Alberta Environmental Appeal was upheld.
- Phase 2 of the Aspen Lakes West development where the new St. Veronica Catholic Elementary school is located started construction and will be finished in the spring of 2025 in time for the school to be started.
- The BOLT agreement with The City of Red Deer was renewed to allow access on the north end of the city along with the Ried Signs advertising contract.
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) transition was planned and recycling services will be turned over to the Circular Materials starting April 1, 2025. Recycling and Waste collection will still be completed by E360s, however missed pick ups and inquiries will be turned over to the contractor to manage instead of being routed through our Town office.
- FoodCycler Pilot Program and the Fall and Spring Clean Up Program were both huge successes this year.
- Received new John Deere loader 544P with the old 1999 John Deere retiring after many years of dedicated service.
- The internal workings of the sewage pumps at Northwest Lift Station were replaced as the original ones were over 20 years old, worn, and inefficient.
- Parking lot at Civic Centre was expanded to increase parking stalls and had the added bonus of making snow clearing and sweeping operationally easier.



# PROTECTIVE SERVICES

## Municipal Enforcement

*The Town's Municipal Enforcement Department consists of 4 Peace Officers which includes the Director of Emergency Management & Protective Services, and a newly created Sergeant position. The Peace Officers enforce the Town's bylaws and provincial laws, with a focus on traffic and public safety. The Department saw the addition of a Clerk position in 2024, which has allowed Officers more time patrolling the streets of the community.*

2024 was a busy year for Municipal Enforcement officers who ensured a balanced approach to enforcement through proactive work as well as responding to complaints in a timely manner. From municipal reports and violation tickets to community standards and animal control concerns, our Officers demonstrated a consistent commitment to supporting the community and maintaining road safety.

With the addition of the high school, officers worked diligently to enhance relationships with the schools, working together with the RCMP School Resource Officer as well as school administrators ensuring a strong presence

supporting the youth. Officers participated in numerous community events, some of these being Blackfalds Days, Kids & Kops, Breakfast & Brunch with Santa, CPKC Holiday Train, and Light up Blackfalds. The Annual Charity Check Stop in partnership with the Blackfalds Food Bank was once again an incredible success, showing how generous people are.

A total of **1,208** files were opened and recorded in the operational file system, showcasing the diverse range of issues our enforcement team addressed. **1,165** violation tickets were issued and processed along with **2,384** vehicle queries.

2025 will see the addition of a summer student, whose focus will be on patrolling the numerous parks within Blackfalds, ensuring the safety of all while providing a positive role model for youth.

As we move forward, we remain committed to continuous improvement and collaboration with our community to address concerns effectively and uphold standards.



## RCMP

*Blackfalds RCMP Detachment is currently staffed by 29 regular member RCMP Officers, 10 of which are funded by the Town of Blackfalds, including a School Resource Officer and a newly funded plain-clothes crime reduction team member.*

This plain-clothes investigative unit is vital to the Detachment's efforts to crime reduction and solving more complex crimes. Of note this year, a high-profile armed robbery in which a firearm was used at a Town of Blackfalds business was solved by this unit. It took a vast amount of time and complex police work, which could not have been done as effectively and efficiently by a uniformed general duty officer.

In 2024, the Detachment dealt with the protest at the Juniper Lake Truck stop, which saw a successful resolution in its end. Sgt. Brent Dueck was recognized recently with a certificate presentation by the RCMP District Officer in charge, Chief Superintendent Dale Kendall for his extraordinary work in dealing with this event.

## PROTECTIVE SERVICES CONT...



The Detachment was able to be involved in various community and partner led initiatives again in 2024, including Restorative Justice, the Charity Check Stop in support of the Blackfalds Food Bank, and an open house BBQ supporting both Victim Services and Rural Crime Watch. Members participated in events such as Blackfalds Days, parades, and Remembrance Day ceremony.

With the opening of the Iron Ridge Secondary Campus, our School Resource Officer has shown what a vital role this position is, in bridging the link between the school and youth community and the police community.

Calls for service in the Town of Blackfalds was up slightly from 2023, with **2,035** calls for service (compared with 2,010 the previous year). However, crime stats continue to trend in a positive manner in this jurisdiction, with a **-29%** reduction in persons crimes, reduction of overall motor vehicle collisions (however an increase in "injury" motor vehicle collisions), with an overall reduction of criminal code events of **-25%**. The highest "work load" contributor to the Detachment Officers was in the category of mental health, which showed an increase from 2023 of **+30%**.

# PROTECTIVE SERVICES CONT...

## Fire Department

*The Blackfalds Fire Department currently has a roster of two full-time staff and 26 paid per call members and is currently looking for residents that are interested in becoming a paid per call member.*

During 2024, the Fire Department responded to **272** emergency incidents which is a 10% increase compared to 2023. **54** of these events were in Lacombe County. Most of the incidents responded to were for alarm responses which made up **44%**. Motor vehicle accidents at **17%**. Medical responses were on the same pace as in 2023.

Alarm calls continue to be an issue as most of these are related to lack of maintenance, expired devices, cooking, and/or not answering the alarm monitoring companies calling them back until the fire department arrives at the residence. Residents are encouraged to keep their information current with the alarm companies as well as replacing expired devices.

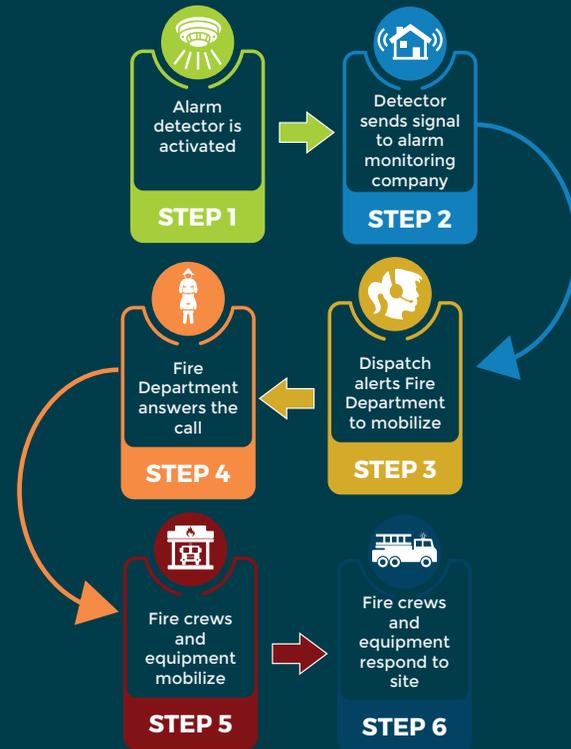
All monitored systems need to be registered with an alarm permit available at the Town Office.

The Fire Department participates in numerous events throughout the year from Winterfest, Blackfalds Days and numerous firehall tours. They also took part in McHappy Days and Tim Hortons Camp Day.

Members are trained to the NFPA 1001 Level I and Level II standards, with vehicle extrication and first aid. Their training also included Hazardous Goods Training to meet the NFPA 472 Standards.

The department finished the work on the training facility.

The annual Santa Run was a huge success bringing joy to the community as Santa visited every street in town over two nights. The donations collected during the Santa Run for the Blackfalds Food Bank was overwhelming with **7,686 pounds of food** collected and **\$2,318.40 in cash** donations over the two evenings.



Blackfalds Fire Department Training Facility



## COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Parks & Facilities

*Parks staff manage the maintenance and operations at the following throughout the year: Trail and park parking lot snow clearing, outdoor rinks, pond skating surfaces, wildlife issues, equipment maintenance, Parallax Energy Bike Skills Park, community gardens, horticulture and arborist practices (within our teams knowledge, skills, and training), open space and facility turf mowing and trimming, cemetery, Optimist All Wheels Park, Pine Crescent Skate Park, playground maintenance and repairs, Tayles Water Spray Park, Light Up Blackfalds display, and Blackfalds Bark Park.*

- Hired **10** summer staff to support spring and summer operations.
- Willow Park basketball goal posts installed.
- Yearly annuals, hanging pots, and flower bed install and maintenance.

- Parks staff supported the Jump Jam event at the Parallax Energy Bike Skills Park in August.
- Installed additional garbage receptacles, benches, and picnic tables throughout the community.

*Facilities staff manage all the maintenance and operations in all Town facilities (repairs, preventative maintenance, and custodial services at the Blackfalds Operations Centre, Protective Services, Civic Centre, Community Centre, Abbey Centre, Wadey Centre, Sterling Industries Sports Park, Eagle Builders Centre (EBC), and Support Services Centre.*

- Arena #1 ice surface installed at the middle of August and Arena #2 ice installed at the beginning of September.
- Blackfalds Bulldogs spring and fall camp as well as the two-week Minor Hockey camp at the EBC in mid August.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES Parks & Facilities CONT...

- Sterling Industries Sports Park hosted Ladies Provincials in mid July and a five day Ladies National Fastball Championship the first week of August.
  - Sterling Industries Sports Park hosted two Minor Ball Provincial tournaments.
  - Eagle Builders Centre hosted Seniors 'C' Lacrosse Provincials.
  - Hired **3** summer staff to support spring and summer Sterling Industries Sports Park and EBC operations (tournaments, Minor Ball, Minor Soccer, Town slo-pitch league).
  - Sterling Industries Sports Park hosted **15** events, May through October.
- PROJECTS:**
- Sterling Sports Park backstop extension project and shale upgrade project completed.
  - Zero Turn Mower and Zamboni purchased.
  - Panorama community entrance signs refurbished.
  - Arena #2 maintenance projects completed (threshold and emergency exits).
  - **64** niche curved columbarium project completed.



## 2024 STATS

Quarter	Day Admission Visits	Member Visits
1	10,449	26,603
2	9,304	27,402
3	17,489	24,623
4	6,863	28,164
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,105</b>	<b>99,929</b>

**144,034 visits** which doesn't include rentals, supervisors, child minding, spectators etc.

As of December 31, we had:

- **718 annual members**
- **544 monthly members**
- **2,472 punch pass holders**

The 9 weeks of Camp Curious saw a final fill rate of **92%** for the year.

Our PD day camp C'amped saw a final fill rate of **75%** for the year.

There were **622** rentals held in the Abbey Centre in 2024 with the most popular spaces being the Program Room and Field House 3.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Abbey Centre

- New banner sponsor, **Trent Kroetsch-Royal Lepage**, joined us in January and we renewed a 10 year sponsorship agreement with the **Blackfalds Ag Society** for the outdoor Amphitheatre.
- The SuperKids event happened July 6 with lots of sun, fun and superheroes! Unfortunately, this was the final year for this event due to the lower than required registration numbers.
- The Abbey Centre **10 year** anniversary was celebrated the last week of March with promotions, activities and giveaways.
- **307** entries were received for the Name the Penguin contest which ultimately led to our water slide penguin being named "Petunia"!
- Due to a failed circulation pump on the Leisure Pool, the pool had to be closed for 2 weeks mid summer. This unfortunately impacted our members and guests enjoyment of our Outdoor Aquatic Centre.
- **733** students from our local schools visited us from mid to end of June to celebrate the end of school.
- New heat exchangers were installed on our hot tub which will allow it to be heated through our pool boilers leading to a more enjoyable, and warmer hot tub.
- A lockable scooter rack was installed to ensure safe keeping of visiting youth's scooters.
- Two racks of free weights were added in Fitness Studio 1 so weights are available during drop in and registered programming.
- We had an additional Day Camp Leader this summer which allowed us to have **90** more spots available for the Camp Curious season.

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## Abbey Centre CONT...

### OPERATIONAL CHANGES

- The Abbey Centre took over the Community Garden registration with online and in-house options available.
- A new Camp Curious handbook was launched and had all of the needed information campers and their parent/guardians required in order to have a great camp experience.
- All of our Outdoor Aquatic Centre, Indoor Track, Indoor Play Space and Fitness Centre signage was modernized with new graphics and updated content.
- We now have a WiFi access point in Field House 3 which allows access for our renters for real-time posting of tournament results and live streaming.

### NEW INITIATIVES

- Fit February started Feb 1! Drop-in and registered fitness class participants were able to enter

a couple of draws for a free month membership.

- We were able to offer the Camp Curious Champion Program, due to an anonymous donation that supported 9 weeks of Camp Curious for 9 different children. This program helped reduce financial barriers for those wanting to attend the camp.
- Installation of a large timeline mural on the Trans Canada Trail depicting construction and opening of the Abbey Centre was completed on the 2nd level.
- The new Abbey Centre Membership Assistance Program (ACMAP) launched Aug 1. This program helps break down the barriers of the cost of a membership.
- The interactive public art installation, Love Locks Heart, was installed this fall and sponsored by the newly formed **Heart of Blackfalds Society**.

- A variety of pre-school programming was offered for the first time this fall for kids 2-6 years old.
- Our first ever 'Home for the Holidays Pass' launched on Nov 13. Sales were open until Dec 14 with **52** passes sold for the 3 week period.



# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## Family & Community Support Services

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### NEW STAFF

In May, we welcomed our new FCSS Manager Sawyer Hick.

In October, we welcomed our new FCSS Youth Programmer Annette Brown.

### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

In 2024, **305** volunteer positions were filled within the Town of Blackfalds which resulted in **1,789** hours being dedicated towards volunteering.

### VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION:

**440** people attended the Volunteer Recognition Events including Best of Blackfalds on April 18, Youth Recognition Night on May 2, and the Christmas Volunteer Open House on December 2.

Grant: Volunteer Alberta **\$1,200**

Donation: MEGlobal **\$3,000**

### AWARDS PRESENTED IN 2024:

Carol Simpson Volunteer of the Year - **ROBYN DEVINE** (Robyn went on to

receive the Stars of Alberta award in the Breaking Barriers category)

Gloria House Mentor Award - **AMANDA MACLEAN**

Outstanding Group, Adult Category - **BEYOND FOOD COMMUNITY HUB**

Leaders of Tomorrow, Elementary - **CORRADO CITRIGNO**

Leaders of Tomorrow, Junior High - **KENNEDY BERTELSEN & EVA BOOMER**

Leaders of Tomorrow, High School - **ALICE FRANTZ**

Dylan Stork Youth Ambassador Award - **BEN ADEY**

\*New\* Gary Kroetsch Volun-Told Award - **GARY KROETSCH**

### SNOW ANGEL PROGRAM

**27** individuals/families volunteered  
**18** residents accessed the program  
**4** residents participating in the Neighbourhood Snow Angel Program.

### 50+ PROGRAMMING

Funding: Lacombe County additional project funding **\$4,000.**

Donation: Blackfalds & District Agricultural Society **\$6,000.**

Walking Club:

**108** people participated and attended 1,574 times.

**58** dates offered (2 during Seniors' Week).

Registered Classes:

**222** participants attended Fit & Functional classes held Tuesdays after Walking Club, Yoga classes on Monday and Wednesdays, as well as Chair Yoga on Fridays.

Monthly Movies:

**50** participants attended these monthly screenings a total of 195 times.

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### COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PROGRAM

**104** tax returns were completed free of charge for people with a low to modest income and a simple tax situation in the Town of Blackfalds.

This ensures community members receive the benefits and credits they are entitled to.

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## Family & Community Support Services CONT...



### WINTER COATS FOR KIDS

**176 CHILDREN** accessed this program and received a brand-new winter jacket!

With the generous time and yummy goodness from several local bakeries and donations from local artisans and restaurants during our annual dessert auction, the Winter Warmth Fundraiser, we raised **\$20,305!**

We again partnered with **MOUNTAIN WEARHOUSE**, who provided us with spectacular pricing. An in-office store for the convenience of our Blackfalds residents, where families choose a new, well-fitting, quality coat that they want to wear!

### CHRISTMAS BUREAU

**432** residents accessed the program: This consists of **254** children, **122** women and **56** men.

A total of **126** hampers were given to **103** families and **23** seniors/singles.

This program continues to be a wonderful support to the residents of our community

offering festive food, and gift cards for parents to purchase Christmas gifts for their children. These Christmas care hampers are carefully created, sourced, filled and delivered to those in our community who need extra care during the holiday season.

### TOOLS FOR SCHOOL

**170** students received support through the Blackfalds FCSS Back to School Program.

**78** unique families accessed the program.

Families were given gift cards so that they could purchase the school items needed for their children, this ensures that each student is getting the items that they need for their unique grade, school and preference!

**\$15,000** was allocated to BGC Wolf Creek towards start up costs, and the remaining **\$8,775** was given to Big Brothers & Big Sisters Lacombe and District towards their mentoring programs.

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## Family & Community Support Services CONT...

### LUNCH BOX PROGRAM

These numbers aren't unique individuals, rather the accumulative total numbers through the year (Information provided directly from the Food Bank).

Families: **4,644**

Children: **12,150**

### EVENTS

Seniors Week: 11 events were held and **225** seniors participated.

Clean Up Blackfalds: **160** people from 19 groups participated.

### INTERAGENCY

6 meetings hosted with a total of **39** organizations, agencies and community groups attending. Averaging 18 individuals per meeting representing 16 different organizations.

### YOUTH PROGRAMMING

**Child Safe Canada Home Alone:** Offered 10 times and saw **129 youth participate.**

**Youth Cooking Club:** Offered 3 sessions and saw **30 youth participate.**

**Youth Night Out:** Took place twice and had **246 youth in attendance.**

**Skateboarding:** Offered 13 times and **10 youth registered for the program.**

**Inspiring Virtues:** 4 sessions were offered throughout the year and had **25 youth registered.**

**Blackfalds Youth Crew:** Saw **858 youth attend throughout 2024.**

**Young Artists:** Offered for 1 session and had **12 youth in attendance.**

**Skills to Survive:** Offered for 1 session and had **26 youth in attendance.**

**Mission Impossible:** Offered over 3 sessions and saw **42 youth in attendance.**

**Life Literacy Camp:** Offered 8 times and had **90 youth in attendance.**

**Youth Week:** **24 youth** participated in a variety of activities.



### FCSS VISITORS

In 2024, FCSS Staff welcomed **2,336 VISITORS.**



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