

County of Paintearth ANNUAL REPORT

2021

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COUNTY COUNCIL

Division 1:	George Glazier	Division 5:	Maurice Wiart (Deputy Reeve)
Division 2:	Dale Norton	Division 6:	Sandy Shipton
Division 3:	Terry Vockeroth	Division 7:	Diane Elliott
Division 4:	Stan Schulmeister (Reeve)		

Chief Administrative Officer – Michael Simpson

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 the Reeve

Thank you for picking up this year's Annual Report, we are pleased to provide information in this report on County services and operational activities including summaries of spending and revenues for the 2021 fiscal year.



Council has been hard at work advocating for ratepayers since our previous reporting period. We have actively been meeting with provincial ministers, discussing protections for our Ambulance Service, working on exciting new regional Economic Development projects, reducing red tape within our bylaws and creating incentives for that may drive future investment in the Paintearth region.

Following the completion of the 2022 Sustainability Plan, available on the County website, a path forward with specific goals and objectives has emerged. We hope to engage public on the topic of Broadband in earnest over the course of 2022, as well as complete planning and analysis on several projects that align with our goal to grow Paintearth County responsibly with businesses and activities that are a fit for our region.

So much of what we have chosen to do has been formed following the completion of another bi-annual public input survey carried out in January of 2022 where we heard from you, the ratepayer, on how our services were working and areas for improvement.

For those that take the time to check in with Council on issues that matter to them, we are always grateful for the feedback we receive.

Stan Schulmeister, Reeve

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

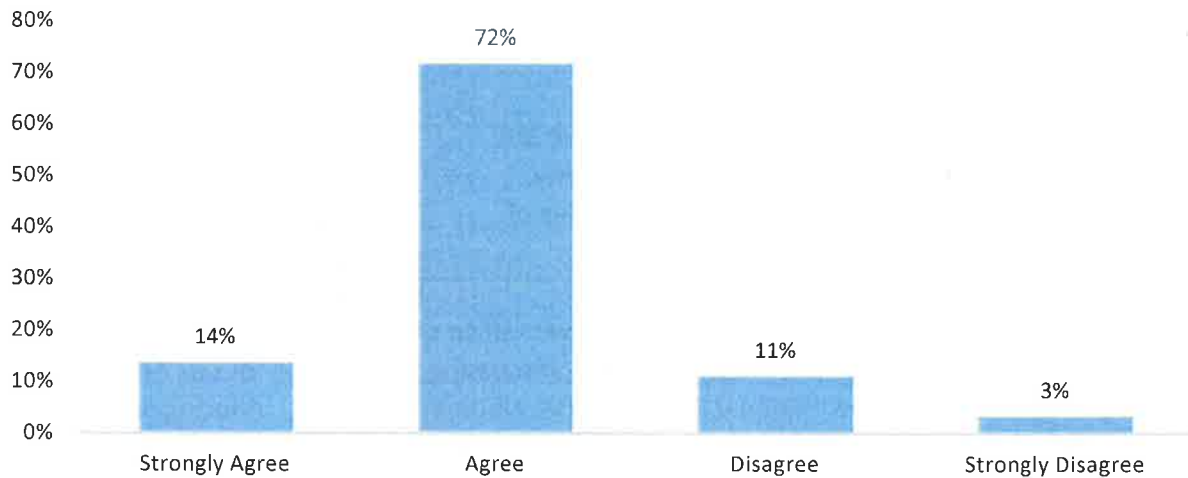
Office Hours

The County Office hours are 8:00 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

I believe that the County is financially well managed



* County of Paintearth 2022 Public Input Survey

DEPARTMENT OF CORPORATE SERVICES

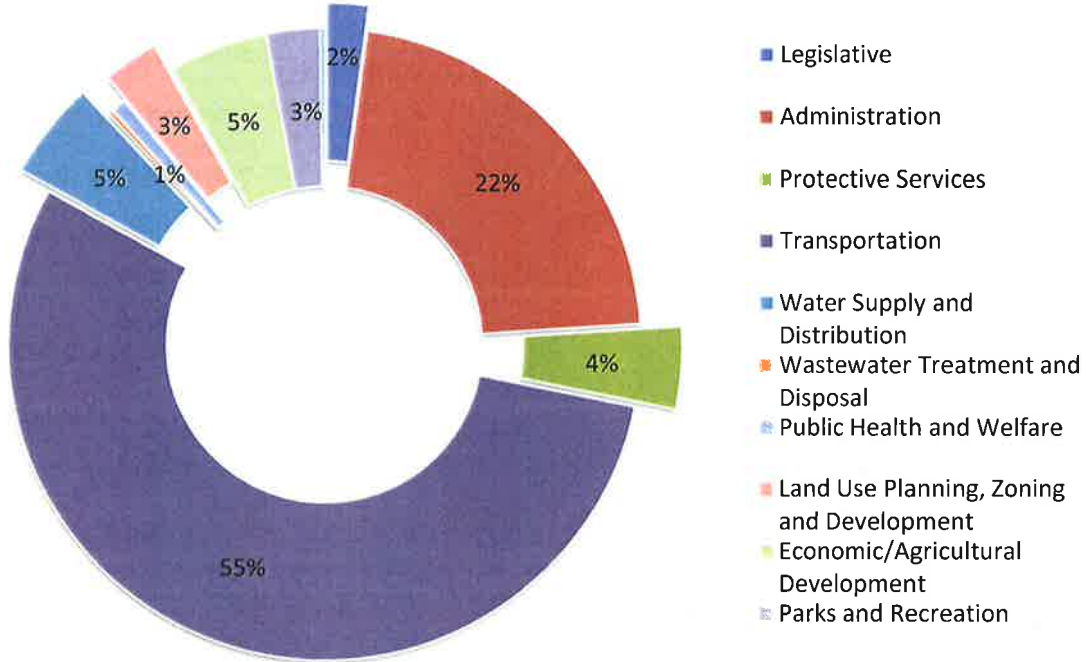
The Corporate Services department is responsible for the overall management of the financial affairs of the County. This includes assessment, property taxes, accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, capital project financing and tracking, utilities billings, IT management, GIS/GPS, and other general 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 2021 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.

2021 Financial Synopsis

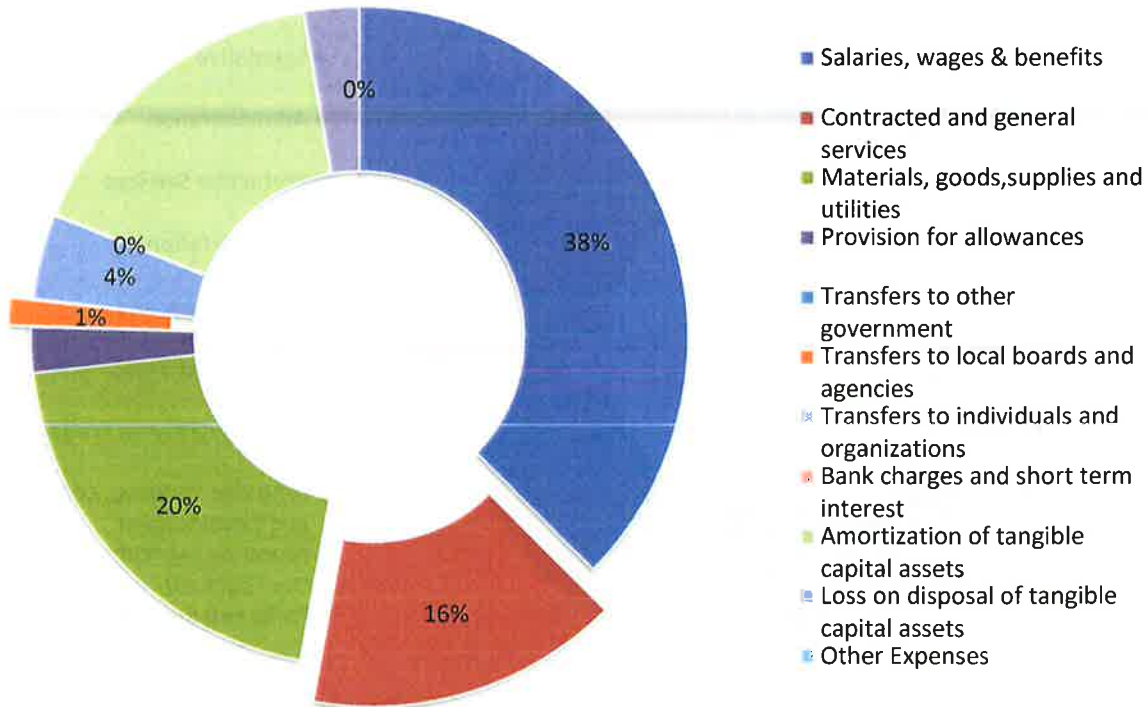
2021 Departmental Expenditures - \$13,295,982



Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Financial Statements Year Ending December 31, 2021

EXPENDITURES	2021 Budget	2021	2020
Legislative	\$553,200.00	\$284,605.00	\$312,608.00
Administration	\$2,021,600.00	\$2,894,609.00	\$3,430,154.00
Protective Services	\$565,950.00	\$560,832.00	\$468,565.00
Transportation	\$9,953,009.00	\$7,296,354.00	\$7,858,832.00
Water Supply and Distribution	\$725,150.00	\$666,201.00	\$651,382.00
Wastewater Treatment and Disposal	\$40,075.00	\$28,372.00	\$32,307.00
Public Health and Welfare	\$102,000.00	\$98,708.00	\$98,708.00
Land Use Planning, Zoning and Development	\$432,690.00	\$380,972.00	\$710,362.00
Economic/Agricultural Development	\$726,500.00	\$683,229.00	\$641,076.00
Parks and Recreation	\$499,100.00	\$363,711.00	\$604,048.00
Culture	\$40,000.00	\$38,389.00	\$33,267.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$15,659,274.00	\$13,295,982.00	\$14,841,309.00

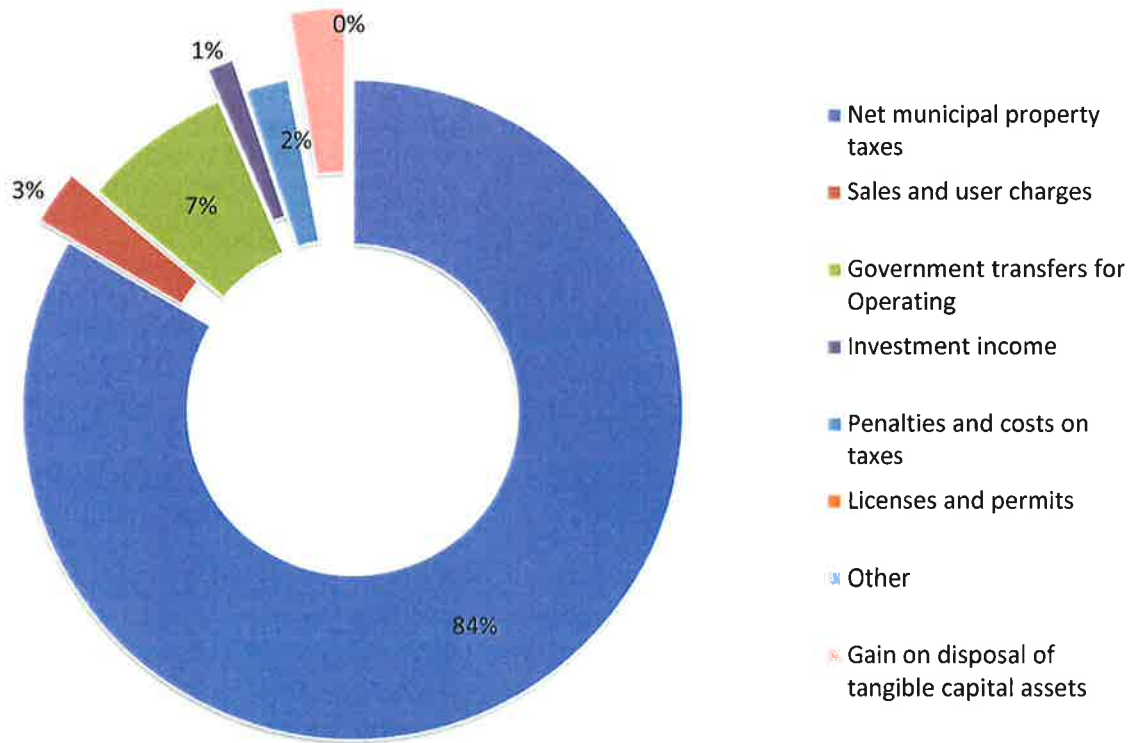
2021 Expenditures by Object - \$13,295,982



Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Financial Statements Year Ending December 31, 2021

EXPENDITURES	2021 Budget	2021	2020
Salaries, wages & benefits	\$5,671,947.00	\$4,980,510.00	\$5,318,066.00
Contracted and general services	\$2,063,004.00	\$2,048,150.00	\$2,757,710.00
Materials, goods, supplies and utilities	\$4,410,348.00	\$2,704,555.00	\$2,868,401.00
Provision for allowances	\$101,500.00	\$294,658.00	\$525,570.00
Transfers to other government	\$2,300.00	\$2,532.00	\$4,256.00
Transfers to local boards and agencies	\$194,000.00	\$179,078.00	\$121,532.00
Transfers to individuals and organizations	\$685,900.00	\$557,474.00	\$778,746.00
Bank charges and short term interest	\$11,900.00	\$2,902.00	\$8,074.00
Amortization of tangible capital assets	\$2,453,875.00	\$2,163,345.00	\$2,273,499.00
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	\$64,500.00	\$362,778.00	\$185,455.00
Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$15,659,274.00	\$13,295,982.00	\$14,841,309.00

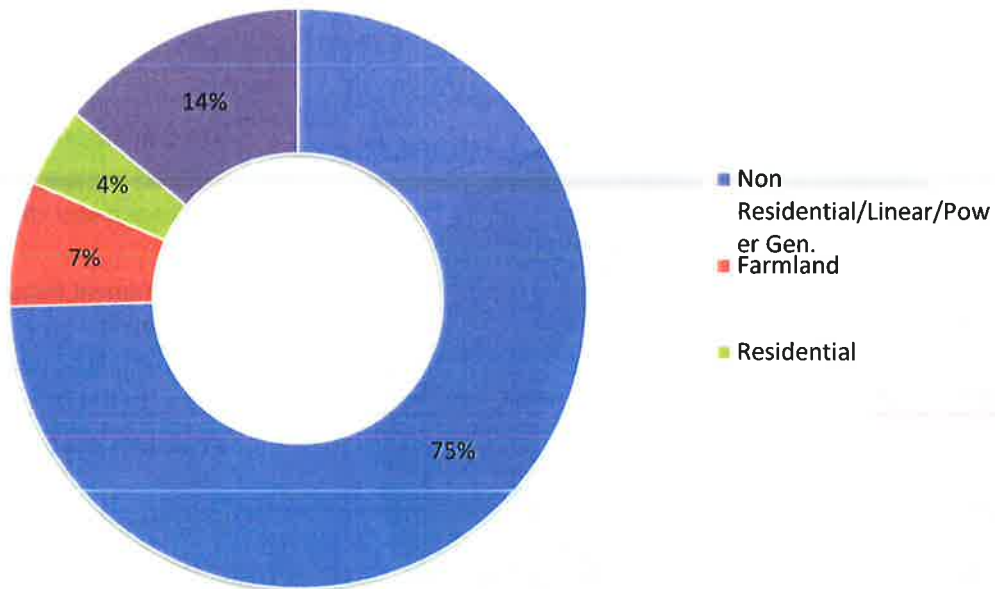
2021 Revenues - \$16,598,068



Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Financial Statements Year Ending December 31, 2021

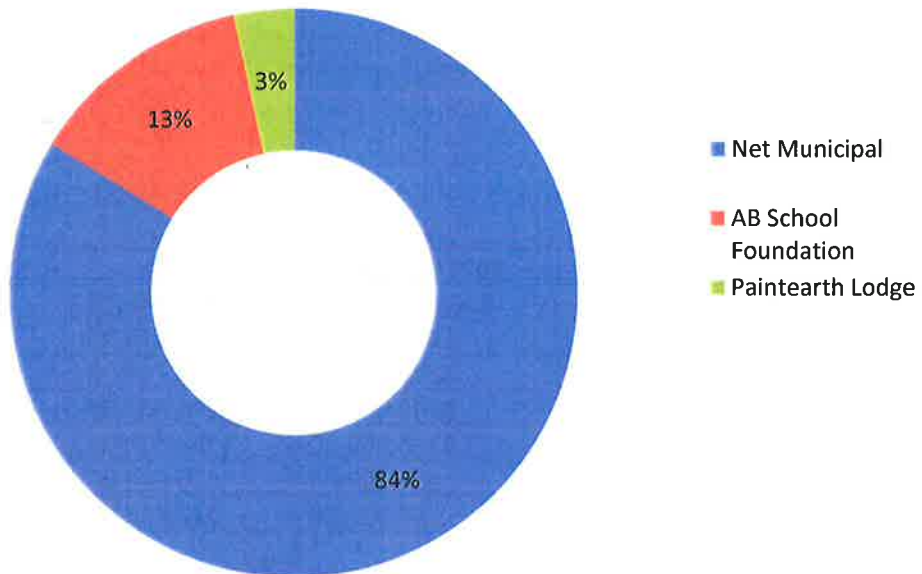
REVENUE	2021 Budget	2021	2020
Net municipal property taxes	\$13,619,535.00	\$13,849,845.00	\$14,099,867.00
Sales and user charges	\$437,965.00	\$447,170.00	\$464,149.00
Government transfers for Operating	\$328,907.00	\$1,220,767.00	\$1,783,371.00
Investment income	\$240,000.00	\$216,867.00	\$263,286.00
Penalties and costs on taxes	\$125,000.00	\$359,535.00	\$103,784.00
Licenses and permits	\$30,500.00	\$20,943.00	\$26,021.00
Other	\$7,000.00	\$22,615.00	\$381,232.00
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	\$5,000.00	\$460,326.00	\$34,343.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$14,793,907.00	\$16,598,068.00	\$17,156,053.00

2021 Property Tax Revenue



Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Bylaw No.700-21

2021 Allocation of Property Taxes



Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Financial Statements Year Ending December 31, 2021

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Industrial Vegetation Management

Roadside Spraying

Roadside spraying is done in a three-year rotation.

In 2021 ASB staff blanketed Division 2 and spot sprayed Division 3 and part of Division 1.

Across the entire County 1,054 miles were sprayed for a total of 2,326 acres. 76% of the spraying done was for weed control. About 63% of the right-of-way's were sprayed in the rotation.

Total program cost was \$161,444 or \$69.39/acre. The ultra-terrain vehicle (UTV) sprayed 82.75 miles or 23 acres.

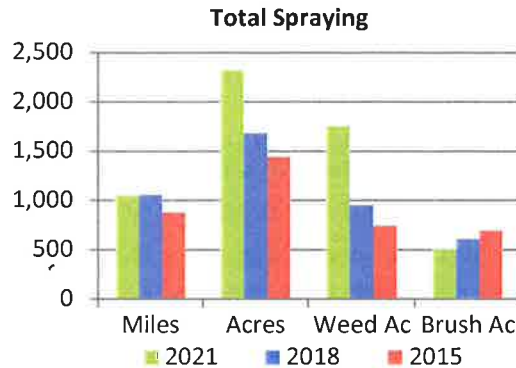
Private Land Spraying

The County provides custom spraying on private land for control of small patches of persistent prohibited noxious or noxious weeds. The ASB is equipped with a skid sprayer that fits in the back of truck, ATV sprayer and a UTV boomless sprayer.

In 2021 the ASB sprayed for 9 landholders for 14.27 acres for the control of absinthe wormwood and white cockle mostly, but other noxious weeds are also targeted. ASB staff also sprayed 27.78 of land the County is responsible for and 16 miles or 41.76 acres of the rail line (PRWM).

Weed Inspections

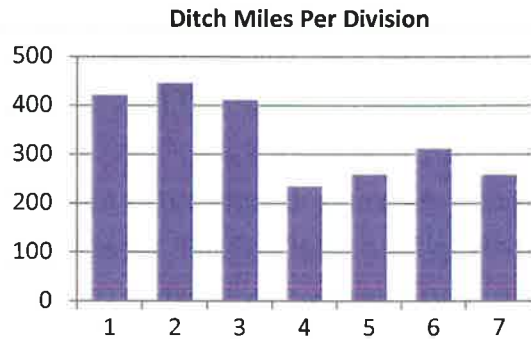
Weed inspections have always been a part of ASB duties, but we also rely on the public. If you are concerned or are aware of a weed problem, please call the ASB staff or you can go to the county website and "[Report A Weed](#)" under the Environmental Services web page.



New this year will be any landowner/occupant agriculturally encroaching upon a right-of-way will be notified to stay a minimum of one metre from the "Toe" of the slope or further, dependent upon how it impacts the integrity of the road. Any crops found within the right-of-way because of non-compliance by the landowner/occupant, will be removed as part of the County's regular vegetation control program.

Roadside Mowing

In 2020 our program changed from doing one 15-foot pass on every road to doing all gravel roads and the backroads that the ASB staff sprayed. ASB staff still tries to get a second pass on all pavement, but this year with the drought there was no need. With the fire ban being put on July 19th ASB staff changed their hours of work to earlier in the morning until September 15th.

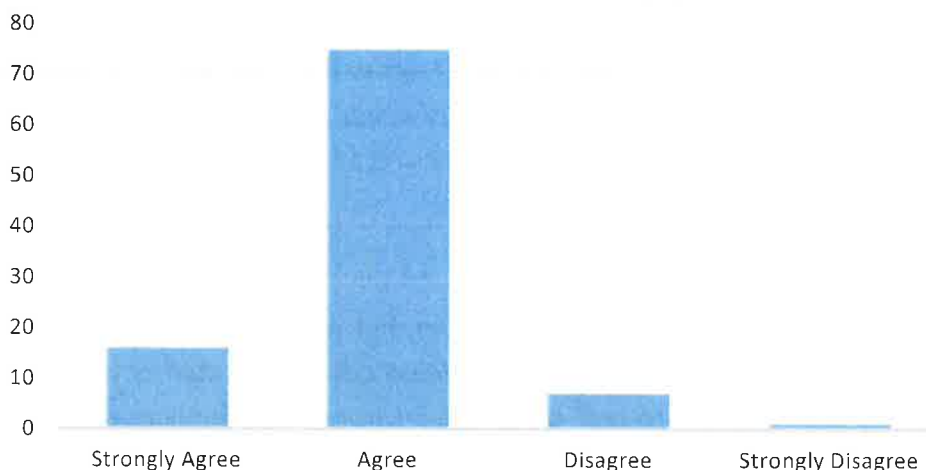


The ASB staff completed 1,173 miles of road with 960 mi of gravel, 30 mi of pavement, and 182 mi of backroad. Staff started on July 12 and completed the work by September 21st.

ASB staff picks the rocks that have been marked in the previous year. Please avoid piling rocks or any other objects (gates, etc.) in the ditch as they are sometimes not visible.

Total program cost for mowing was \$112,539 or \$47.97/ditch mile. 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.

County roadside mowing is satisfactory



* County of Paintearth 2022 Public Input Survey

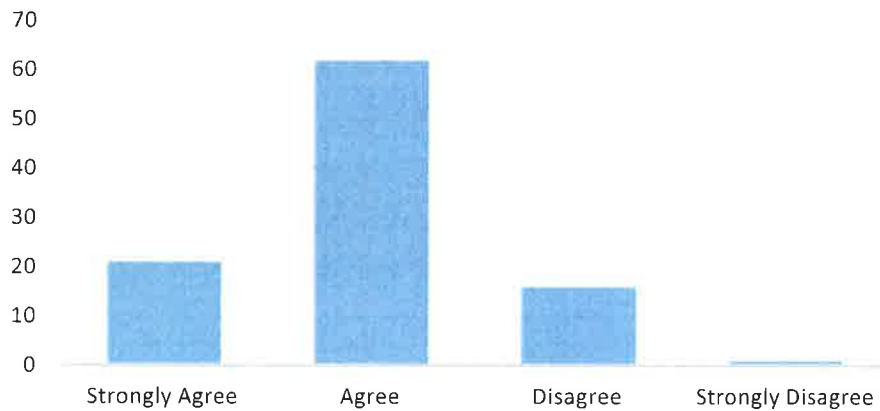
Conservation

Tree Program

In 2021 there were no trees planted by the ASB. The County has always held this program in high priority and landowners who order 200 or more trees can request assistance in the planting of the trees at no charge.

Any resident or business can order trees. There are no longer restrictions on who can apply. Those who order trees are responsible for the cost as set by the nursery. The ASB will continue to help in the planning and design of tree shelterbelts and assist in the form of a tree planter and staff.

14. Agricultural Service Board programs provided by the County are satisfactory



* County of Paintearth 2022 Public Input Survey



Environmental Program Funding

As it did with many other things, the COVID-19 pandemic had a major effect on the Environmental Extension this year by eliminating in-person events, the largest part of our program.

On April 22, the ASB partnered with the Battle River Research Group to hold a Holistic Management webinar. Attendees heard from Kelly Sidoryk about how a holistic approach can be the key to sustainable, regenerative agriculture.

On November 9, the ASB launched the Shelterbelt Rejuvenation Program. The program is aimed at restoring and revitalizing existing shelterbelts within the County through replacing damaged or dying trees.

On December 7, the ASB partnered with the Battle River Research Group to host a webinar titled *Soil Health & Animal Integration*. Attendees learned how cover crop mixes can be designed to allow for livestock integration and improve soil health.

Several events are being planned for 2022, as well as continuation of the Shelterbelt Restoration Program.

Pest Control

Coyote Predation Management

The County recognizes that predation of livestock by coyotes can be a serious problem, which are a declared nuisance pest under the Agricultural Pests Act. Livestock producers can request assistance in the control of coyotes where predation is confirmed. ASB never received a call for coyote predation in 2021.

Surveys

The ASB has again surveyed for Clubroot in 2021. Inspectors follow a protocol for proper sampling techniques before entering the land. Five fields per division are surveyed at a minimum for each, for a total of 35. Also sampled 4 fields for blackleg at the request of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry while doing the clubroot surveying.

ASB staff conducts a grasshopper survey every year and in 2021 ASB staff surveyed 36 fields and the numbers were still found to be at low levels but increasing compared to past surveys. In 2021 the surveys showed numbers as high as 7/m² in the roadside and as high as 8 in the field.

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry also conducts insect surveys and is summarized as follows:

- Pea leaf weevil damage was low in the survey we conducted in late May – early June.
- Wheat midge in the soil samples taken by BRRG this past fall didn't indicate any. Despite this, it would be a good idea for producers and agronomists to monitor fields in 2022 as the wheat heads out. This is especially true if seeding is delayed and/or wet conditions prevail.
- No cabbage seedpod weevils were found in Paintearth. The population in central Alberta seems to have been very reduced.

- None of the bertha armyworm trap sites were above the first warning level of 300 moths.
- One thing we need to keep an eye on is the cutworm situation. With the long fall and crop regrowth, cutworm moths had the opportunity to lay a lot of eggs. Fields with bare spots should be checked for cutworms next spring.

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 and to protect the safety of livestock.

The Director of Environmental Services 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.



2021 ASB EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES AVAILABLE

Rental Equipment Available

Backpack 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
Coyote Control Materials	no charge
Beaver Dam Removal	\$100 for 1 st dam & \$50 for each additional

Vegetation Management

1. Private Land Spraying - \$80.00/hr plus the cost of the chemical per L applied at cost plus GST, 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 - \$135.00/hr and chemical cost plus 10% and any GST applicable.
3. Weed Picking - \$40/hr plus GST.

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

In 2019 the County agreed to enter into an agreement with the Shirley McClellan Regional Water Services Commission (SMRWSC) that leaves the Brownfield Transmission Line and the Brownfield Fill with the SMRWSC.

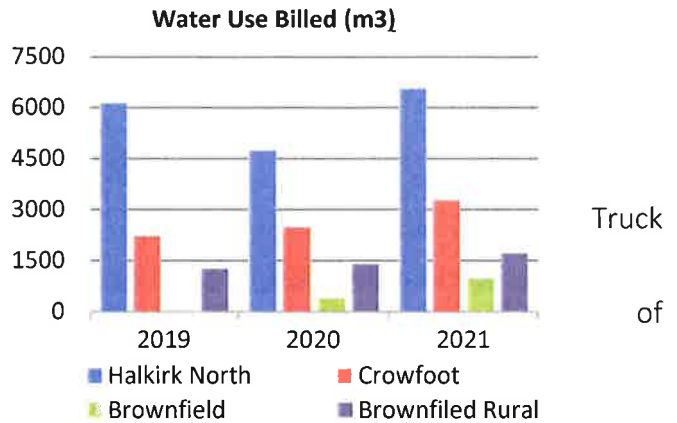
The Coronation Reservoir serves the Town Coronation and the residents along Secondary Highway 872 to Brownfield including the Hamlet of Brownfield.

The County owns all the rural properties that come off the line and is ready to serve 12 residences. The Hamlet of Brownfield currently serves 7 parcels and is in the first full year of water use by meters.

The Halkirk Reservoir is ready to serve 22 users, the Crowfoot Reservoir that currently only serves the Crowfoot Subdivision and the Crowfoot truck fill.

Water is charged based on actual use and in 2021 it was \$3.15/cubic metre (m3). All water in the County is read with meters.

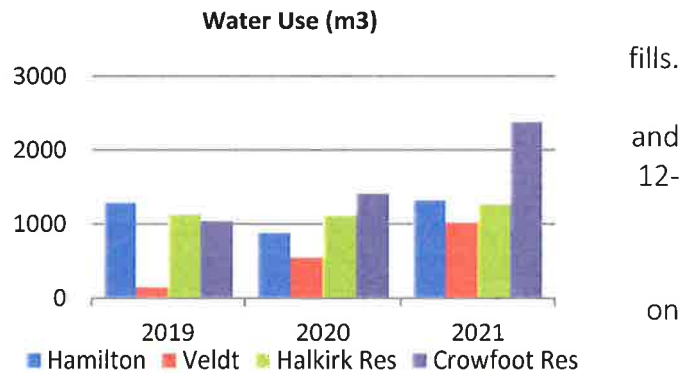
The County is invested in three reservoirs strategically placed in Halkirk, Crowfoot Crossing, and west of Coronation. There has been approximately 24.5 miles of rural water line constructed.



Truck Fill Facilities

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

In 2021 the Crowfoot Reservoir operates both coin and prepay accounts. The Halkirk Reservoir is coin box only currently and accepts loonies and toonies. For anyone wanting to use the Brownfield truck fill contact the SMRWSC directly or Stettler County. Water rates for reservoirs are \$5/m3, Hamilton and Veldt are \$2.20/m3. The Village of Halkirk receives the proceeds from the Halkirk Reservoir.



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.

Anyone wanting more information is asked to check the County's website and look under Environmental Services and go to the Utilities page.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

This year saw the completion of the public community engagement process that was started in 2020. This process was designed to gather input on a wide range of subject matter to help guide the development of a new and updated MDP – the Municipal Development Plan and the LUB – the Land Use Bylaw. Due to Covid restrictions the County had to change the planned process from in person sessions to completion of online and paper surveys, however the new Land Use Bylaw was adopted in May and the County’s new Municipal Development Plan was adopted in June.

Permits

Through the development permit process, ratepayers are safeguarded and ensured a safe and effective building and planning process for all developments. A comparison of 2021 activity levels with the previous year is found below.

Development Permits	2021	Value \$\$	2020	Value \$\$
Residential Homes (incl mobile)	11	3,762,000	12	2,408,000
Residential – accessory, additions	6	365,000	8	374,000
Agricultural uses	3	256,000		
Industrial/Commercial	16	70,100,000	4	646,000
Recreational				
Totals	36	74,483,000	24	3,428,000

2021 signaled an uptake in developments within the County as a few major industrial projects were commenced which will lead to increased assessment in the County. TransAlta’s Garden Plain windfarm in the southern end of the County, will be the first of three large wind projects planned to be completed in each of the next three years. AshCor’s continuing expansion of their

mined ash processing facility is also adding to the industrial development taking place. Possible new developments at the power generation plant at the Battle River signify serious development potential for the County.

New LUB requirements for agricultural developments were passed to help respect the County Right-of-Ways to ensure new developments are placed back at a safe distance from the road. Despite a large reduction in ROW setbacks in the new LUB, the County was forced to defend (successfully) the ROW's from unsafe incursion by a large bin yard which had been the subject of delayed enforcement since 2018. Moving forward the County wishes to remind all producers to simply give a call to the office to check on safe distances from the ROWs when planning to build or develop any ag structures or accessories.

Subdivisions

There were 6 subdivision applications in the County during 2021 with 4 being completed by the end of the year. Most subdivisions take approx. 4 months to complete, however Land Titles delays have been adding 6-8 weeks onto the finished registration time; subdivision costs range between \$3,000-\$5,000. Septic systems are still the size limiting factor as open discharges require a 90m setback to all property lines – making the common acreage size about 10 ac or more. The County strongly recommends an initial discussion or review with our staff prior to application to aid in a smooth process and help avoid any obstacles or issues that may arise.

Fleet Development

The Area Structure Plan for the new Fleet lots was adopted in 2021, the subdivision was completed by Christmas, and the new lots are now available for sale. Each lot is approx. the size of a football field, about an acre, and are for sale at \$18,900 + GST. To purchase or inquire about getting a lot, please call the Development Office at the administration building.

Development Permit fees, applications and related forms can all be found on the website. The Director of Community Services is available for questions, inquiries, and is willing to assist/guide all residents through the subdivision or development permit process.

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, plumbing and private sewage disposal. For more information detailing the development and safety code requirements of your project please contact the Director of Community Services at the office or visit www.palliserservices.ca.

The County’s Municipal Planning Commission – MPC – presides over all discretionary or sensitive development permits and subdivision requests. In 2021 the MPC was comprised of Councilors Diane Elliott (Chair), George Glazier, Maurice Wiart and Reeve Stan Schulmeister.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The County continues to work on agricultural value-added projects such as reviewing possibilities in the plant protein processing industry, as well as featuring developments at the Crowfoot Crossing Industrial Park. Crowfootcrossing.ca has a wide range of information available about the individual lots as well as traffic and development stats. The County is also working with additional renewable energy projects that will aid in employment and job creation for years to come.

INDUSTRY

2021 was another slow year for the Oil and Gas industry in the County in terms of new projects. However, there was plenty of clean up and reclamation efforts happening across the region. There were 5 industry projects requiring access to our road network, with a few (3) new pipeline crossings from both industry and our local gas utility, and 9 new electrical services or upgrades. 2021 continued the 2020 trend as 129 project notifications were received but only 8 were for new installations. There were 6 reclamation certificates issued, with another 66 wellsites reclaimed or abandoned, and 47 pipeline abandonments within the County.

DISASTER SERVICES & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

2021 was another challenging year for the County with the ongoing Covid pandemic that lingered in the province and the country. Fortunately, our remote and rural area again saw low case counts throughout the year, which allowed for basic county operations to continue relatively unaffected. The Administration office was reopened, and for the most part functioned close to normality. The County continues to update its emergency preparedness considering pandemic plans, and its ability to 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. The County features the FireSmart program information available on our website, and encourages all residents to take a look at their yards.

We thank the community for their patience in dealing with the pandemic and the ever changing plans of what activities our residents are able to do and were glad that 2021 saw a return of some degree of normal.

PARKS AND RECREATION

In 2021, the County campgrounds - Huber Dam Campground and Burma Park – had seasons that were relatively similar to previous years if not slightly busier. Huber saw additional trout stocking and the aerator seems to assist with oxygenation of the water keeping more fish alive. Ball season was back in play at Burma, and the County built new refurbished backstops, new chainlink mesh fencing, and newly refinished bleachers. Both Huber Dam and Burma Park are operated by contract caretakers.

The fall of 2021 saw the Valley Ski Hill re-open after a 2-year hiatus due to Covid and hill repairs, and with many upgrades to the snowmaking system were open prior to Christmas for the first time in decades! All accounts indicate a fun and successful season was had at the ski hill in the winter of 21-22.



County of Paintearth staff serve dessert at the 2022 County Family Picnic held at Huber Dam on June 16, 2022

COMMUNITY PEACE OFFICER



The county has one Peace Officer: Colm Fitz-Gerald. The nature of duties performed by Officer Fitz-Gerald include, but are not limited to, administration and enforcement of county bylaws, traffic laws, consultation duties with RCMP and other county groups. Education continues to be the main thrust with the

major oil companies, green energy companies and local landowners with regards to use of county roads and county property.

The economic slowdown and COVID-19 can still be felt in the county and as well as globally. Business is starting to pick up re: energy projects, oil and other projects. There has been an increase in the amount of road permits in the county; however, county road use has increased and is still busy with local traffic. The County Peace Officer now has portable scales which are being used extensively. So far there has been no issues with over weights. As we continue work our way through the aftermath of COVID-19, our Council, staff and our residents have shown great adaptability. A brighter economic upswing after relaunch will bring more traffic in the county. This in turn will require the continued pre and post patrol of our roads. Officer Fitz-Gerald continues to work closely with the RCMP, Commercial Enforcement and local fire departments.

Officer Fitz-Gerald is also in charge of running our fire permit program and is part of upgrading the County fire bylaw, including enforcement. There were only 143 fire permits issued in 2021, due in large part to the very dry conditions of 2021.

File investigations included RUAs(road use agreements), fire calls, bylaw files, assist files with RCMP and other files. Officer Fitz-Gerald is also part of the Emergency Management Team in planning as well as peace officer duties. He also assists other departments in the scope of his duties.

Officer Fitz-Gerald has proven to be a valued member of the County of Paintearth team.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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 sign(s) 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 & Over Dimensional 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 provides all approval services as per the guidelines established by the County and this service 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 weights.



Gravel Program

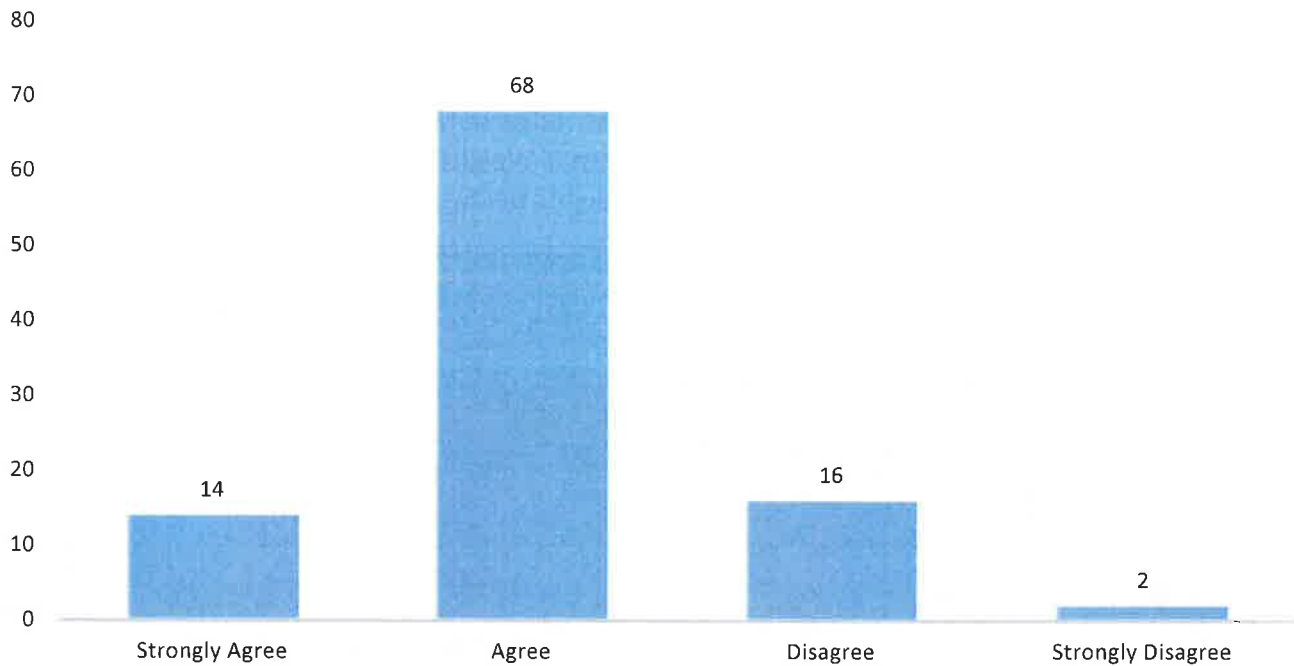
The County gravel program is completed by 3 super-b belly dumps and 1 tandem truck with a tandem belly dump. In 2021, the County graveled approximately 233 miles of roads with 49,623 tonne of ¾ inch, 2,321 tonne of 1½ inch gravel.

The winter stockpile program allows the County to stockpile approximately 30,000 tonne of ¾ inch gravel. This gravel is hauled with County gravel trucks from multiple County owned gravel pits to various stockpile sites. In 2021, the County has also purchased approximately 55,000 tonne of 4-20 Alberta Transportation spec 3/4 inch gravel to be supplied and delivered from outside sources.

Our gravel inventory consists of approximately 506,000 tonne of ¾ crushed road gravel and 1,700,000 tonne of gravel in reserves. The County has about a 30-year supply of gravel with the current gravel inventory and materials in reserves.

* County of Paintearth 2022 Public Input Survey

The County's summer road gravelling and maintenance programs are satisfactory



Road Network

The County is divided into 8 grader divisions with each grader operator maintaining approximately 188 km of local gravel roads and approximately 24 km of field access roads. The grader fleet consists of 11 Caterpillar 160M / AWD motor graders and 1 plow truck for our winter sanding and plowing needs. 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 years. This enables the County to have sustainable and reliable equipment to maintain our roads.

The road system is comprised of:

Regularly Maintained Roads	1520 km
Field Access Roads	141 km
Grassed Trails	241 km
Paved Roads	45 km
Total	1947 km

Road Approaches/Culverts

The Public Works Department built 6 new approaches of which required culverts and widened 4 old approaches of which 2 needed new culverts, 38 culverts were also replaced across rural roads. We also contracted out the work to replace a liner in a culvert on TWP rd 402.



Road Signage

The Public Works Department is responsible for approximately 1,036 different signs throughout the County. In 2021, 58 signs were installed or replaced, and 38 new signposts 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 that we are responsible for maintaining. We have staff trained in minor bridge maintenance on all the bridges size structures; however, major repairs are contracted out. Maintenance on these bridges is scheduled throughout the winter or rain days. The County contracts all the bridge inspections out to WSP Engineering. In 2021 we contracted out work to replace one bridge with bridge sized culverts.

In 2013 the Provincial Government cut all funding for bridge funding

Fence Line Brushing

In 2020 the Public Works Department brushed approximately 6 miles of fence line and ditch bottoms.

Back Sloping

The Public Works Department back sloped 11 miles of ditches and fence lines in 2021. 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 41 miles of road ditches.

Gravel Reclaiming

The Public Works Department purchased a gravel reclaimer in 2017 which is mounted on our grader that pulls gravel of our road slopes and shoulders, then return to the road surface. We have reclaimed 526 mile of roadway of which 119 miles were completed in 2021. We reclaim and save on average 80 tonne of ¾ inch gravel per mile. Average cost per tonne of ¾ inch gravel is \$19.21.

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 2021, the County passed the external safety audit with a score of 91%. The safety program is ongoing and will always be a big part of the County's daily operations.



Members of Council pose with some of the great staff in Public Works in April of this year.