



County of Paintearth
No. 18



2015 Annual Report

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County Council

Division 1: George Glazier (Reeve)

Division 2: Brian Bunbury

Division 3: Doreen Blumhagen

Division 4: Robert (Rocky) Dahmer

Division 5: Walter Weber

Division 6: Tyrrill Hewitt

Division 7: Diane Elliott (Deputy Reeve)

Chief Administrative Officer – Tarolyn Aaserud, CLGM

Council Meetings

Regular County Council Meetings are scheduled to be held every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month commencing at 9:00 a.m. The adopted Council Meeting Minutes are available on the County's Website or photocopies are available to the public for a nominal fee.

Message from Reeve George Glazier

Greetings Friends and Neighbours!

County Council has been busy planning and approving projects for 2016. County Council strives to provide programs and services that are expected and requested by ratepayers and neighbouring communities. These programs and services are what drive the County budgeting process, and therefore set the mill rate. The 2016 Final Budget and Taxation Bylaw were approved at the May 3 Council Meeting with the 2016 Municipal Mill Rates remaining the same as the previous year. Council priorities for 2016 are as follows: Financial Sustainability, Supporting Regional Economic Development Initiatives, Infrastructure, and Accountability.

Project Highlights from the 2016 Budget include but are not limited to:

1. Capital Purchases - \$3.3 million – to maintain County infrastructure and an up-to-date fleet. This is funded through \$1.3 million from grants, \$256,000 from proceeds of sale of capital assets, and \$1.7 million from restricted surplus. Restricted surplus is funds that have been strategically set aside for future capital expenditures. The County has chosen to be proactive and fund depreciation to help cover expenses for the future.
2. Doctor Recruitment – \$100,000 – Council has formed partnerships with our neighbouring municipalities to alleviate the concern of attracting and retaining

physicians to our region. We have been successful at recruiting 2 physicians for both Coronation and Castor.

3. Contracted Fire Services - \$175,000 – Council continues to contract fire services from our neighbouring towns and village. In addition to the project expense of \$175,000 the County also contributes to the capital expenses of our urban partners. In 2016 \$100,000 of fire capital expenses has been requested for Council's consideration.
4. Roads & Bridges - \$2.8 million – The County strives to provide well maintained roads and bridges. In 2016 we will be maintaining 50 miles of MG-30 roads and ten divisional grader beats to ensure well maintained gravel roads.
5. Gravel Program - \$4.4 million – Acquiring and securing gravel remains a top priority for the County of Paintearth. In 2016 we will be purchasing 50,000 Tonne of ¾" gravel and crushing a further 90,000 Tonne for future use.
6. Rural Water Line - \$620,000 – Over the last few years Council has worked hard to bring water to the areas within the County that are in desperate need. We will continue to apply for grants to meet the needs of future rural water line developments.
7. Mowing Program - \$111,000 – Our mowing program allows for all gravel roads and back roads to be mowed once, with our pavement being mowed twice. If we are provided with a good mowing season we will continue to do a second cut of designated roads.
8. Spraying Program - \$137,000 – We continue our spraying program in a three year rotation. We will be spraying in divisions 1, 6 and 7 in 2016.
9. Recreation - \$300,000 - The County of Paintearth supports recreation facilities owned and operated by our urban neighbours. The County provides funding to the Towns of Coronation and Castor of \$100,000 each. Additional funding to the Village of Halkirk and the Brownfield Recreation Board remains at \$20,000 each. Budgeted for 2016-2017 the County of Paintearth, in partnership with the County of Flagstaff, will be providing \$300,000, of County funds, over two years, to the Valley Ski Club to repair the part of the hill that continues to slide.

County Council endeavors to provide current, effective projects to the ratepayers, while continuing to be financially responsible. On behalf of County Council, CAO and Staff, we would like to wish you a wonderful spring and summer, and all the best for a plentiful harvest.

Respectfully yours,

George Glazier
Reeve

Administration Office

Office Hours

The County Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday except statutory holidays. The Office is closed daily from 12:00 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Website

For information regarding the County of Paintearth No. 18 please visit our website at www.countypaintearth.ca

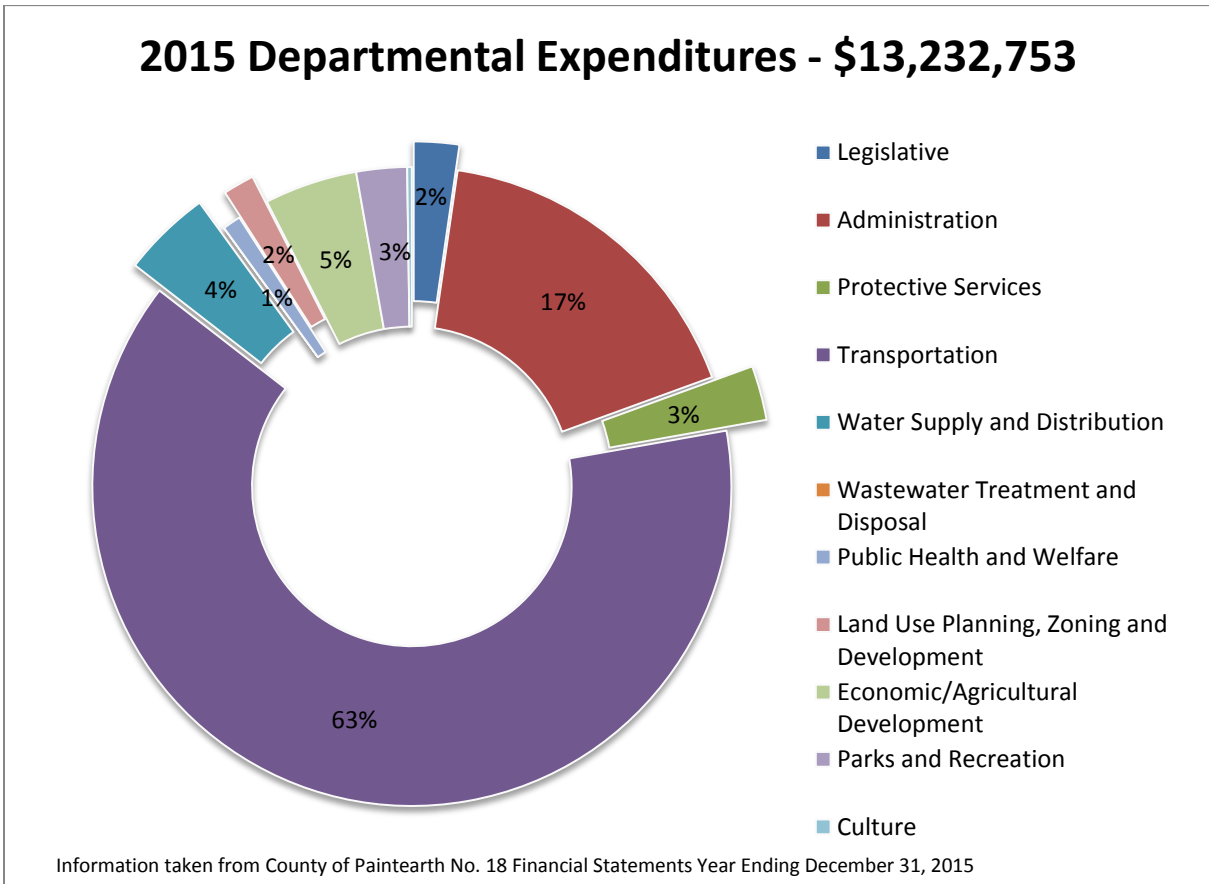
Department of Corporate Services

The Corporate Services department is responsible for the overall management of the financial affairs of the County. This includes assessment, property taxes, accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, capital projects financing and tracking, utilities and other general administrative functions.

The department is responsible for accounting and financial reporting services with our annual audited financial statements as well as other interim reporting.

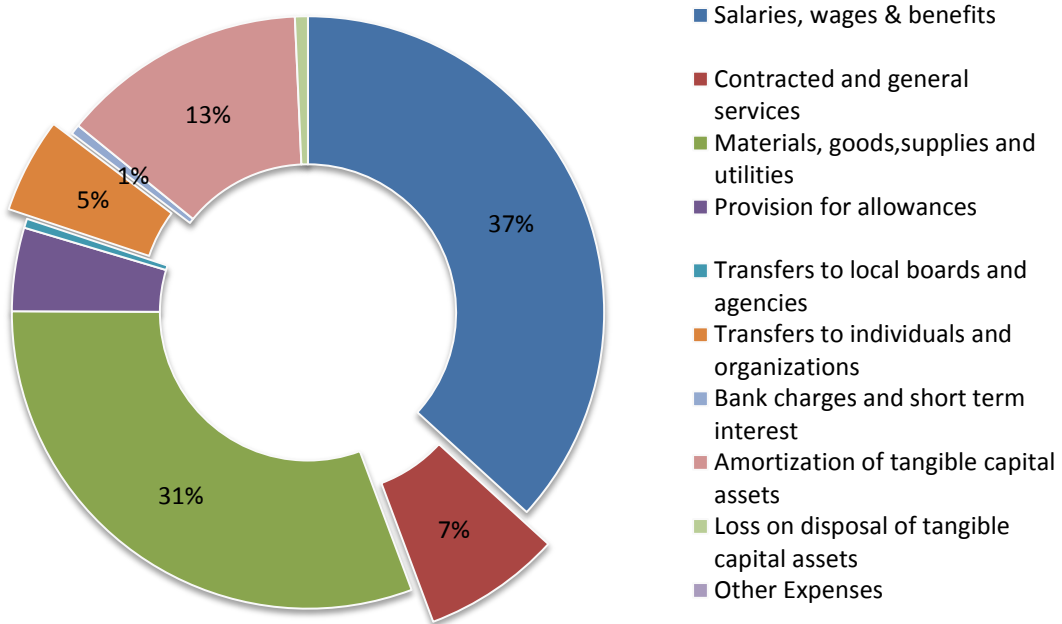
The 2015 Financial Statement is available to the public and can be obtained on the County's website (www.countypaintearth.ca) or by contacting the administration office at 403-882-3211.

2015 Financial Synopsis



EXPENDITURES	2015 Budget	2015	2014
Legislative	\$308,900.00	\$303,263.00	\$254,883.00
Administration	\$1,986,560.00	\$2,269,709.00	\$1,635,623.00
Protective Services	\$423,218.00	\$365,156.00	\$318,971.00
Transportation	\$9,993,419.00	\$8,376,523.00	\$8,425,752.00
Water Supply and Distribution	\$633,000.00	\$594,748.00	\$502,363.00
Wastewater Treatment and Disposal	\$75.00	\$72.00	\$72.00
Public Health and Welfare	\$117,172.00	\$121,680.00	\$206,758.00
Land Use Planning, Zoning and Development	\$267,070.00	\$209,513.00	\$258,251.00
Economic/Agricultural Development	\$678,900.00	\$622,192.00	\$564,149.00
Parks and Recreation	\$361,900.00	\$338,918.00	\$354,325.00
Culture	\$38,300.00	\$30,979.00	\$30,512.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$14,808,514.00	\$13,232,753.00	\$12,551,659.00

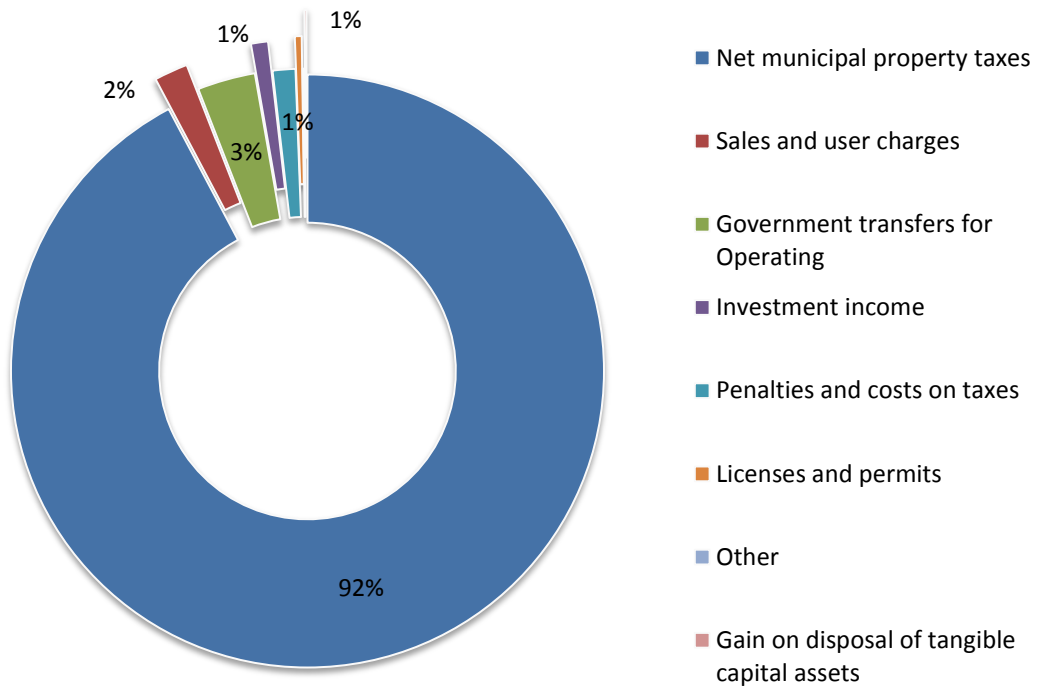
2015 Expenditures by Object - \$13,232,753



Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Financial Statements Year Ending December 31, 2015

EXPENDITURES	2015 Budget	2015	2014
Salaries, wages & benefits	\$5,309,926.00	\$4,866,490.00	\$4,231,272.00
Contracted and general services	\$1,455,492.00	\$996,995.00	\$1,042,571.00
Materials, goods, supplies and utilities	\$4,818,603.00	\$4,069,488.00	\$4,229,424.00
Provision for allowances	\$7,000.00	\$602,937.00	\$3,677.00
Transfers to local boards and agencies	\$8,000.00	\$66,107.00	\$12,585.00
Transfers to individuals and organizations	\$783,918.00	\$687,940.00	\$796,898.00
Bank charges and short term interest	\$130,000.00	\$72,429.00	\$90,874.00
Amortization of tangible capital assets	\$2,243,575.00	\$1,776,697.00	\$2,136,588.00
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	\$50,000.00	\$93,462.00	\$7,770.00
Other Expenses	\$2,000.00	\$208.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$14,808,514.00	\$13,232,753.00	\$12,551,659.00

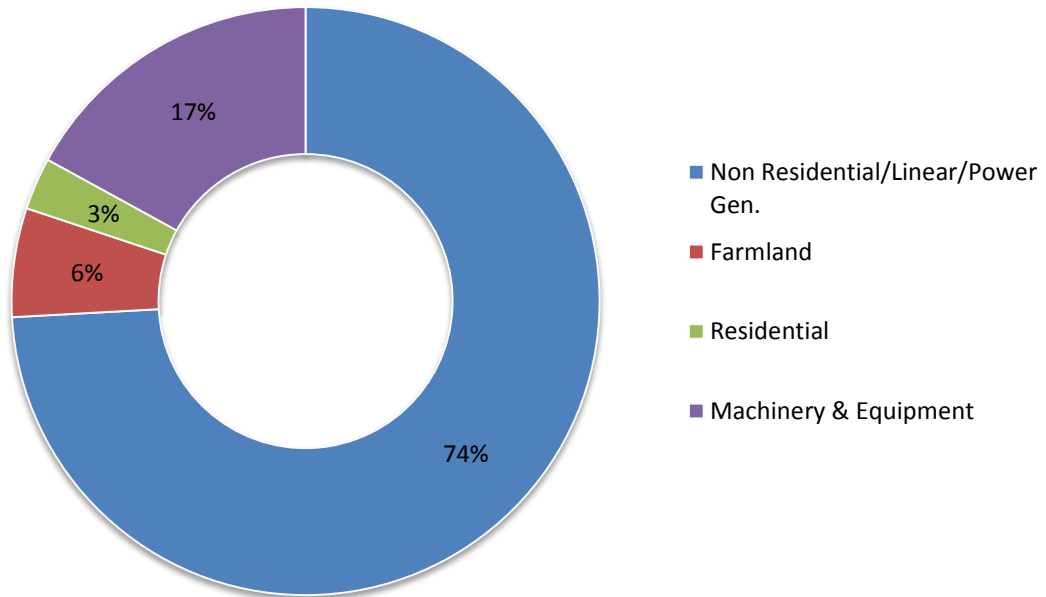
2015 Revenues - \$15,927,243



Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Financial Statements Year Ending December 31, 2015

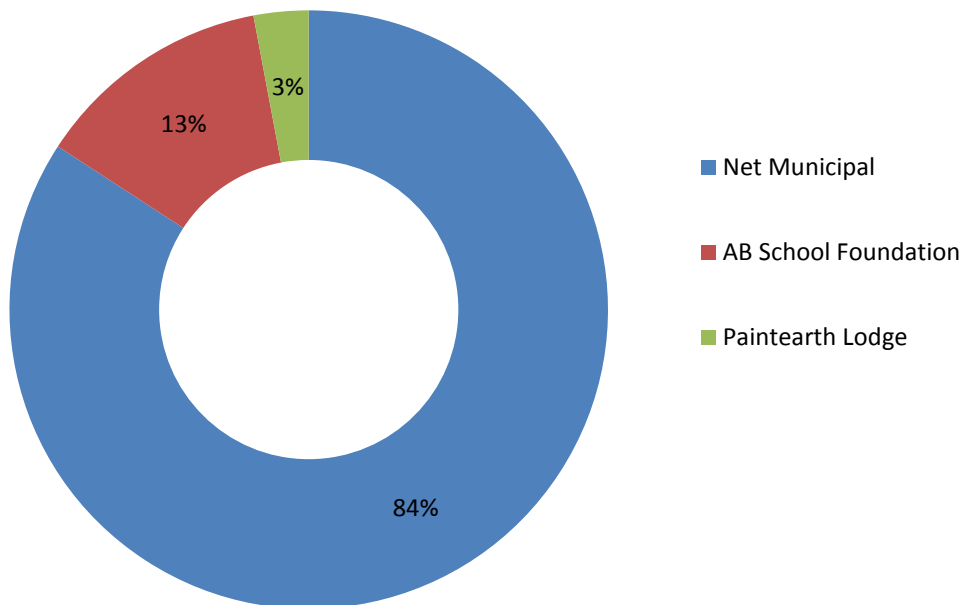
REVENUE	2015 Budget	2015	2014
Net municipal property taxes	\$14,702,611.00	\$14,691,982.00	\$13,253,637.00
Sales and user charges	\$252,740.00	\$292,610.00	\$176,049.00
Government transfers for Operating	\$384,072.00	\$502,585.00	\$508,645.00
Investment income	\$140,000.00	\$148,138.00	\$139,720.00
Penalties and costs on taxes	\$75,000.00	\$196,911.00	\$218,644.00
Licenses and permits	\$51,000.00	\$59,627.00	\$83,203.00
Other	\$11,000.00	\$16,319.00	\$22,649.00
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	\$0.00	\$19,071.00	\$59,159.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$15,616,423.00	\$15,927,243.00	\$14,461,706.00

2015 Property Tax Revenue



Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Bylaw No.638-15

2015 Allocation of Property Taxes



Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Financial Statements Year Ending December 31, 2015

Department of Environmental Services

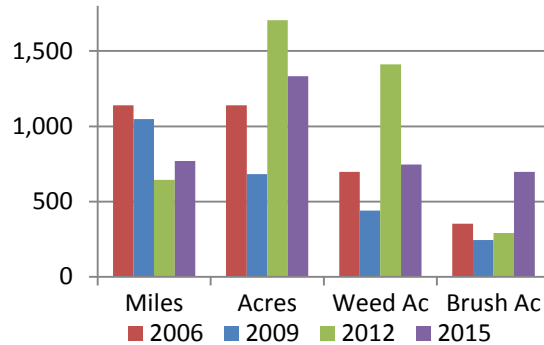
Industrial Vegetation Management

Roadside Spraying

Roadside spraying is done in a three year rotation with the majority being spot sprayed. Division 3 was blanket sprayed up until the weeds could be more easily identified and spot spraying of Division 4 west of Hwy 855 and Division 2 was completed. 90 miles of brush that was mechanically removed with the mulcher was targeted as well.

About 62% of those areas were sprayed for weed control and the remaining for brush.

Across the entire County 663 miles were spot sprayed for a total of 1,326 acres. 56% of the spraying done was for weed control. Total program cost was \$100,000 or \$74/acre.



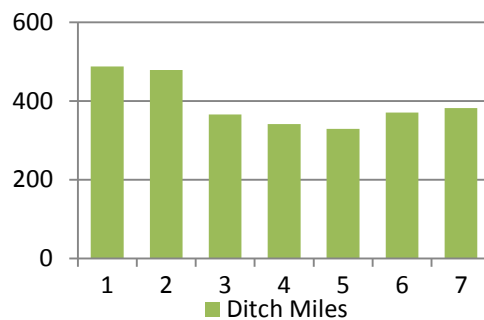
Private Land Spraying

The County provides custom spraying on private land for control of small patches of persistent perennial noxious or restricted weeds. The ASB is equipped with an ATV sprayer and a larger boomless sprayer that is mounted on a vehicle. This service is offered at a very minimal cost as noted on the "SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE TO COUNTY RESIDENTS".

ASB sprayed 11 sites for Toadflax, Absinthe Wormwood, and Scentless Chamomile with some handpicking as well.

Roadside Mowing

Our goal is to complete a minimum of one 15 foot pass on all roads. 1,380 miles were completed with 997 miles of gravel, 26 miles of pavement, and 206 miles of backroads with some 2nd and full cuts. We start in June in order to complete the work as weather and mechanical conditions can play a role. Realize that areas mowed in the beginning of the year will have regrowth that may require a second cut. If time allows, we will do so.



The mowers have been equipped with GPS and allow us to mark different objects such as culverts and rocks. ASB staff picks those rocks that have been marked in May. Please avoid piling rocks or any other objects in the ditch as they are sometimes not visible. We would also ask that any gates that you would like to leave open please have leaning up against the fence.

Total program cost for mowing was \$100,524 or \$20.06/acre. The rotary mowers are the preferred method as it allows for mowing of smaller brush, increased visibility, less grass on road surface, and less risk of creating fires.

Weed Inspections

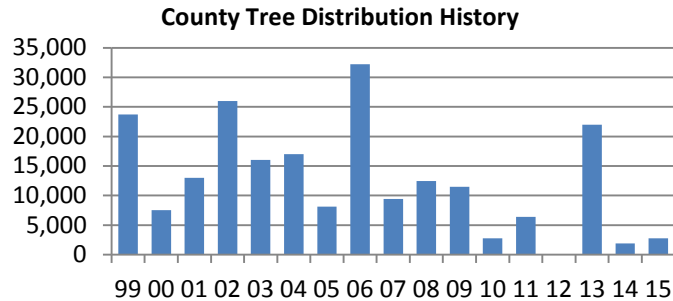
Weed inspections have always been a part of ASB duties, but in 2015 we utilized two staff to specifically start inspecting for Absinth Wormwood along with other problem weeds. Data being presented is a work in progress, but plant populations have shown a concern for invasive ability in pastures. This plant is not listed on the Weed Act, but strategies are being developed.

Conservation

Tree Program

In 2015 the County switched tree nurseries that provide our trees to TreeTime.ca and have been satisfied with the improved quality and service. Prior to and since the elimination of the PFRA Shelterbelt Program tree orders and farming practices have reduced the number of trees planted.

The County has always held this program in high priority and landowners who order 200 trees or more can request assistance in the planting of the trees at no charge. 2,781 trees were ordered.



Any resident or business can order trees. There are no longer any restrictions on who can apply. Those who order trees are responsible for the cost as set by the nursery. The ASB will continue to offer a tree program in cooperation with other private industry if feasible. To help in weed control and moisture retention plastic mulch is available for sale to producers with a minimum purchase of a roll (1500'). An applicator is available to lay the mulch down.

Environmental Program Funding

In 2015 the ASB received funds to conduct Environmental Programs in which part was used for the Tree Program as well as identifying invasive plant populations in riparian sensitive areas. We also sponsored workshops provided by Battle River Research Group that included a Soil Health and Beef/Feed Information Event.

Pest Control

2% Liquid Strychnine

The County has been involved in the sale of 2% liquid strychnine ever since the province has been able to receive an emergency registration from the Pest Management Regulatory Agency. Although the delivery has changed over the years, the registration has restricted the sale of the liquid strychnine through the ASBs only. 71 producers received strychnine in 2015.

Coyote Predation Management

The County recognizes that predation of livestock by coyotes can be a serious problem, which are declared a nuisance pest under the Agricultural Pests Act. Livestock producers can request assistance in the control of coyotes where predation is confirmed.

Surveys

The County contracts Battle River Research Group to conduct Clubroot Surveys. Five fields per division are surveyed for each and no disease was found in those fields. ASB staff conducts a

grasshopper survey every year and in 2015 numbers were still found to be at low levels. ASB staff also conducted a Fusarium Survey for Alberta Agriculture and is still waiting for the results.

Beaver Dam Removal

The Board recognizes that beaver dams need to be removed or breached periodically to protect, maintain or construct infrastructure or to avoid the flooding of private and public land. The Ag Fieldman is a licensed blaster and is available for the removal of beaver dams. Prior to the start of the blasting, the landholder must sign a Beaver Dam Blasting Agreement.

2015 ASB EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES AVAILABLE

Rental Equipment Available

300 gal. Sprayer for Insect Control	\$50.00 Ref. Deposit
Back Pack Sprayer	\$50.00 Ref. Deposit
Hand Broadcast Seeder	\$50.00 Ref. Deposit
Cattle Scale	\$40.00/half day or \$75.00/ full day
Hay Probes	no charge
Gallagher Tag Reader	\$250.00 Ref. Deposit

Pest Control Products Available

Magpie Traps	\$50.00 Ref. Deposit
Skunk Traps	\$50.00 Ref. Deposit
Crop Protection Blue Books	\$11.43 + G.S.T.
Coyote Control Materials	no charge
Beaver Dam Removal	\$100 for 1 st dam & \$50 for each additional

Vegetation Management

1. Private Land Spraying - \$50.00 calling fee plus the cost of the chemical per L applied at cost plus G.S.T, where applicable, will be charged. One follow-up treatment will be included in the initial call out fee if needed. Subsequent call outs will be charged at the discretion of the applicator.
2. Industry Spraying - \$125.00 per hour and chemical cost plus 10%.
3. Weed Picking - \$20.00 per hour for residents and \$50 per hour for industry.

Tree Planting

Tree planter and staff are provided free of charge for tree orders over 200. Shipping charges for the trees shall be paid for by the ASB. Plastic mulch will be available for sale to producers with a minimum purchase of a roll (1500').

Pesticide Container Sites

Castor Waste Transfer Site	SW 03-38-14 W4
Coronation Waste Management	SW 36-36-11 W4

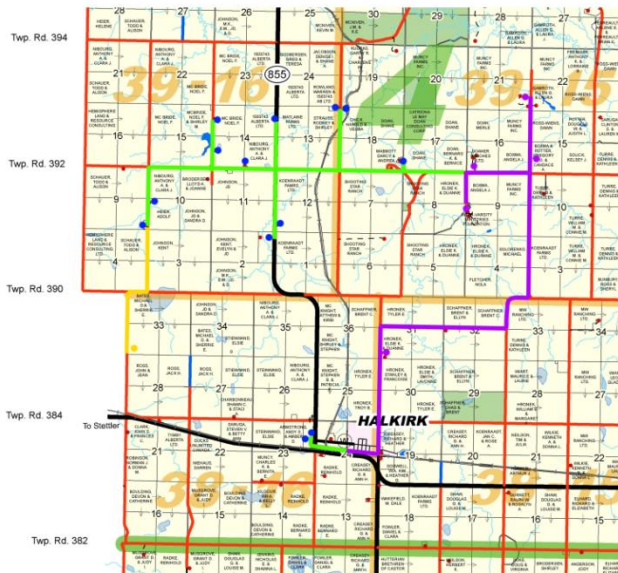
Rural Water Distribution

There has been approximately 21.5 miles of rural water line constructed off the Halkirk Reservoir that is ready to serve 20 users currently. The Crowfoot Reservoir currently only serves the Crowfoot Subdivision and the Coronation Reservoir currently serves the Town.

Water is brought to the property line where a meter vault is installed. Water is charged based on actual use. A \$20 monthly maintenance fee is also applied.

In 2015 another water survey was conducted to help determine where there is a need for future rural water development. The survey results will help determine priority and how the distribution system should be built. An engineering firm is designing a model for how the reservoirs can best be utilized for rural water pipelines and develop policy. Once a draft has been completed it will be open to the public before being finalized. Development will also be dependent on size of possible construction projects and grant funding.

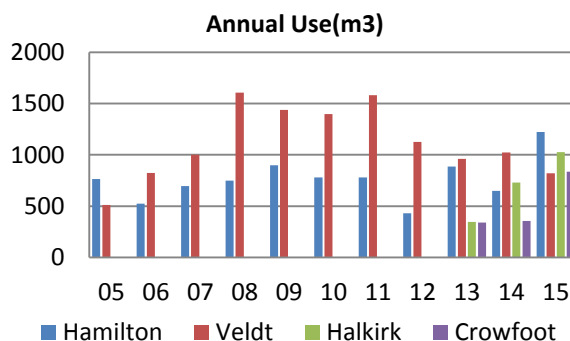
The County is invested in three reservoirs strategically placed in Halkirk, Crowfoot Crossing, and west of Coronation that will be used in the rural water distribution.



Truckfill Facilities

The County operates two types of truckfills. The Halkirk and Crowfoot Reservoirs have drinking water that is open to everyone and Hamilton (NE-32-35-10) and Veldt (NW-12-38-15) are wells that are for agricultural, firefighting, and County use only.

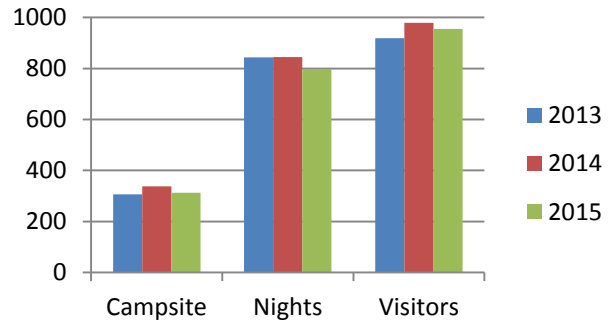
All are coin box operated and accept loonies and toonies. Water rates for reservoirs are \$5/m³; Hamilton and Veldt are \$1.75/m³. The Village of Halkirk receives the proceeds from the Halkirk Reservoir. The graph shows the annual use of each. In comparison the average 4 person family household uses 87,600 gallons (400 m³) per year.



The water wells are also used in a groundwater monitoring program. The static water level in both facilities has not changed. The wells are also shock chlorinated in the spring.

Burma Park

Camping at Burma Park 2013-2015



There are 21 campsites located at the park with baseball facilities. There are two playgrounds, shower facilities, hiking trails and free firewood. Camping rates are \$25 for power and \$20 for non-power.

Projects that were completed include installation of the youth playground, new tin roof on concession booth, and construction of a new maintenance shed.

There were just over 950 visitors to the park of which 58% of those were from the County.

Department of Planning and Development

Through the development permit process, the County of Paintearth safeguards and ensures its ratepayers a safe and effective building and planning process for all developments, buildings, subdivisions. All required information and forms for such can be found on the website, or call the Development Officer for inquiries. A comparison of 2015 with the previous year is found below.

Development Permits	2014	Value \$\$	2015	Value \$\$
Residential Homes (incl mobile)	4	602,000	16	4,361,000
Residential – accessory, additions	9	368,000	9	514,000
Agricultural uses	4	800,000	1	23,000
Industrial/Commercial	12	14,189,400	2	380,000
Recreational	0	0	0	0
Totals	29	15,959,400	28	5,278,000

The County completed an update to the Land Use Bylaw which brings the County current and aids in the proper development of areas and safeguards rural lands.

Subdivisions – There were 8 subdivision applications in the County during 2015 with 6 of them being completed prior to Dec 31 and 2 early into 2016. 6 were acreage creations or farm site separations, 1 was an adjoining boundary increase, and the final was an industrial parcel in the County’s Crowfoot Crossing industrial park for a new industrial development and subsequent land sale. Due to the area size requirement of open discharge septic systems, most acreages are now required to be a minimum of 10 acres, thus the County updated the Land Use Bylaw to reflect this. Most subdivisions take approx. 3-4 months to complete. The County recommends an initial discussion or review with the Development Officer prior to the process, in order to aid and avoid any obstacles.

Palliser Regional Municipal Services is the agency responsible for all planning and subdivision review within the County. PRMS also handles all safety codes permits and applications for building, electrical, gas, and plumbing and private sewage disposal. The provincial New Home Warranty program has settled in and approximately half of our 2015 development permits were for new homes or trailer placements. For more information or to receive a package detailing the development and safety code requirements of your project please contact the Development Officer at the office.

The County’s Municipal Planning Commission – MPC – presides over all discretionary or sensitive development permits and subdivision requests. In 2015 the MPC was comprised of Councilors Tyrill Hewitt (Chair), Diane Elliott, Walter Weber, and Reeve George Glasier.

INDUSTRY

In 2015 there were 27 oil and gas projects requiring 11 new approach constructions, and 16 projects accessing via existing approaches - which is a large reduction from the previous year. There were 18 pipeline crossings of our road network, the majority of them bored underneath, which were also down by a large margin from the previous year. 2015 showed a few project cancellations from Husky, Crescent Point, and Apache, as well as a greatly reduced number of resource exploration projects. 2015 saw 68 project notifications received, down 33% from the previous year’s almost 100. Coupled with the fact that some of those notifications were abandonments or reclamations, illustrates a continued slowing of pace in the petroleum industry.

2015’s largest action came from Toro Oil and Gas in the Coronation area with a large exploration and development project. The County is glad to have another industry partner creating further employment in the Coronation area.

Disaster Services

The County continues to update its emergency preparedness, and additional staff training is continuous for those who may need to help coordinate responses in the Emergency Operations Center. In our County, the threat of wildfires in the dry grassy season is the largest threat and we encourage all residents to be ever vigilant in the use of fires, when so allowed. Check the website regularly for fire ban information! The County has also recommended residents check out the provincial “FireSmart” program, for both farms and residential areas.

Emergency Preparedness Week is one week in May, however residents are asked to consider being prepared all year long. Information on emergency preparedness planning and stocking 72 hour emergency kits is on the website as well as at the office. Living in a rural area has both advantages and disadvantages however a recent seminar hosted by AEMA found the rural population well suited to outlast most natural or weather disasters!

In the fall of 2015 the County exercised its Emergency Preparedness with a large mock incident featuring a gas release, event evacuation, and response to a typical or likely event in the County. With recent happenings in Alberta, we cannot take preparedness for granted. The County is well prepared for most large events!

The County’s Public Safety Services Committee consists of Councilors Brian Bunbury, Rocky Dahmer, Reeve George Glasier, CAO Tarolyn Peach and Director of Emergency Management Todd Pawsey.

Community Peace Officer

The Community Peace Officer role in the County is one of liaison and education. It includes: liaison with the oil companies, ATCO and landowners, enforcement of Bylaws and County Policies. The position also includes the designation as Fire Guardian. Its mandate is to issue fire permits and ensure safe practices when burning debris. The final component is education with the local council and schools in use of roads, fire permits, etc.

Mr. Colm Fitz-Gerald is the Community Peace Officer for the County of Paintearth. He can be reached at the County Office (403-882-3211).

Road Bans

The County places bans on the roads throughout the year to protect them from damage, such as deep ruts and potholes that overweight vehicles can cause. Traffic signs are posted when a road is banned, indicating the percentage of axle weights that are permitted to travel on the road. All our paved roads are banned year round at 50% or 75% ban.

All Secondary Highways located in the County are under Provincial jurisdiction. For information on roads under Provincial jurisdiction, visit, www.transportation.alberta.ca, or call toll free 1-877-236-6445.

Overweight & Overdimensional Permit Approval Services

To improve the availability of service to Industry, to better track the movement of these heavy loads and to improve the ability to recover cost for any damages that may occur, the County of Paintearth has partnered with Roadata Services Ltd. (RDS) to provide approval services for the movement of heavy loads on County roadways.

RDS will provide all approval services as per the guidelines established by the County. This service will be available 24 hours per day at (888) 830-7623 (toll free).

Allowable Weights: When movement is not restricted due to road bans, adverse weather or individual roadway limitations, the County follows Alberta "Allowable Permit Weight" guidelines. Please remember that any municipality has the authorization to limit weights below provincially defined weight.

Department of Public Works

Gravel Program

The County graveled approximately 390 miles of roads in 2015. The County applied approximately 101,572 yards of ¾ inch, 4,977 yards of 1½ inch and 3,259 yards of 2 inch gravel in 2015 to the roads. The summer road gravelling is completed with 4 county owned trucks. We use 3 super-b belly dumps and 1 tandem truck with a tri-dem pup. In 2015, for 4 months, the County also contracted two local trucks with belly dumps to help with our road gravelling program.

The County stockpiles approximately 30,000 yards of ¾ inch and 10,000 yards of 1 ½ inch gravel from our gravel pits to various stockpile sites using our own gravel trucks. The past year, the County has purchased approximately 40,000 tons of 420 modified ¾ inch gravel from outside sources, for the NW corner of the County.

The County piled approximately 60,000 Tonne of raw aggregate this year at the Kelt's pit to be crushed into ¾ inch road gravel in 2016 by outside sources.

In 2015 we awarded our first 3 year supply and deliver contract of 162,000 Tonne of 420 spec ¾ inch road gravel. This contract was awarded to Brockhoff Enterprise.

Our gravel inventory consists of 498,000 Tonne of ¾ inch road gravel and 1,740,000 Tonne of gravel in reserves. The County has about a 30 year supply of gravel with the current gravel inventory and materials in reserves.

Road Network

The County is divided into 10 grader divisions with each grader operator maintaining approximately 100 miles of gravel roads and approximately 25 miles of back roads. The County’s grader fleet consists of 1 Caterpillar 160H motor graders, 2 Caterpillar 14H motor graders, and 10 Caterpillar 160M / AWD motor graders. The County buys new graders on a 5 year buyback program and sells the used graders on the open market at the end of 5-7 years. This enables the County to have sustainable and reliable equipment to maintain our roads. The County also has one plow truck for our winter sanding & plowing needs.

The road system is comprised of:

Regularly Maintained Roads	1,095 miles
Non-Regularly Maintained Roads	254 miles
Undeveloped Roads	470 miles
Paved Roads	<u>28 miles</u>
Total:	1,844 miles

Road Approaches/Culverts

The Public Works Department built 34 new approaches of which 20 required culverts. The Public Works Department replaced 33 culverts across rural roads.

In 2015, the County of Paintearth contracted In Line Construction to bore 2 new culverts across roadways with large fills.

Road Signage

The Public Works Department is responsible for looking after approximately 1,036 different signs throughout the County. In 2015, 76 signs were installed or replaced and 69 new sign posts were installed. If you notice a sign missing or knocked down, please contact the County Office immediately.

Bridge Program

The County has 110 bridges and bridge size culverts. We are responsible for all maintenance on our structure. Major repairs are contracted out. We have staff trained in minor bridge maintenance on all the bridges size structures. Maintenance on these bridges is scheduled throughout the winter or rain days. The County contracts all the bridge inspections out to WSP Engineering.

In 2013 the Provincial Government cut all funding for bridge repairs. In 2014 we installed our first single lane temporary 70 t bridge structure, also installed a second one in 2015. We placed this structure over top of the existing bridge.

Fence Line Brushing

The Public Works Department brushed approximately 26 miles of fence line and ditch bottoms.

Back Sloping

The Public Works Department back sloped 10.5 miles of ditches and fence lines. This service is considered on a request and priority basis. Requests are to be submitted on a hold harmless application and landowners must remove their fence. There is no charge for this service.

Mulching

The Public Works Department mulched approximately 45 miles of road ditches with contract mulcher and 10 miles with county owned mulcher.

Road Stabilization

The Public Works Department applied MG30 on 50 miles of gravel roads using approximately 1,249,700 liters at a cost of \$0.21 per liter. The total cost for product was \$351,450.00. The County will be using this product for farm and other road stabilization projects in the future. The biggest advantage to using this product is that it is non-corrosive. We also save on the amount and frequency that gravel is applied to the road once the base has been established with MG 30.

Safety Program

The County of Paintearth is committed to a strong safety and loss program that protects its staff, its property and the public from accidents. In 2015, the County passed the external safety audit with a score of 93%. The safety program is ongoing and will always be a big part of the County's daily operations.