

AGENDA FOR THE TOWN OF BEAVERLODGE COUNCIL MEETING  
 MONDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 AT 7:00 PM  
 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS #400-10 STREET BEAVERLODGE, AB

*Microsoft Teams meeting **Join on your computer, mobile app or room device***  
[Click here to join the meeting](#) Meeting ID: 221 583 239 266 Passcode: Fyr7yW

<b>1.0</b>	<p><b><u>CALL TO ORDER:</u></b></p> <p><i>Town of Beaverlodge's Legislative Meetings are being live streamed effective June 12, 2023 via Council resolution #145-2023-05-23</i></p>	
<b>2.0</b>	<p><b><u>LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:</u></b></p>	PP 3
<b>3.0</b>	<p><b><u>ADOPTION OF AGENDA:</u></b></p>	
<b>4.0</b>	<p><b><u>ADOPTION OF MINUTES:</u></b></p> <p>4.1 September 11, 2023 - Regular Council Meeting Minutes</p>	PP 4-7
<b>5.0</b>	<p><b><u>DELEGATIONS:</u></b></p>	
<b>6.0</b>	<p><b><u>OLD BUSINESS:</u></b></p> <p>6.1 Wildlife Feeding Bylaw #1021</p>	PP 8-12
<b>7.0</b>	<p><b><u>NEW BUSINESS:</u></b></p> <p>7.1 Extension for Committee of the Whole Meetings</p> <p>7.2 Appointment of Councillor Judy Kokotilo-Bekkerus as Deputy Mayor, effective October 1, 2023.</p> <p>7.3 Facility Fee Waiver – Beaverlodge United Church</p> <p>7.4 ACP Application – County Partnership for Regional Growth Study</p> <p>7.5 ACP Application Support – Intermunicipal Collaboration</p> <p>7.6 2023 Housing &amp; Service Needs Estimation Infographics</p> <p>7.7 Live Streaming of Meetings</p> <p>7.8 Registered Veterinary Technology Month Support</p>	<p>PP 13-21</p> <p>PP 22,23</p> <p>PP 24</p> <p>PP 25 -30</p> <p>PP 31</p>
<b>8.0</b>	<p><b><u>CORRESPONDENCE:</u></b></p> <p>8.1 Minutes from the September 11, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting</p> <p>8.2 2023 Rural &amp; Remote Alberta Housing &amp; Services Estimation Report</p>	<p>PP 32-34</p> <p>PP 35-90</p>



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 MONDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 AT 7:00 PM

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9.0	<b><u>COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS:</u></b>  9.1 Action List  9.2 Staff Reports	PP 91  PP 92-97
10.0	<b><u>CLOSED SESSION:</u></b>	
11.0	<b><u>ADJOURNMENT:</u></b>	



Box 30, Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0

Phone: 780.354.2201

Fax: 780.354.2207

As long as the sun shines, grass grows and the rivers flow – we acknowledge the homeland of the many diverse First Nation & Métis people whose ancestors have walked this land.

We are grateful to live, learn and work on the traditional territory of Treaty 8 and we make this acknowledgement as an act of reconciliation and gratitude.



**#204-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett **7:02 PM**

**CARRIED:** That Council moves out of Regular Council Meeting and into the scheduled Public Hearing.

**#205-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett **7:03 PM**

**CARRIED:** That Council closes the Public Hearing and moves back into the Regular Council Meeting.

#### 5.2 Land Use Bylaw Amendment - #1020

**#206-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett

**CARRIED:** That Council does a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Land Use Bylaw Amendment #1020.

**#207-2023-09-11** Councillor Ryier Hommy

**CARRIED:** That Council does a 3<sup>rd</sup> reading and passes Land Use Bylaw Amendment #1020.

### 7.0 NEW BUSINESS:

#### 7.1 Wildlife Feeding Bylaw #1021

**#208-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett

**CARRIED:** That Council does a 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Wildlife Feeding Bylaw #1021.

#### 7.2 Policy AD02 – Account Collection, Write Offs and Refund/Credit Policy

**#209-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett

**CARRIED:** That Council approves Policy AD02 – Account Collection, Write Offs and Refund/Credit Policy as presented.

#### 7.3 Rail Safety Week September 18-24, 2023 Proclamation

**#210-2023-09-11** Councillor Ryier Hommy

**CARRIED:** That Council declares September 18-24, 2023 as Rail Safety Week.

#### 7.4 Committee of the Whole Meetings – Extension approval

**#211-2023-09-11** Councillor Judy Kokotilo-Bekkerus

**CARRIED:** That Council will table this item until the Council Meeting on September 25, 2023.

#### 7.5 Property Tax Incentives for Fire Fighters

**#212-2023-09-11** Councillor Ryier Hommy

**CARRIED:** That Council will table this item until the October 23, 2023 Council Meeting.

#### 7.6 Assessment Services Contract – County of Grande Prairie

**#213-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett

**CARRIED:** That Council agrees to renew the Assessment Services Contract with the County of Grande Prairie for the next 5-year term, 2024 through 2028.

7.7 Property Tax Exemptions

**#214-2023-09-11** Councillor Hugh Graw

**CARRIED:** That Council approves granting the Property Tax Exemptions as presented for another 3-year term, 2024 through 2026.

7.8 Weed Inspector Report – August 2023

**#215-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett

**CARRIED:** That Council accepts this report for information.

**8.0 CORRESPONDENCE:**

8.1 RCMP Quarterly Report

**#216-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett

**CARRIED:** That Council accepts this report for information.

8.2 Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance – Annual reporting & financial statement

**#217-2023-09-11** Councillor Ryier Hommy

**CARRIED:** That Council accepts this report for information.

8.3 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – August 8, 2023

**#218-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett

**CARRIED:** That Council approves the minutes from the August 8, 2023 Committee of a Whole meeting as presented.

8.4 Economic Development Meeting Minutes – May 18, 2023

**#219-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett

**CARRIED:** That Council accepts these minutes for information as presented.

**9.0 COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

9.1 Action List

**#220-2023-09-11** Councillor Ryier Hommy

**CARRIED:** That Council accepts the Action Item List as presented.

9.2 Council Reports

**#221-2023-09-11** Councillor Judy Kokotilo-Bekkerus

**CARRIED:** That Council accepts these Council Reports for information as presented.

**10.0 CLOSED SESSION**

**#222-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett

**7:40 PM**

**CARRIED:** That Council moves into Closed Session for Items 10.1 Personnel – Evaluation – CAO – FOIP Section 19 and 10.2 Contract – TM Mobile Inc. – FOIP Section 16

**#223-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett **8:21 PM**  
**CARRIED:** That Council moves out of Closed Session.

**11.0** **ADJOURNMENT** Deputy Mayor Cal Mosher adjourned the meeting. **8:22 PM**

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Deputy Mayor Cal Mosher

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CAO, Jeff Johnston

**TOWN OF BEAVERLODGE**

**BYLAW # 1021**

**A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF BEAVERLODGE IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA TO  
PROHIBIT THE FEEDING OF WILDLIFE IN THE TOWN OF BEAVERLODGE**

**WHEREAS**, the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter M-26, pursuant to Section 7(a) provided that the Council of a Municipality may pass Bylaws for Municipal purposes respecting the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 7(h) of the Municipal Government Act, a Council may pass Bylaws for Municipal purposes respecting wild and domestic animals and activities in relation to them; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 7(i) of the Municipal Government Act, a Council may pass Bylaws for Municipal purposes respecting the enforcement of bylaws made under the Municipal Government Act or any other enactment including any or all of the matters listed therein; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 8 of the Municipal Government Act, a Council may in Bylaw:

- (a) Regulate or prohibit

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council of the Town of Beaverlodge enacts as follows:

SECTION 1 - SHORT TITLE

- 1.0 This Bylaw shall be called the "Wildlife Feeding Bylaw".

SECTION 2 – INTERPRETATION

- 2.0 In this Bylaw, the following terms will have the following definitions:

**"ACT"** means the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, Chapter M-26, as amended, or any statute enacted in its place.

**"Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)"** means the person appointed by Council to the position of Chief Administrative Officer under Section 205 of the Municipal Government Act.

**"Council"** means the Mayor and Councillors duly elected pursuant to the provisions of the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

**"Device"** means feeding stands, salt blocks, bird feeders less than (eight) 8 feet in height.

**"Enforcement Officer"** a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, a Community Peace Officer as appointed by the Solicitor General of Alberta, or a Bylaw Enforcement Officer as appointed by the Town to enforce Bylaws of the Town.

**"Feed"** means deliberately providing, leaving or placing in, on or about land or premises any wildlife attractants with the intention that wildlife be enticed to such wildlife attractants with the intention that they be eaten by the wildlife.



## BYLAW # 1021 – PROHIBIT FEEDING OF WILDLIFE

**“Municipal Violation Tag”** means a ticket alleging an offence issued pursuant to the authority of a Bylaw of the Town.

**“Natural”** means food or other substances consumed by wildlife, produced by or existing in nature, not artificial.

**“Person”** means any individual, business entity, society, partnership, heirs, executors, administrators or assigns.

**“Premises”** means a residence, store, office, warehouse, factory, building, enclosure, yard or other place occupied, or capable of being occupied, by any person.

**“Substance”** means a food substance or other edible substance accessible to wildlife.

**“Town”** means the Town of Beaverlodge.

**“Wildlife Attractant”** means any substance which could, or be reasonably expected to, attract deer or other wildlife including but not limited to: food products, pet food, feed, grain or salt.

**“Wildlife”** means all mammals other than domestic animals (some examples include, but are not exclusive to deer, bears, fox, squirrels, etc.)

### SECTION 3 – PROHIBITION AGAINST FEEDING WILDLIFE

3.1 No person shall store, handle or dispose of any wildlife attractants in such a manner so they are or may become accessible to wildlife.

3.2 No person shall feed, attempt to feed, or permit the feeding of, either directly or indirectly, any wildlife by leaving or placing, in, on, or about any premises, any feed or wildlife attractants for the purpose of feeding such wildlife.

3.3 For Certainty, the prohibition in Section 3.1 does not apply in relation to:

- a) A wildlife officer or a wildlife guardian as defined in the *Wildlife Act* while lawfully performing their duties, or a person under the direction of or with the permission of a wildlife officer or wildlife guardian
- b) Farm operations, except where feed or bales have been stored negligently;
- c) Fruit or vegetable gardening for human consumption; or
- d) Natural product including ornamental plants and flowers.
- e) Any natural product that is growing on a particular land owned or occupied where feeding of wildlife is occurring.

3.4 Notwithstanding Section 3.2, a person may place or allow to be placed a bird feeder, using bird feed only, on their premises so long as such bird feeder and any contents contained therein are not or may not become accessible to wildlife.

3.5 Each property owner or occupier shall have the duty to remove any device placed on the owner's or occupier's property in violation of this bylaw.

## BYLAW # 1021 – PROHIBIT FEEDING OF WILDLIFE

3.6 Each property owner or occupier shall have the duty to remove any device placed on the owner's or occupier's property to which wild animals or from which wild animals actually feed. Alternatively, a property owner or occupier may modify such a device or make other changes to the property that prevents wild animals from having access to feeding from the device. Failure to remove such a device or to make such modifications within (twenty-four) 24 hours after notice is given by the Town of Beaverlodge shall constitute a separate violation.

### SECTION 4.0 – ENFORCEMENT AND ENTRY

4.1 At any reasonable time, an Enforcement Officer may enter upon the property in order to ascertain whether the provisions of this Bylaw are being observed. Where an Enforcement Officer believes that, as a result of a breach of this bylaw, wildlife is located on or near the property and has endangered or harmed a person or a domestic animal, or presents an imminent threat to the safety of any person or a domestic animal, or presents an imminent threat to the safety of any person, the officer may take steps to prevent, avert, reduce or mitigate the harm or threat or provide assistance. In doing so, the officer may seek assistance of a Conservation Officer or a police officer as may be reasonable or necessary in the circumstances.

4.2 A person must not obstruct or interfere with an Enforcement Officer who has entered onto a property pursuant to section 4.1, or another person assisting the officer.

4.3 The Chief Administrative Officer or their designates may prescribe any form, notice or ticket or other administrative matter required pursuant to this Bylaw.

### SECTION 5.0 – OFFENCE AND PENALTY

5.1 A person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction as per Schedule "A".

5.2 Where there is a specified penalty listed for an offence in Schedule "A" to this Bylaw, that amount is the minimum specified penalty for the offence.

5.3 Any Enforcement Officer who has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that any person has contravened any provision of this Bylaw may issue and serve:

- a) a Municipal Violation Tag allowing a payment of the specified penalty to the Town; or
- b) a Violation ticket allowing payment according to the provisions of the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act*.

### SECTION 6.0 – SEVERABILITY

6.1 It is the intention of Council that each separate provision of this Bylaw shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein and it is the further intention of Council that if any provision of this Bylaw is declared invalid, all other provisions hereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

BYLAW # 1021 – PROHIBIT FEEDING OF WILDLIFE

SECTION 7.0 – GENERAL

7.1 Any person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw by:

- a) doing any act or thing which the person is prohibited from doing; or
- b) failing to do any act or thing the person is required to do;

is guilty of an offence and any offence created pursuant to this Bylaw is a strict liability offence for the purposes of prosecution under this bylaw.

7.2 Nothing in this Bylaw relieves a person from complying with any provision of any federal or provincial law or regulation, other bylaw(s), or any requirement of any lawful permit, order or license.

7.3 Any headings, sub-headings, or tables of contents in this Bylaw are included for guidance purposes and convenience only, and shall not form part of this Bylaw.

7.4 Words in the singular include the plural and words in the plural include the singular.

7.5 This bylaw is gender-neutral and, accordingly, any references to one gender includes the other.

7.6 All schedules attached to this Bylaw shall form a part of this Bylaw and may, from time to time, be amended.

7.7 No provision of this Bylaw or any action taken pursuant to any provision of this Bylaw shall restrict, limit, prevent, or preclude the Town from pursuing any other remedy in relation to a premises as provided by the Municipal Government Act, or any other law of the Province of Alberta.

This Bylaw shall come into full force and effect upon third and final reading,

READ A FIRST TIME this 11th day of September, 2023.

READ A SECOND TIME this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Administrative Officer

BYLAW # 1021 – PROHIBIT FEEDING OF WILDLIFE

SCHEDULE "A"

PENALTIES

SECTION	OFFENCE	1 <sup>ST</sup> OFFENCE	2 <sup>ND</sup> /Sub OFFENCE
3.1	Improperly store, handle or dispose of Wildlife Attractants	\$250.00	\$500.00
3.2	Feed Wildlife	\$250.00	\$500.00
3.5	Place a Device so as to be or become accessible to Wildlife	\$150.00	\$300.00
3.6	Failure to remove a Device or to make modifications to the Device or property to prevent the feeding of Wildlife within twenty-four (24) hours	\$250.00	\$500.00
4.2	Willfully obstruct, hinder or interfere with Enforcement Officer	\$500.00	\$1000.00



### Facility and Fee Waiver Application

Organization: Beaverlodge United Church

Type of business:  Government  Non-Profit  For-Profit  Other

Charity / Non Profit Registration Number: 888 973 195 RR 0001  
You must attach a copy of the 501(c)3, if Non-Profit

Address: Box 387

City: Beaverlodge Province: AB Postal-Code: T0H 0C0

Contact Name: Iris Arberry Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 613-528-7595 Phone 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: arby1956@gmciul.com

Type of Event:  Fundraiser  Community Event  Private Event

Date(s) of event: NOV 4, 2023 setup + NOV 5, 2023 dinner

Requested Facility/Location of Event: Beaverlodge Community Center,

Requested Equipment: tables, chairs, steam table, kitchen

Requested Percentage of Fees to be Waived:  25%  50%

NOTE: The maximum amount of any eligible application for waiver or fee reduction is 50%.

Requested Amount of Fees to be Waived: \$ 350 00

Brief Description and Purpose of Event (attach an additional page if needed):

Annual roast beef dinner. Fund raiser for Beaverlodge United church and a community outreach event. Budget for dinner is approx \$4000 and last years attendance was approx 150 persons. Cost is by donation and we rely on donations of food, produce and money from our parishioners to put on this community event. Church congregation is approx 75-100 persons. Attendance is normally 25.

The primary purpose of the organization is: Faith based worship, local outreach, support for missions in Canada and abroad

Include the following information with your Application:

- Organization profile (documentation may be requested confirming non-profit status);
- Membership information including the number of members residing in and around the Town of Beaverlodge;
- Funding profile and non-profit status (submission of documentation confirming non-profit status);
- An explanation of the purpose or nature of the event or activity and the perceived benefit of the event or activity to the local community;
- A budget for the event including:
  - Funding sources available and accessed by the organization; and, proposed expenses.
  - Additional sources of revenue including grant sources.
- Previous year's financial statement:
  - An Audited Financial Statement, a Balance Sheet, or an Income and Expense report are all examples of acceptable financial information from applicants. Only one type of statement is required to be submitted with an application.
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- Applications to waive or reduce fees and charges must be made at least four (4) weeks prior to the event

I acknowledge that this request and any subsequent approval or denial does not guarantee the availability of facilities and/or equipment. I further understand that I must have completed all applicable reservation procedures prior to submitting this application including but not limited to reserving the facility and/or equipment and paying a security deposit and booking fee. I further acknowledge that if the request is denied or a reduction of fees is granted the organization I represent must pay all remaining fees by the due date and that all established regulations and policies will be followed during and after the event.

Signature: Eris Arkberry Date: 18 Sep 2023

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Received By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Permit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount of Permit: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Fees Waived: \_\_\_\_\_

Administration Approval:  0%  25%

Council Approval:  0%  25%  50%

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Notified by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Permit Contract**

**Town of Beaverlodge Recreation**  
 P.O. Box 30  
 1016 - 4th Ave  
 Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0  
 Phone: (780) 354-2203  
 FAX: (780) 354-2203  
 Email: recreation@beaverlodge.ca

**Permit #3743, Approved**

Aug 9, 2023 8:34 AM



Customer Type: Other Organizations  
 Prepared By: Tanya Harvey

**Company:** Beaverlodge United Church  
 Box 387  
 Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0

**Agent:** Donna Lewis  
 Email: donnaelewis@hotmail.com

Home: (780) 518-7379

Charges	Taxes	Discounts	Total Charges	Deposits	Deposit Taxes	Total Payments	Refunds	Balance
\$666.67	\$33.33	\$0	\$700.00	\$250.00	\$0	(\$250.00)	\$0	\$700.00

**RESERVATIONS**

Event	Resource	Center	Notes
Roast Beef Supper #3743 Type: Community Centre Special Events Attend/Qty: 160	CC Whole	Beaverlodge/West County Pool 1016 4th Ave Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0 (780) 354-2201	--

Day	Days Requested	Date	Event Begins	Duration	Date	Event Ends	Time
Saturday		Nov 4, 2023	9:00 AM	13 hours	Nov 4, 2023	10:00 PM	
Sunday		Nov 5, 2023	9:00 AM	13 hours	Nov 5, 2023	10:00 PM	

Summary	Notes
Total Number of Dates: 2 Total Time: 26 hours	DAMAGE DEPOSIT WILL BE REFUNDED AFTER CLEANUP OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE BY THE RENTER AS FOLLOWS: PUTTING ALL TABLES AND CHAIRS AWAY, SWEEPING AND SPOT MOPPING OF THE FLOOR, PROPER CLEANUP OF THE KITCHEN, BAR & WASHROOMS, ALL GARBAGE TAKEN OUTSIDE TO THE GARBAGE BIN, AND REMOVAL OF THE RECYCLE IF DESIRED. PLEASE CONFIRM HOW TO REFUND THE DAMAGE DEPOSIT (CHEQUE OR BY CREDIT TO ACCOUNT IN THE COMPUTER)

**CHARGES**

Description	Event / Resource	Unit Fee	Units	Tax	Charge
MPR Full Day	Roast Beef Supper #3743 MPR Whole	\$180.00	0	--	\$0
CC Event (Prior Day)	Roast Beef Supper #3743 CC Whole	\$200.00	1.00	GST (I): \$9.52	\$200.00
CC Full Day	Roast Beef Supper #3743 CC Whole	\$500.00	1.00	GST (I): \$23.81	\$500.00

**DEPOSITS**

Deposit Charge	Event / Resource	Charge Tax	Amount paid	Refunds	Balance
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CC Damage Deposit	Roast Beef Supper #3743 CC Whole	\$250.00	\$0	\$250.00	\$0	\$0
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▼ **Payments and Refunds**

Receipt #	Date	Charge Description	Resource Event	Payment
1105911.002	Aug 21, 2023	CC Damage Deposit	CC Whole Roast Beef Supper #3743	\$250.00

▼ **Payment Schedule for Original Balance of \$950.00**

Due Date	Amount Due	Amount Paid	Withdrawal Adjustment	Balance
Oct 28, 2023	\$950.00	\$250.00	\$0	\$700.00
			<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$700.00</b>

▼ **CUSTOM QUESTIONS**

Question	Answer
What is the purpose of your function?	Roaf Beef Dinner
Do you require use of the PA System?	No
Do you require the projector?	No
How will you be providing Facility User Group Insurance.	Will provide own insurance
Will your event be serving or selling alcohol?	No. I will not be serving or selling alcohol.
Do you require use of the stage?	No
Would you like to purchase the set-up?	No
Would you like to purchase the set-up?	No
Do you need tables or chairs?	Yes
Do you require wireless internet access?	No
Do you require a telephone for telephone conference?	No
Do you wish to purchases janitorial services?	No

**Terms & Conditions:** This agreement, when signed by the applicant and a representative of the Organization, constitutes a contractual agreement binding both parties to certain obligations. The applicant agrees to observe and obey all Organization rules and regulations. In addition, it shall be the responsibility of the applicant to pay the required fee at the time of reservation. Balance due must be paid before the scheduled event. Deposits will be returned only in the case of conditions which force the cancellation of the event. The Organization agrees to maintain the facility, to assure that the facility is prepared properly for the agreed-upon event, and to provide adequate sanitation facilities, subject to available equipment, resources, weather conditions and time of year.

**Special Events:** a. Special Events include, but are not limited to, private pool rentals, rentals of the multi-purpose rooms, community centre, arena, or sports fields. b. 50% of the total booking fee is payable at the time of booking, including the refundable damage. c. Cancellation notice for Special Events must be at least seven (7) days prior to the event. Some events may require notice of more than seven (7) days and that notice period will be indicated on contracts. d. In case of a no-show, the booking fee will not be refunded.



**Beaverlodge United Church**

**Financial Statement to December 31, 2022 and draft budget 2023**

	2021	2022	2023		2021	2022	2023
	Actual	Actual	Draft Budget		Actual	Actual	Draft Budget
<b>Income:</b>				<b>Expenses:</b>			
<b>Donations:</b>				<b>Building</b>			
General	41,709.00	46,200.02	60,000.00	Special Projects			
Mission & Service	4,000.00	8,090.00	4,000.00	Insurance	6,654.38	7,568.68	9,300.00
Sunday School/Loose offering	482.00	894.60	500.00	Janitor	3,300.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
Memorial	725.00	2,810.65	500.00	Janitorial Supplies	22.02	704.28	100.00
Roast Beef Dinner Donations	0.00	750.00	500.00	Maintenance	5,322.00	7,292.13	7,500.00
Special Projects Donations	750.00	477.75		Sewer, Water, Garbage	735.02	799.32	800.00
Other Donations	8,205.00	22,694.79	5,000.00	Electricity	2,708.78	3,943.39	4,500.00
<b>Fundraisers:</b>				Gas	3,780.87	5,274.60	5,500.00
Swing Into Spring		1,236.00	1,200.00	Snow removal	1,281.00	1,648.50	1,500.00
Highway/Roadside Clean-up	3,854.30	3,805.00	2,500.00	Lawn care	535.50	451.50	600.00
Yard Sale	3,112.25	2,321.35	2,500.00	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>24,339.57</b>	<b>31,282.40</b>	<b>33,400.00</b>
Roast Beef Dinner		3,811.85	4,000.00				
Bethlehem Market				<b>Mission and Outreach</b>			
Funeral/Catering		4,996.50	1,000.00	Christian Education			50.00
Other fundraisers	80.00	275.00	300.00	Pastoral Care/Healing touch			150.00
Broadview magazine income	325.00	300.00	350.00	Website management	1,075.00	1,075.00	1,100.00
Rentals	1,262.00	2,830.00	1,000.00	Mission & Service Fund	4,000.00	8,090.00	4,000.00
Other Income	4,278.84	117.14		Broadview magazine	425.00	400.00	400.00
GST rebate				Special Projects	485.00	168.24	
Gifts-in-kind	616.41	2,287.30		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>5,985.00</b>	<b>9,733.24</b>	<b>5,700.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>69,399.80</b>	<b>103,897.95</b>	<b>83,350.00</b>				

Bank balance (ATB), Dec 31, 2022	53,978.94
Add: Outstanding deposits	1,100.00
Less: Outstanding cheques	12,998.49
Adjusted Bank balance, Dec 31, 2022	\$42,080.45
Term GIC (ATB)	17,289.00
<b>Total Liquid Assets, Dec 31, 2022</b>	<b>\$59,369.45</b>

Assets	
Building and contents	\$1,129,555.00
Cash, Dec 31, 2022	\$42,080.45
Term GIC (ATB)	17,289.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,188,924.45</b>
Liabilities	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
Equity	
<b>Net Equity</b>	<b>\$1,188,924.45</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>\$1,188,924.45</b>

<b>Worship</b>			
Honoraria/Gifts		111.88	300.00
Pastoral Charge	46,836.40	56,680.82	76,703.90
Worship supplies		152.00	200.00
Worship - musicians		180.00	300.00
Special Projects	4,568.97		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>51,405.37</b>	<b>57,124.70</b>	<b>77,503.90</b>

<b>Other</b>			
Bank Charges	198.19	50.40	100.00
Kitchen			100.00
Miscellaneous		135.00	50.00
Office expenses	99.96	209.57	150.00
Advertising	54.60	382.62	350.00
Fundraising expenses	1,512.99	3,422.10	3,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,865.74</b>	<b>4,199.69</b>	<b>3,750.00</b>

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>83,595.68</b>	<b>102,340.03</b>	<b>120,353.90</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>-\$14,195.88</b>	<b>\$1,557.92</b>	<b>-\$37,003.90</b>

Prepared by Donna Lewis

## Registered Charity Information Return

### Section A: Identification

To help you fill out this form, refer to Guide T4033, Completing the Registered Charity Information Return. It can be found at [canada.ca/cra-forms](http://canada.ca/cra-forms).

**Note:** Even if a charity is inactive, an information return must be filed to maintain its registered status.

Complete the following:

1. Charity name:

Beaverlodge United Church

2. Return for fiscal period ending:

Year	Month	Day
2   0   2   2	1   2	3   1

3. BN/registration number:

888973195 R R 0001

4. Web address (if applicable):

<https://beaverlodgeuc.ca/>

**A1** Was the charity in a subordinate position to a head body? ..... **1510**  Yes  No  
**If yes, give the name and BN/registration number of the organization.**

Name  
United Church of Canada

BN (9 digits, 2 letters, 4 digits. Example: 123456789RR0001)  
108102435RR0001

**A2** Has the charity wound-up, dissolved, or terminated operations? ..... **1570**  Yes  No

**A3** Is the charity designated as a public foundation or private foundation? ..... **1600**  Yes  No

**If yes, you must complete Schedule 1, Foundations. To confirm the charity's designation, go to [canada.ca/charities-list](http://canada.ca/charities-list) and refer to the charity's detail page.**

### Section B: Directors/trustees and like officials

**B1** All charities must complete Form T1235, Directors/Trustees and Like Officials Worksheet. Only the **public** information section of the worksheet is available to the public.

**For charities subject to the Ontario Corporations Act.**

As of May 15, 2021, the Canada Revenue Agency no longer collects this information on behalf of the Ontario Ministry of Government and Consumer Services. For more information on filing an Ontario annual information return, visit [ontario.ca/businessregistry](http://ontario.ca/businessregistry).

**Note:** If you would like these individuals to have the authority to communicate with the CRA on behalf of your charity, their name must also appear as an owner for your Business Number (BN). For more information, go to [canada.ca/charities-giving](http://canada.ca/charities-giving), select "Operating a registered charity," then "Making a change to your organization" and see "Change director."

### Section C: Programs and general information

**C1** Was the charity active during the fiscal period? ..... **1800**  Yes  No  
**If no, explain why in the "Ongoing programs" space below at C2.**

**C2** Describe all **ongoing** and **new** charitable programs the charity carried on during this fiscal period to further its purpose(s) (as defined in its governing documents). "Programs" includes all of the charitable activities that the charity carries out on its own through employees or volunteers as well as through qualified donees and intermediaries. The charity may also use this space to describe the contributions of its volunteers in carrying out its activities, for example, number of volunteers and/or hours. **Do not** include the names of employees or volunteers. Grant-making charities should describe the types of organizations they support. **Do not** describe fundraising activities in this space.

**Do not attach additional sheets of paper or annual reports.**

Ongoing programs

Community programs such as AA and Alanon, counseling, weddings, funerals, baptisms, confirmation classes, weekly worship services, men's breakfast, faith formation, bible and book study, yoga, meditation, choir, music practice and jam sessions, concerts, food bank collections and support.

New programs

Registered charities may make gifts to qualified donees. Qualified donees are other registered Canadian charities, as well as certain other organizations described in the Income Tax Act.

**C3** Did the charity make gifts or transfer funds to qualified donees or other organizations? ..... **2000**  Yes  No  
**Important:** If yes, you must complete Form T1236, Qualified donees worksheet/Amounts provided to other organizations.

**C4** Did the charity carry on, fund, or provide any resources through employees, volunteers, agents, joint ventures, contractors, or any other individuals, intermediaries, entities, or means (other than qualified donees) for any activity/program/project outside Canada? ..... **2100**  Yes  No  
**Important:** If yes, you must complete Schedule 2, Activities outside Canada.

**C5** Public policy dialogue and development activities  
 This question has been removed.

**C6** If the charity carried on fundraising activities or engaged third parties to carry on fundraising activities on its behalf, select all fundraising methods that it used during the fiscal period:

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>2500</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advertisements/print/radio/TV commercials | <b>2570</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Sales                                     | <b>2620</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone/TV solicitations    |
| <b>2510</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Auctions   | <b>2575</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Internet                                  | <b>2630</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Tournament/sporting events    |
| <b>2530</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collection plate/boxes                    | <b>2580</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Mail campaigns                            | <b>2640</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Cause-related marketing       |
| <b>2540</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Door-to-door solicitation                            | <b>2590</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Planned-giving programs                   | <b>2650</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other              |
| <b>2550</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Draws/lotteries                                      | <b>2600</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted corporate donations/sponsorships | <b>2660</b> Specify: <u>Roadside Cleanup, Bake Sale, Yard Sale</u> |
| <b>2560</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fundraising dinners/galas/concerts        | <b>2610</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted contacts                         |  |

**C7** Did the charity pay external fundraisers? ..... **2700**  Yes  No  
**If yes, you must complete the following lines, and complete Schedule 4, Confidential data, Table 1.**

- (a) Enter the gross revenue collected by the fundraisers on behalf of the charity. .... **5450** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) Enter the amounts paid to and/or retained by the fundraisers. .... **5460** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) Select the method of payment to the fundraiser:
- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>2730</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Commissions | <b>2750</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Finder's fee         | <b>2770</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Honoraria |
| <b>2740</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Bonuses     | <b>2760</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Set fee for services | <b>2780</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Other     |
| <b>2790</b> Specify: _____                       |   |  |

(d) Did the fundraiser issue tax receipts on behalf of the charity? ..... **2800**  Yes  No

**C8** Did the charity compensate any of its directors/trustees or like officials or persons not at arm's length from the charity for services provided during the fiscal period (other than reimbursement for expenses)? ..... **3200**  Yes  No

**C9** Did the charity incur any expenses for compensation of employees during the fiscal period? ..... **3400**  Yes  No  
**Important:** If yes, you must complete Schedule 3, Compensation.

**C10** Did the charity receive any donations or gifts of any kind valued at \$10,000 or more from any donor that was not resident in Canada and was not any of the following? ..... **3900**  Yes  No

- a Canadian citizen, nor
- employed in Canada, nor
- carrying on a business in Canada, nor
- a person having disposed of taxable Canadian property?

**Important:** If yes, you must complete Schedule 4, Confidential data, Table 2, for each donation of \$10,000 or more.

**C11** Did the charity receive any non-cash gifts for which it issued tax receipts? ..... **4000**  Yes  No  
**Important:** If yes, you must complete Schedule 5, Non-cash gifts.

**C12** Did the charity acquire a non-qualifying security? ..... **5800**  Yes  No

**C13** Did the charity allow any of its donors to use any of its property? (except for permissible uses) ..... **5810**  Yes  No

**C14** Did the charity issue any of its tax receipts for donations on behalf of another organization? ..... **5820**  Yes  No

**C15** Did the charity have direct partnership holdings at any time during the fiscal period? ..... **5830**  Yes  No

**C16** Registered charities may make qualifying disbursements by way of grants to non-qualified donees (grantees) as described in the Income Tax Act.

Did the charity make qualifying disbursements by way of grants to non-qualified donees (grantees) in the fiscal period? ..... **5840**  Yes  No

If **yes**, you **must** complete lines 5841, 5842 and 5843.

Did the charity make grants to any grantees totalling more than \$5,000 in the fiscal period? ..... **5841**  Yes  No

If **yes**, you **must** complete Form T1441, Qualifying Disbursements: Grants to Non-Qualified Donees (Grantees).

Enter the number of grantees that received grants totalling \$5,000 or less in the fiscal period ..... **5842**

Enter the total amount paid to grantees that received grants totalling \$5,000 or less in the fiscal period ..... **5843** \$

**Section D: Financial information**

Fill out either Section D or Schedule 6, Detailed financial information.

If any of the following applies to the charity, complete Schedule 6 instead of Section D:

- (a) The charity's revenue exceeds \$100,000.
- (b) The amount of all property (for example, investments, rental properties) not used in charitable activities was more than \$25,000.
- (c) The charity had permission to accumulate funds during this fiscal period.

Show all amounts to the nearest single Canadian dollar. Do not enter "See attached financial statements." All relevant fields must be filled out.

**D1** Was the financial information reported below prepared on an accrual or cash basis? ..... **4020**  Accrual  Cash

**D2 Summary of financial position:**

Using the charity's own financial statements, enter the following:

Did the charity own land and/or buildings? ..... **4050**  Yes  No

**Total assets (including land and buildings)** ..... **4200** \$

**Total liabilities** ..... **4350** \$

Did the charity borrow from, loan to, or invest assets with any non-arm's length persons? ..... **4400**  Yes  No

**D3 Revenue:**

Did the charity issue tax receipts for gifts? ..... **4490**  Yes  No

If **yes**, enter the total eligible amount of all gifts for which the charity has issued or will issue tax receipts ..... **4500** \$

Total amount of 10 year gifts received ..... **4505** \$

Total amount received from other registered charities ..... **4510** \$

Total other gifts received for which a tax receipt was **not** issued by the charity (excluding amounts at lines 4575 and 4630) ..... **4530** \$

Did the charity receive any revenue from any level of government in Canada? ..... **4565**  Yes  No

If **yes**, total amount received ..... **4570** \$

Total tax-receipted revenue from all sources outside of Canada (government and non-government) ..... **4571** \$

Total **non** tax-receipted revenue from all sources outside of Canada (government and non-government) ..... **4575** \$

Total **non** tax-receipted revenue from fundraising ..... **4630** \$

Total revenue from sale of goods and services (except to any level of government in Canada) ..... **4640** \$

Other revenue not already included in the amounts above ..... **4650** \$

**Total revenue (add lines 4500, 4510 to 4570, and 4575 to 4650)** ..... **4700** \$

**D4 Expenditures:**

Professional and consulting fees ..... **4860** \$

Travel and vehicle expenses ..... **4810** \$

All other expenditures not already included in the amounts above (excluding qualifying disbursements) ..... **4920** \$

**Total expenditures (excluding qualifying disbursements) (add lines 4860, 4810, and 4920)** ..... **4950** \$

Of the amount at line 4950:

(a) Total expenditures on charitable activities ..... **5000** \$

(b) Total expenditures on management and administration ..... **5010** \$

Total grants made to non-qualified donees (grantees) ..... **5045** \$

Total amount of gifts made to all qualified donees ..... **5050** \$

**Total expenditures (add lines 4950, 5045, and 5050)** ..... **5100** \$

**Section E: Certification**

This return **must** be signed by a person who has authority to sign on behalf of the charity. It is a serious offence under the Income Tax Act to provide false or deceptive information.

I certify that the information given on this annual return and any attachment is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, complete, and current.

Name (print) Donna Lewis	Signature	
Position in charity Stewardship	Date 2023-06-21	Phone number 780-518-7379

**Section F: Confidential data**

**F1** Enter the physical address of the charity and the address in Canada for the charity's books and records. Post office box numbers and rural routes are not sufficient.

	Physical address of the charity	Address for the charity's books and records
Complete street address	403 10 Street	403 10 Street
City	Beaverlodge	Beaverlodge
Province or territory and postal code	Alberta T0H0C0	Alberta T0H0C0

**F2** Name and address of individual who completed this return.

Name Donna Lewis	
Company name (if applicable)	
Complete street address 1824 15 Street	
City, province or territory, and postal code Calgary, Alberta T2T 3Y6	
Phone number 780-518-7379	Is this the same individual who certified in Section E above? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**Privacy statement**

Personal information is collected under the authority of the Income Tax Act and is used to establish and validate the identity and contact information of directors, trustees, officers, like officials, and authorized representatives of the organization. This information will also be used as a basis for the indirect collection of additional personal information from other internal and external sources, which includes personal tax information, and relevant financial and biographical information. Personal information will be used to assess the risk of registration with respect to the obligations and requirements as outlined in the Act and the common law. The social insurance number (SIN) is collected under subsection 237 of the Act and is used for identification purposes.

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) will make the information on this annual information return available to the public on the Charities Directorate website, except for information identified as confidential. Personal information may also be disclosed under information-sharing agreements and in accordance with section 241 of the Act. Incomplete or inaccurate information may result in compliance measures including revocation of registered status.

Personal information is described in personal information bank CRA PPU 200 and is protected under the Privacy Act. Individuals have a right of protection, access to and correction or notation of their personal information. You are entitled to complain to the Privacy Commissioner of Canada regarding our handling of your information.

**Notification to directors and like officials:** The CRA strongly encourages the organization to voluntarily inform its directors and like officials that it has collected and disclosed their personal information to the CRA.

I confirm that I have read the Privacy statement above.

**Checklist**

A charity's complete annual information return includes:

- Form T3010, Registered Charity Information Return, and all applicable schedules
- a copy of the charity's financial statements
- Form T1235, Directors/Trustees and Like Officials Worksheet
- Form T1236, Qualified donees worksheet/Amounts provided to other organizations (if applicable)
- Form T2081, Excess Corporate Holdings Worksheet for Private Foundations (if applicable)
- Form T1441, Qualifying Disbursements: Grants to Non-Qualified Donees (Grantees) (if applicable)

If financial statements are not included, the charity's registration may be revoked.



September 19, 2023

Gary Rycroft  
Mayor  
Town of Beaverlodge  
PO Box 30, 400 – 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Beaverlodge, Alberta T0H 0C0

### **County of Grande Prairie Proposing Partnership for Regional Growth Study and Grant Application to the Alberta Community Partnership**

The County of Grande Prairie is proposing a partnership with the Town of Beaverlodge, the City of Grande Prairie and the Towns of Sexsmith, and Wembley for an application to the Alberta Community Partnership program to seek funding for a Regional Growth Study.


The Alberta Community Partnership is a provincial program that provides funding opportunities for a range of municipal initiatives. The County is proposing to apply for the Intermunicipal Collaboration stream to support the project. The available funding is up to \$200,000 towards eligible costs. The estimated project budget is \$180,000 to \$200,000. The application deadline is October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

The County is proposing to conduct a Regional Growth Study to better provide for the long-term needs of residents. The study would provide insights into population growth, and land and housing needs. It would build on previous studies completed by the municipalities to provide more current analysis. The project would provide an up-to-date growth study with a data model and staff training to support on-going monitoring. More current data would help inform decisions for economic development, land use, infrastructure, and service planning.

The efforts around Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks and Intermunicipal Development Plans have highlighted the benefits of a regional approach in planning for these needs. A Regional Growth Study would support a continuation of this collaborative approach to meet the needs of residents. The resulting information could also support the implementation of other regional projects.

The County would act as the Managing Partner under the program to coordinate the application and project activities. The partners are being asked to join us in the application and if successful, to support the project with staff participation in project activities, such as attending meetings, reviewing materials, and providing background information. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Robert G. Marshall  
Reeve  
County of Grande Prairie No. 1  
[bmarshall@countygp.ab.ca](mailto:bmarshall@countygp.ab.ca)  
Phone: 780-532-9722



September 25, 2023

From: Tina Letendre

Department: Administration

**Reference: Alberta Community Partnership Grant (ACP)**

In August 2023, the CAOs of the Town of Wembley, the Town of Beaverlodge, and the Town of Sexsmith ("the Towns") discussed opportunities to jointly apply for an Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) Grant.

Of the topics discussed, the proposal that generated the most interest was an application to fund delivery of shared professional planning and development advisory services under the Intermunicipal Collaboration (IC) stream of the ACP Grant program. The IC stream provides funding to partnerships of two or more municipalities to develop regional plans, service delivery frameworks and regional service delivery efficiencies.

Although I am the Development Officer for the Town and have received my Applied Land Use Certification through the University of Alberta, it would be beneficial if the Town had access to professional planning and development personnel with extensive education and experience to maximize serving the best interests of the Town. They would also be able to assist us with future development agreements as they would have the education for this.

After consideration, the CAOs of the three Towns agreed to recommend to their respective councils to apply for ACP Grant funding under the IC stream for the delivery of shared professional planning and development advisory services.

Copies of the Government of Alberta's ACP webpage and the 2023-24 ACP Program Guidelines are attached for review by Council. The maximum grant available per project is \$200,000. The deadline to submit the grant application is October 2, 2023. Council resolutions from municipalities partnering on ACP Grant applications can be submitted following the application deadline.

**Recommended Resolution**

That Council endorse the Town of Wembley's submission of an application to the Alberta Community Partnership Grant program under the Intermunicipal Collaboration stream for shared professional planning and development advisory services in partnership with the Town of Wembley and the Town of Sexsmith.

**Attachments (online)**

1. Government of Alberta ACP Webpage [Alberta Community Partnership | Alberta.ca](#)
2. 2023-24 ACP Program Guidelines [dataset - Open Government \(alberta.ca\)](#)



# RURAL AND REMOTE ALBERTA


## 2023 Alberta Provincial Housing And Service Needs Estimation




**8,320**

### Community Members Experiencing Housing Insecurity

Out of the 3,211 survey submissions, there were 782 respondents who were found to be housing secure, and 2,429 were found to be housing insecure.



There were 2,354 dependents and 2,537 adults who shared housing insecure conditions with the 2,429 housing insecure respondents.




**13%** or **326** unique respondents accessed an emergency shelter in the past 12 months.

#### Top Missing Amenities


-  sufficient & affordable heating
-  safe drinking water
-  fire protection

#### Employment Status and Type



69% of housing insecure respondents are employed.

68% of those are full-time, and 21% are part-time, with 7% working casual.



**Gender Identity**  
Women are 1.4 times more likely than men to be housing insecure.

**93%** of **2SLGBTQIA+** respondents are housing insecure

**91%** of **Indigenous** respondents are housing insecure

**88%** of respondents **born outside of Canada** are housing insecure

**97%** of respondents **who spent time in care** are housing insecure

#### Top Reasons For Housing Instability

-  low wages
-  can't afford rent/mortgage payments
-  increasing rent costs

# County of Grande Prairie and the towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, and Wembley

## 2023 Alberta Provincial Housing And Service Needs Estimation



# 142

### Total Community Members Experiencing Housing Insecurity

Out of the 100 survey submissions, there were 43 respondents who were found to be housing secure, and 57 were found to be housing insecure.



There were 39 dependents and 46 adults who shared housing insecure conditions with the 57 housing insecure respondents.



### Gender Identity

Women are 2.3 times more likely than men to be housing insecure.

### Age

74% of housing insecure respondents are over 40 years old.



36%

### Overall Community Service Availability Satisfaction Score

### Community Need: Transportation



11%

accessed services via hitchhiking



69%

no, there is not enough public transportation



### Top Missing Amenities

sufficient and affordable heating



safe drinking water

### Employment Status and Type



50% of housing insecure respondents are employed.

56% are full-time, and 15% are part-time, with 7% working casual.

### Top Reasons For Housing Instability



poor credit makes it difficult to secure housing

low wages



illness/medical condition

housing needs major repairs



# County of Grande Prairie

## 2023 Alberta Provincial Housing And Service Needs Estimation



**79**

**Total Community Members Experiencing Housing Insecurity**

Out of the 55 survey submissions, there were 24 respondents who were found to be housing secure, and 31 were found to be housing insecure.



There were 23 dependents and 25 adults who shared housing insecure conditions with the 31 housing insecure respondents.



**Gender Identity**

Women are 2 times more likely than men to be housing insecure.



**Age**

74% of housing insecure respondents are over 40 years old.



**35%**

**Overall Community Service Availability Satisfaction Score**

### Community Needs



**57%**

no, there is not enough access to food



**73%**

no, there is not enough public transportation



### Top Missing Amenities

sufficient and affordable heating



safe drinking water

### Employment Status and Type



48% of housing insecure respondents are employed.

57% of those are full-time, and 14% are part-time, with 7% working casual.

### Top Reasons For Housing Instability



poor credit makes it difficult to secure housing

low wages



illness/medical condition

housing needs major repairs



# Town of Beaverlodge

## 2023 Alberta Provincial Housing And Service Needs Estimation



**34**

**Total Community Members Experiencing Housing Insecurity**

Out of the 24 survey submissions, there were 11 respondents who were found to be housing secure, and 13 were found to be housing insecure.



There were 10 dependents and 11 adults who shared housing insecure conditions with the 13 housing insecure respondents.



**Gender Identity**

Women are 2.7 times more likely than men to be housing insecure.



**Age**

100% of housing insecure respondents are over 40 years old.



46%

**Overall Community Service Availability Satisfaction Score**

### Community Needs



9%

yes, there is enough affordable & accessible housing



67%

no, there is not enough public transportation



**85%**

of housing insecure respondents reported owning their home.

### Employment Status and Type



54% of housing insecure respondents are employed.

55% are full-time, and 14% are part-time, with 14% working casual.

### Top Reasons For Housing Instability



poor credit makes it difficult to secure housing

low wages



illness/medical condition

housing needs major repairs



# Town of Sexsmith

## 2023 Alberta Provincial Housing And Service Needs Estimation



9

### Total Community Members Experiencing Housing Insecurity

Out of the 7 survey submissions, there were 2 respondents who were found to be housing secure, and 5 were found to be housing insecure.



There was 1 dependent and 3 adults who shared housing insecure conditions with the 5 housing insecure respondents.



### Gender Identity

Women are 1.5 times more likely than men to be housing insecure.

### Age

60% of housing insecure respondents are 20-39 years old.



25%

### Overall Community Service Availability Satisfaction Score

### Community Needs

67% no, there is not enough accessible recreational and social opportunities

100% no, there is not enough public transportation



60%

of housing insecure respondents rent their home.

### Employment Status and Type



25% of housing insecure respondents indicated they are employed.

This was 1 respondent, who was employed full time.

### Top Reasons For Housing Instability



poor credit makes it difficult to secure housing

low wages



illness/medical condition

housing needs major repairs



# Town of Wembley

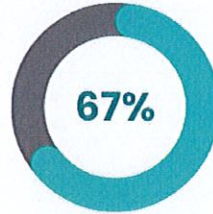
## 2023 Alberta Provincial Housing And Service Needs Estimation



**17**

**Total Community Members Experiencing Housing Insecurity**

Out of the 9 survey submissions, there were 3 respondents who were found to be housing secure, and 6 were found to be housing insecure.



There were 5 dependents and 6 adults who shared housing insecure conditions with the 6 housing insecure respondents.



**Gender Identity**

Women are 5 times more likely than men to be housing insecure.

**Age**

67% of housing insecure respondents are 20-39 years old.



28%

**Overall Community Service Availability Satisfaction Score**

### Community Needs



67%

no, there are not enough employment opportunities



67%

no, there is not enough public transportation

### Employment Status and Type



3 housing insecure respondents indicated they are employed.

2 work full-time, and 1 has part-time employment.



**50%**

of housing insecure respondents rent their home.

### Top Reasons For Housing Instability



poor credit makes it difficult to secure housing

low wages



illness/medical condition

housing needs major repairs



**Nichole Young**

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**Subject:**

Re: October is Registered Veterinary Technology month

My name is Billie Smith and I am employed with West County Animal Clinic.

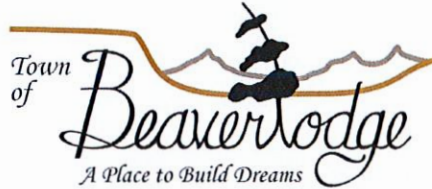
I would like to ask the Council members from the Town of Beaverlodge to consider supporting the veterinary profession in acknowledging October as Registered Veterinary Technology month!

This is a time to shine a spotlight on our invaluable community of RVTs and help spread the word in the exceptional work we do, and showcase the vital contributions RVTs make to the health and welfare of animals, our economy and the overall well-being of our communities.

The Alberta Veterinary Technology Association has already been in contact with the cities of Edmonton and Calgary, and they're keen on recognizing RVT Month.

My dedication and passion for animal health and welfare are what make our community strong, and I believe that together, we can make RVT Month a widely recognized and celebrated occasion across the province.

Sincerely,  
Billie Smith  
Registered Veterinary Technologist



**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS 400 10 St, BEAVERLODGE SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 @ 6:00 PM**

<b>COUNCIL</b>	Mayor Gary Rycroft, absent Councillor Judy Kokotilo-Bekkerus Councillor Cody Moulds, absent Councillor Ryier Hommy	Deputy Mayor Cal Mosher Councillor Hugh Graw Councillor Cyndi Corbett
<b>STAFF</b>	Jeff Johnston, CAO	Tina Letendre, Deputy CAO Nichole Young, Legislative Services

1.0 **CALL TO ORDER:** Deputy Mayor Cal Mosher called meeting to order. **6:00 PM**

2.0 **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT:**

*As long as the sun shines, grass grows and the rivers flow – we acknowledge the homeland of the many diverse First Nation & Métis people whose ancestors have walked this land. We are grateful to live, learn and work on the traditional territory of Treaty 8 and we make this acknowledgement as an act of reconciliation and gratitude.*

3.0 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

**#125-2023-09-11** Councillor Hugh Graw

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts the agenda with the addition of:

- New Business Item 6.13 – Water Meter Update.

4.0 **DELEGATION:**

5.0 **OLD BUSINESS:**

6.0 **NEW BUSINESS:**

6.1 Town Hall Topics and Date

**#126-2023-09-11** Councillor Hugh Graw

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information.

6.2 Cold Shot Bus Lines – Letter of Support

**#127-2023-09-11** Councillor Judy Kokotilo-Bekkerus

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole recommends this item be tabled until the October 10, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

6.3 Wounded Warriors Sponsorship Request.

**#128-2023-09-11** Councillor Hugh Graw

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information.



6.4 IDP Open House – Sept 21, 2023

**#129-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information.

6.5 Intermunicipal Meeting October 5, 2023 – Agenda Items

**#130-2023-09-11** Councillor Ryier Hommy

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information.

6.6 Service Provider Open House – September 14, 2023

**#131-2023-09-11** Councillor Ryier Hommy

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information.

6.7 Doctor Appreciation & Welcome Mixer – November 6, 2023

**#132-2023-09-11** Councillor Judy Kokotilo-Bekkerus

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information.

6.8 1<sup>st</sup> Responders Appreciation Event

**#133-2023-09-11** Councillor Hugh Graw

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information.

6.9 Firehall Building Committee Update

**#134-2023-09-11** Councillor Ryier Hommy

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information.

6.10 Mountview Health Complex Committee Update

**#135-2023-09-11** Councillor Judy Kokotilo-Bekkerus

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information

6.11 Community Enhancement Committee Update

**#136-2023-09-11** Councillor Judy Kokotilo-Bekkerus

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information

6.12 Community Economic Development Committee Update

**#137-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information.

6.13 Water Meter Update

**#138-2023-09-11** Councillor Cyndi Corbett

**CARRIED:** That the Committee of the Whole accepts this for information.

## **7.0 TOPICS FOR NEXT AGENDA:**

- Firehall Building Committee Update
- Mountview Health Complex Committee Update
- Community Enhancement Committee Update
- Economic Development Committee Update

8.0 ADJOURNMENT: Deputy Mayor Cal Mosher adjourned the meeting.

6:45 PM

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Deputy Mayor Cal Mosher

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CAO Jeff Johnston



# RURAL AND REMOTE ALBERTA

2023 Alberta Housing and Services  
Needs Estimation Project

PROVINCIAL REPORT



Prepared By:  
Rural Development Network  
(780)-964-2736  
11443 - 143 Street, NW  
Edmonton, AB

# Acknowledgements

RDN's physical office is located on the Traditional Territories of Treaty 6 and is home to many Métis and Inuit Peoples. As a national organization, we also acknowledge that RDN staff and the communities we support live, gather, and organize across Turtle Island.

Inuit, Métis, and First Nations Peoples are experiencing homelessness at disproportionately high rates compared to non-Indigenous people in Canada. Unlike the common, colonialist definition of homelessness, Indigenous homelessness is not simply defined as lacking a structure of habitation; rather, it is more fully understood as a loss or breakdown of relationships between individuals, families, and/or communities and their land, water, place, family, kin, each other, animals, cultures, languages, and identities. RDN recognizes the ways in which settler relationships to both the land and the Peoples of this land have been broken and misused, causing and contributing to Indigenous homelessness. We also recognize the ways in which our presence on this land continues to uphold colonialism and reproduces dispossession and violence for Indigenous people, further perpetuating experiences of Indigenous homelessness.

In an ongoing effort to support Indigenous communities in addressing issues of housing, homelessness, and service needs, we are committed to working to decolonize homelessness research and advocate to funders for Indigenous self-determination in the housing and social sectors.

We share this acknowledgement to reaffirm our responsibility and commitment to reconciliation.

We also recognize that this land acknowledgement is just that, an acknowledgement; it is but one step in our journey. We commit to working to uphold the conditions of the treaties that govern this land.



## We thank you.

This report and the information within were made possible through the efforts of many dedicated individuals and groups. We wish to thank the coordinators who facilitated data collection in each of their communities, the front-line staff who administered surveys in each of their communities, and the residents in each community for their support, dedication, and commitment to this project.

Additionally, we would like to acknowledge that this project was funded in part by the Government of Canada's Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy.

Canada 





## About this Report

In 2023, the Rural Development Network (RDN) partnered with 22 organizations representing 45 communities across Alberta to conduct the third iteration of the provincial-wide housing and service needs estimation.

This report outlines the overall results of the provincial estimation, highlighting the number of residents who are housing insecure and their experiences with homelessness and is intended to support decision-making across organizations, funders and multiple levels of government around housing and homelessness by providing reliable and up-to-date data on housing and service needs across the province. It can also be used and referred to for program and advocacy purposes related to housing, homelessness, and service needs.

Contact [info@ruraldevelopment.ca](mailto:info@ruraldevelopment.ca) for more information on Housing and Service Needs Estimations.



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# Definitions

## What Does Homelessness Mean?

### **Homelessness**


According to the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness (Gaetz et al., 2012), homelessness is the situation of an individual, family, or community without stable, safe, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means, and ability to acquire it. It is the result of systemic or societal barriers, domestic violence, a lack of affordable and appropriate housing, the individual/household's financial, mental, cognitive, behavioural or physical challenges, and/or racism and discrimination.

Further, Indigenous homelessness considers the traumas imposed on Indigenous Peoples through colonialism. It is defined as a "human condition that describes First Nations, Métis and Inuit individuals, families or communities lacking stable, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means or ability to acquire such housing...Indigenous homelessness is not defined as lacking a structure of habitation; rather, it is more fully described and understood through a composite lens of Indigenous worldviews" (Thistle, 2017).

Most people do not choose to be homeless, and the experience is generally negative, unpleasant, stressful, and distressing. The national definition of homelessness notes that individuals who become homeless experience a range of physical living situations, including:

**Unsheltered:** Absolutely homeless, living on the streets or in places not intended for human habitation (e.g. living on sidewalks, squares, parks, vehicles, garages, etc.).

**Emergency Sheltered:** People who are staying in overnight shelters due to homelessness as well as those staying in shelters due to family violence.



**Provisionally Accommodated:** People with an accommodation that is temporary or that lacks security for tenure (e.g. couch-surfing, living in transitional housing, living in abandoned buildings, living in places unfit for human habitation, people who are housed seasonally, people in domestic violence situations, etc.).

**At Risk of Homelessness:** People who are not yet homeless but whose current economic and/or housing situation is precarious or does not meet public health and safety standards (e.g. people who are one rent payment missed from eviction, people whose housing may be condemned for health, by-law, or safety violations, etc.).

*(Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, Canadian Definition of Homelessness, 2012).*

**Insecure Housing:** For this report, the term housing insecure, or insecure housing, will be used to encompass the entire spectrum of homelessness which includes unsheltered, emergency sheltered, provisionally accommodated, and at risk of homelessness.




# Introduction

When it comes to homelessness and understanding its causes, the urban experience tends to dominate the conversation, mainly due to the “visibility” of individuals experiencing homelessness in urban centres. The issue of homelessness in rural and remote areas is far less understood and acknowledged because of its “hidden” nature. Further, recent data suggests that rural homelessness is prevalent at rates equivalent to or greater than urban per capita rates (Schiff, et al., 2022).

Recognizing this, RDN conducted the 2023 Alberta Provincial Housing and Service Needs Estimation with 22 organizations representing 45 rural, remote, and Indigenous communities across Alberta in an attempt to better understand what homelessness looks like in each community and across the rural provincial landscape. Specifically, the purpose of this estimation is to:

1. Develop a contextually relevant process for local service providers to engage and collect informed data with those who are at risk of or currently experiencing homelessness.
2. Provide a comprehensive picture of housing insecurity and homelessness in Alberta, including demographic information on who is experiencing homelessness, which services are being accessed, and which services are missing.
3. Help inform service providers and municipal, provincial, and federal policies, practices, and funding decisions on homelessness, housing, and support services.
4. Develop recommendations and next steps for service providers and municipal, provincial, and federal governments.
5. Elevate and incorporate the voices of people experiencing homelessness in the solutions to end homelessness.



This is the third iteration of the Alberta Provincial Housing and Service Needs Estimation; it was also conducted in 2018 and 2020 with 20 and 24 communities respectively. In 2018, 1,771 individuals were surveyed, 1,098 of which were housing insecure. 905 dependents and 994 adults were reported as living with housing insecure respondents. In 2020, 1,893 individuals were surveyed, 908 of which were housing insecure. 769 dependents and 960 adults were reported as living with housing insecure respondents.



## Participating Rural, Remote, and Indigenous Communities

- Athabasca
- Bonnyville
- Bow Valley (Banff and Canmore)
- City and County of Camrose
- County of Grande Prairie and the towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, and Wembley
- Drayton Valley
- Drumheller
- Hanna
- Hinton
- Kainai First Nation
- Lac La Biche
- Lamont County
- Slave Lake
- St. Albert and Sturgeon County
- Taber
- Town and County of Barrhead
- Town and County of Stettler
- Town of Viking, Town of Tofield, and Beaver County
- Wabasca
- Wetaskiwin
- Yellowhead County - East End




## Methodology

The methodology employed in this Housing and Service Needs Estimation comes from the Step-by-Step Guide to Estimating Rural Homelessness, published by the Rural Development Network. RDN initially developed the Step-by-Step Guide to Estimating Rural Homelessness due to the lack of available, accurate, and current data on rural homelessness. A lack of data limits the ability of rural, remote, and Indigenous communities to advocate for better resources for their residents.

The guide is unique in that it tackles the issue of housing insecurity and homelessness from a rural perspective, and recognizes the difficulties that come with conducting standard Point-in-Time (PiT) counts in rural and remote areas. It instead uses a service-based population estimation approach, which allows for anyone, including small nonprofits and local front-line agencies, to gather data on gaps in local housing and service needs without adding additional strain to workloads and organizational capacities.

Following the model proposed in the Step-by-Step Guide, RDN worked with communities and academics across Canada to develop a survey that reflected rural, remote and Indigenous community contexts. The survey was developed in accordance with the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness' definitions of homelessness. However, the survey itself was advertised as a Housing and Service Needs survey; this is a result of feedback from multiple service providers who are committed to minimizing the stigma associated with homelessness that could cause distress to their clients. By re-framing the language of the survey, service providers were able to encourage all clients to participate, instead of pointedly targeting certain individuals.

To further minimize stigma throughout the survey, rather than asking respondents to identify themselves as homeless or housing insecure, they were asked whether they consider their living conditions to be secure or insecure and to fill out checkboxes that determine their objective housing situation. Based on



responses to the latter survey question along with subsequent data analysis, RDN was able to determine which respondents were housing-unstable. As shown in the results, below, some individuals who don't consider themselves to be homeless or at risk of homelessness actually qualify based on the national definitions of homelessness.

The same survey was used across all communities participating in the 2023 Alberta Provincial Housing and Service Needs Estimation project, though each community's survey was customized to meet their location parameters. This can be seen in each community report.

RDN worked with each community to develop a survey administration process that would ensure the greatest level of participation possible. For most communities, surveys were advertised at service provider locations and online as an open Survey Monkey link across the community. Surveys were available through these locations and online for a period of four weeks: from March 1 to March 31, 2023, to all but one community. In Wetaskiwin, surveys were available online for a period of four weeks: from March 10 to April 10, 2023.

Before the survey period began, RDN conducted orientation and training sessions with staff from participating agencies. During the training, emphasis was placed on clarifying survey terms, ensuring respondents' confidentiality and privacy, and securing participants' informed consent. During each training session, resources were provided to staff to improve their understanding of the project and increase comfort in administering the survey. Training and resources also included the various ways to administer the survey in an open, non-intrusive manner, placing extra importance on meeting the individual's reasons for visiting the agency before offering the survey.

Important to note about the survey; to ensure the trust and anonymity of participants, each respondent was asked to give consent at the beginning of the survey, and create a unique identifier. The unique identifier allows RDN to maintain the integrity of the data without knowing respondent identities. The unique identifier is a combination of letters and numbers from a participant's name and birthdate.

## Figure 1: Unique Identifier Question on Survey

Q1. Anonymous Unique Identifier (ex. John Smith, born on 15th November 1964)

H	N	What are the last two letters of your FIRST name?
T	H	What are the last two letters of your LAST name?
1	5	What is the DAY you were born?
6	4	What are the last two numbers of the YEAR you were born?

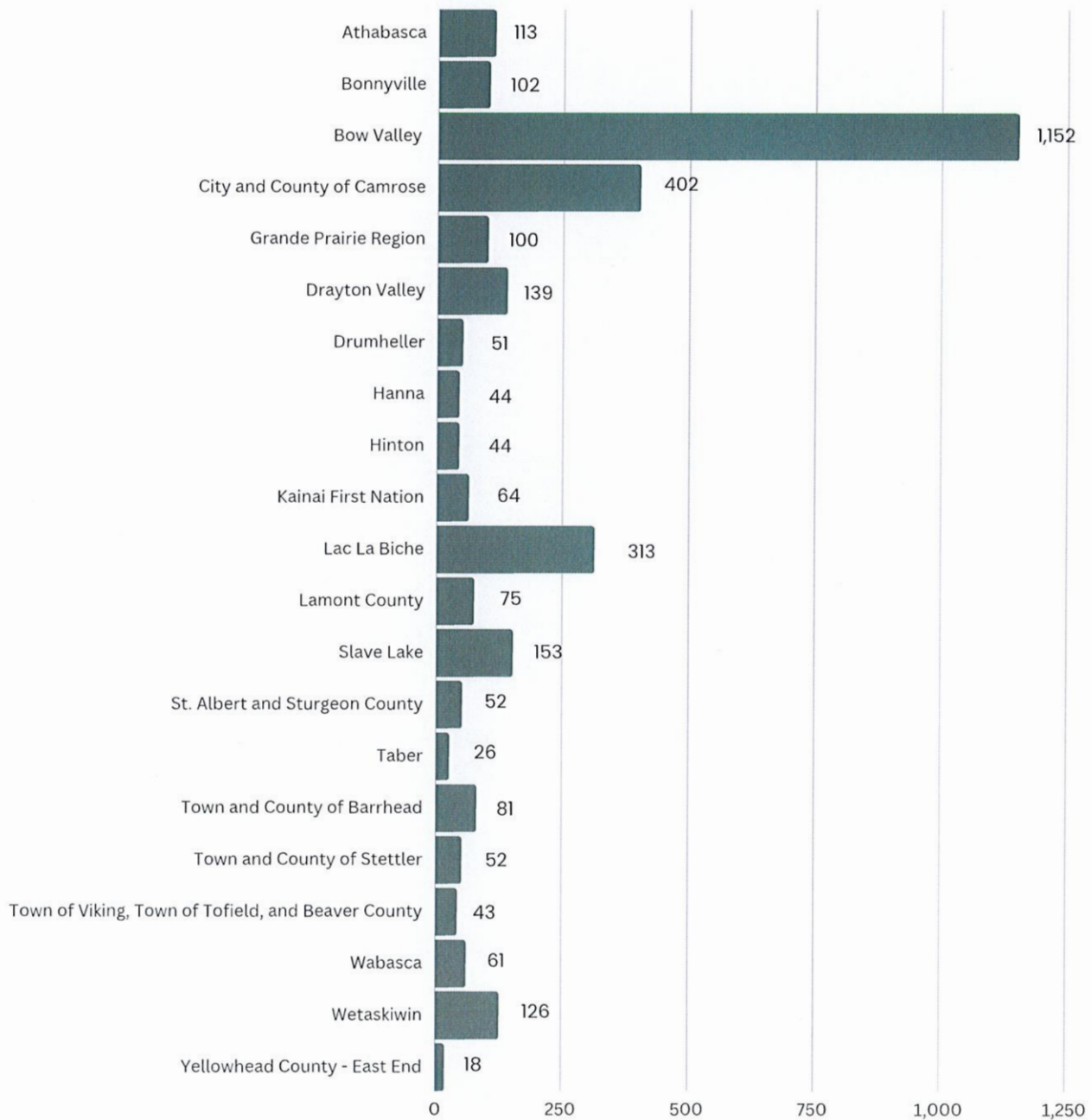
4,877 survey responses were collected during the four weeks. Of the 4,877 surveys, 1,666 were excluded. Surveys were deemed unsuitable and excluded for one or more of the following reasons:

1. Survey respondent(s) declined to give consent.
2. Survey respondent(s) declined to provide the unique identifier or provided improper unique identifier information (i.e. characters instead of numbers, etc.).
3. Survey respondent(s) submitted multiple surveys (determined based on unique identifier(s)).

Based on this, 3,211 were determined to be suitable for further analysis and will be the focus of the results outlined below.



Figure 2: Total Number of Respondents Per Community



## Limitations

Despite our best attempts to reduce stigma and increase accessibility of the survey, not all clients who were offered a survey chose to participate. Additionally, staff at participating agencies were informed that participants under the age of 14 years old required guardian consent to participate in the survey. This is inherently problematic and exclusionary as most youth experiencing homelessness would not have a guardian present to provide consent. However, to maintain survey ethics, this requirement is in compliance with the Alberta College of Social Workers. Worth noting here is that not everyone who filled out the survey responded to every question.

As a result, there remains a portion of people experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity whose voices and lived experiences were not captured in this project. Therefore, while the trends, highlights, and recommendations made are very informative, it is important to remember that this report presents a conservative picture of the housing and services needs across rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in Alberta.



# Results & Analysis

## Objective Housing Situation

As part of the survey, participants were asked the following question: “Do you consider your housing situation to be unstable or feel you could easily lose your housing?” Respondents were given the options “yes”, “no”, and “I’m not sure” to guide their responses. Of the 3,211 survey respondents, 1,263 self-identified as housing insecure, and 295 indicated “I’m not sure”. Through further analysis, it was determined that 2,429 survey respondents are housing insecure according to the national definitions of homelessness. An additional 2,354 dependents and 2,537 adults reported living with housing insecure survey respondents. Therefore, based on survey results, there are at least 8,320 community members experiencing housing insecurity in the 21 participating communities across rural and remote Alberta.

Tables 1 and 2 show breakdowns of survey respondents by housing status and highlight the number of dependents and adults reported as sharing living conditions with housing insecure respondents.

**Table 1: Breakdown of Respondents' Housing Status**

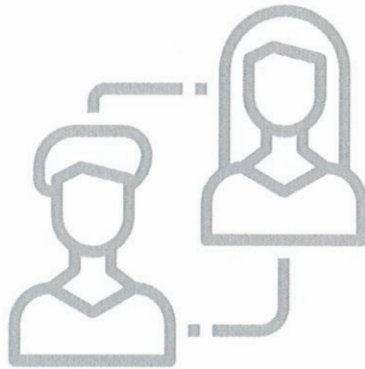
# of Individuals	Rural and Remote Alberta
Housing Secure	782
Housing Insecure	2,429

**Table 2: Breakdown of Dependents & Adults Sharing Insecure Housing Living Conditions**

<b># of Additional Individuals</b>	<b>Rural and Remote Alberta</b>
<b>Dependents</b>	2,354
<b>Adults</b>	2,537

The top three reasons for housing insecurity across rural and remote Alberta, as reported by survey respondents, are:

1. Low wages
2. Inability to afford rent or mortgage payments
3. Increasing rent costs





## Exploring the Spectrum of Homelessness Across Rural and Remote Alberta

Recognizing that the national definition of homelessness is complex, encompassing various housing situations across a continuum, it is important to better understand what housing insecurity looks like in rural and remote Alberta. This can be achieved by exploring the experiences of the 2,429 housing insecure respondents.

To accurately place respondents along the spectrum of homelessness, a series of measures were used to understand their situations, including their self-identified housing stability response, their calculated housing stability, their current housing situation, the amenities they lack in their current home, and others. Early in the survey, respondents were asked to outline their current housing situation and were able to choose all situations that applied to them from a variety of statements that ranged from “I own the house I am currently in” to “I lived in supportive housing” to “I slept in a public space” and more. To accurately present what a journey of housing insecurity might look like for respondents over a month, we have included all responses, as respondents were able to select more than one statement.


An important thing to consider when reading this table is that people experiencing housing insecurity often fluctuate in and out of their situation; therefore, someone who was unsheltered one night might have been emergency sheltered or provisionally accommodated the next night. As a result, we have highlighted every incident of insecurity respondents experienced in the past month to understand the journey of housing insecurity across rural and remote Alberta.

**Table 3: Respondents by Housing Situation in the Homelessness Spectrum**

Place on the Homelessness Spectrum	# of Respondents in Each Category
Unsheltered	151
Emergency Sheltered	244
Provisionally Accommodated	1,504
At Risk of Homelessness	2,810

This table demonstrates the diversity of respondents' experiences with housing insecurity across rural and remote Alberta and outlines that homelessness presents itself in more ways than simply sleeping outside.


Respondents that have been identified as **at risk** emphasized their difficulty in being able to afford their rent/mortgage and/or have stayed in a home that needs major repairs such as no windows, no electricity, etc. Many of these respondents also live in overcrowded housing, where there are too many people compared to the number of bedrooms in the home and/or in homes provided by/rented out by their employer or an Indigenous government.



Respondents who indicated they experienced being **provisionally accommodated** indicated staying in jail/prison/remand centre, medical/detox facilities, and transitional housing units. Many respondents also indicated staying in a home where they experience violence because they had nowhere else to go, staying with a stranger because they had nowhere else to go, and/or enduring unwanted sexual activity to have a place to stay.

Those that had experiences of being **emergency sheltered or unsheltered** noted staying in emergency shelters, makeshift shelters such as a vehicle, tent, or shack, and/or staying in public spaces such as parks or sidewalks.





## Housing & Service Needs Estimation Survey Respondent Population Overview

3,211 community members responded to surveys across rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in Alberta; 59% (1,886) of whom identified as female, 36% (1,139) as male, 1% (17) as trans-female, 1% (33) as trans-male, and 1% (40) as gender non-conforming. 1% (17) of respondents were unsure of their gender identity, 0.09% (3) noted their identity was not listed in the options provided, and 1% (43) preferred not to answer. Additionally, 83% (2,629) of respondents identified as straight, 2% (76) as lesbian/gay, 8% (241) as bisexual/pansexual, 1% (44) as asexual, and 1% (32) as two-spirit. 1% (27) noted they were unsure of their sexual orientation, 0.22% (7) noted their orientation was not listed in the options provided, and 4% (113) preferred not to answer.


Of the 3,211 respondents, 4% (126) were between the ages of 0-19; we know from their unique identifier, which asks for their birth year, as well as our ethical standards on the age of consent when administering the survey that this respondent is between 14-19 years old. Additionally, 52% (1,647) were between the ages of 20-39, 31% (976) were between 40-59, and 14% (437) were 60 years or older.

82% (2,606) of respondents were born in Canada (Turtle Island), while 16% (516) reported being born outside of Canada and 2% (61) preferred not to answer.

63% of respondents are white, compared to 30% of respondents who are racialized. 2% of respondents noted their identity was not listed in the options provided and 4% preferred not to answer.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Please note that individual numbers are not included for racial identity in the survey respondent population overview because respondents were able to select all racial identities that applied to them; as a result, there are more responses than there are respondents who completed the survey. While the percentage proportions are still accurate, to reduce confusion, the individual numbers have been removed.





Additionally, 39% (1,232) of respondents self-identified as Indigenous and 3% (84) preferred not to answer; 61% (750) as First Nations, 21% (263) as Métis, 10% (128) as Inuit, and 7% (91) as having other Indigenous ancestry. Three participating communities are made up mainly of Indigenous respondents: Kainai First Nation, Wabasca, and Wetaskiwin. 94% of Kainai First Nation's overall survey population self-identified as Indigenous, 82% of Wabasca's overall survey population self-identified as Indigenous, and 52% of Wetaskiwin's overall survey population self-identified as Indigenous. Kainai First Nation and Wetaskiwin each make up 5% of the combined provincial self-reported Indigenous survey respondents and Wabasca makes up 4% of the combined provincial self-reported Indigenous survey respondents.

22% (521) of respondents stayed in foster care, a youth group home, or under a youth/young adult agreement in the past and 2% (57) preferred not to answer.

Lastly, in terms of demographics, respondents were asked to indicate if they have ever served in the Canadian Armed Forces/Foreign Military Service, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) or Foreign Police Service, or local or foreign Emergency Services (EMS, Police, Fire Department). Of the 3,211 respondents, 6% (192) indicated they serve(d) in the Canadian Armed Forces or Foreign Military Service, 3% (109) in the RCMP or Foreign Police Service, and 6% (197) in local or foreign Emergency Services. An additional 2% (58) preferred not to answer.

## Housing Secure vs. Housing Insecure Survey Respondent Population Overview


Table 4: Housing & Service Needs Estimation Survey  
Population Overview Comparison by Housing Stability<sup>2</sup>

Demographic Characteristic	Housing Secure	Housing Insecure
Number of Survey Respondents	782	2,429
Gender	Male: 207	Male: 932
	Female: 538	Female: 1,348
	Trans-male: 2	Trans-male: 31
	Trans-female: 0	Trans-female: 17
	Gender Non-conforming: 4	Gender Non-conforming: 36
	Don't know: 2	Don't know: 15

<sup>2</sup> This table does not include respondents who preferred not to answer or skipped demographic questions

<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Straight: 703	Straight: 1,926
	Gay/Lesbian: 2	Gay/Lesbian: 74
	Bisexual/Pansexual: 22	Bisexual/Pansexual: 219
	Asexual: 1	Asexual: 43
	Two-spirit: 1	Two-spirit: 31
	Don't know: 1	Don't know: 26
<b>Age</b>	0 - 19 years: 30	0 - 19 years: 96
	20 - 39 years: 230	20 - 39 years: 1,417
	40 - 59 years: 308	40 - 59 years: 668
	60+ years: 199	60+ years: 238
<b>Immigration Status</b>	Born in Canada: 688	Born in Canada: 1,918
	Born outside of Canada: 62	Born outside of Canada: 454

<b>Indigenous Identity</b>	First Nations: 43	First Nations: 707
	Métis: 48	Métis: 215
	Inuit: 5	Inuit: 123
	Other Indigenous ancestry: 11	Other Indigenous ancestry: 80
<b>Time in Foster Care, Youth Group Home, or Youth/Young Adult Agreement</b>	Spent time in care: 17	Spent time in care: 521
<b>Served in Canadian Armed Forces, RCMP, Emergency Services</b>	Canadian Armed Forces: 18	Canadian Armed Forces: 174
	RCMP: 7	RCMP: 102
	Emergency Services: 28	Emergency Services: 169



Based on this survey population overview breakdown, we can determine the following:

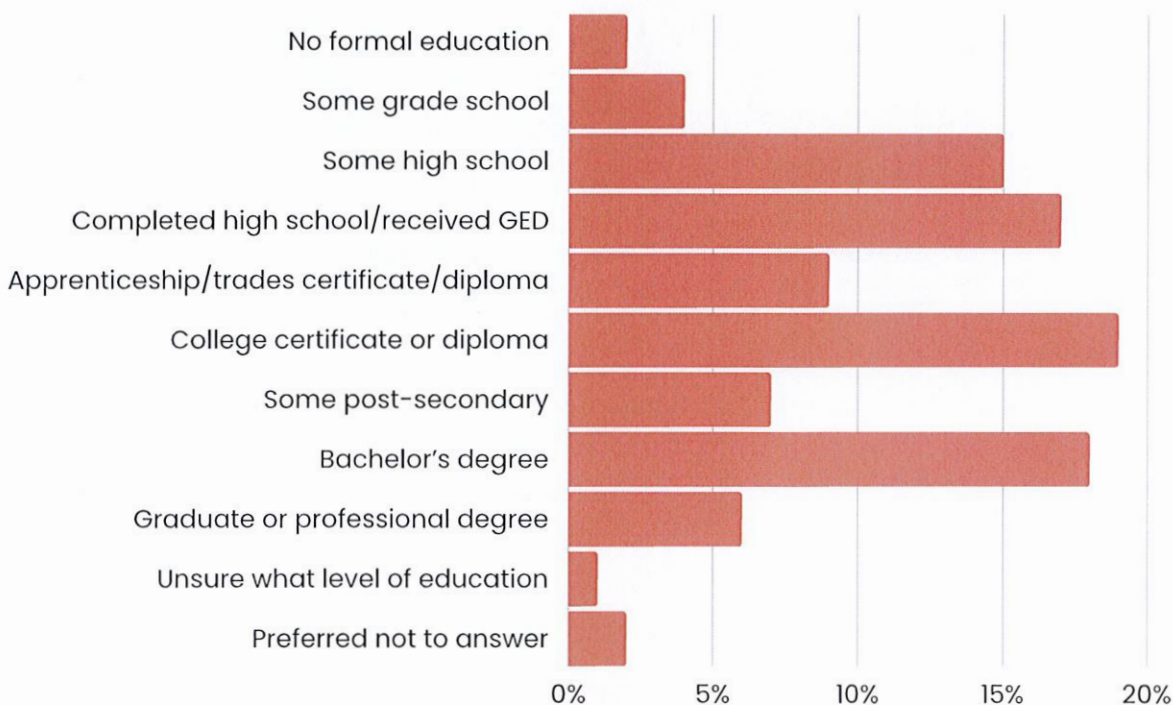
- Respondents identifying as women are 1.4x more likely than their male counterparts to be housing insecure.
- 93% of 2SLGBTQIA+ respondents (excluding “don’t know” responses) are housing insecure.
- 88% of respondents who were born outside of Canada are housing insecure.
- 91% of Indigenous respondents are housing insecure.
- 97% of respondents who spent time in care are housing insecure.
- 81% of housing insecure respondents who spent time in care are Indigenous.
- 89% of respondents who serve(d) in the Canadian Armed Forces, RCMP, and/or emergency services are housing insecure.



## Education, Employment, and Income Sources

Housing insecure respondents indicated various education levels when responding to “*What is the highest level of education you’ve completed?*” 2% (36) of respondents have no formal education, 4% (99) have completed some grade school, 15% (335) have completed some high school, 17% (378) have completed high school or received their GED, 9% (196) have an apprenticeship, trades certificate, or diploma, 19% (438) have a college certificate or diploma, 7% (169) have some post-secondary, 18% (415) have a Bachelor’s degree, and 6% (132) have a Graduate or Professional Degree (Master’s, Ph.D., MD, JD, etc.). 1% (19) were not sure of their education levels and 2% (49) preferred not to answer. This can also be seen in Figure 3, below.

**Figure 3: Housing Insecure Respondents’ Education Levels Breakdown**





### Did you know....

2% (36) of housing insecure respondents reported having no formal education; 61% (22) of these respondents reported an annual household income of less than \$30,000 in 2022, 61% (22) self-identified as Indigenous, and 33% (12) reported stays in foster care, a youth group home, or under a youth/young adult agreement.

Additionally, 69% (1,582) of housing insecure respondents were employed at the time of the survey and 3% (78) preferred not to answer; 68% (1,061) of those employed are full-time, 21% (323) are part-time, 7% (107) are casual, and 4% (64) are either doing contract work, are employed seasonally, or are self-employed.

Further, respondents were asked to disclose their approximate household income for the previous year. Responses varied widely, as seen in Table 5.

**Table 5: Housing Insecure Respondents' Approximate Household Income in 2022**

Total Household Income in 2022	# of Respondents Per Income Level
\$30,000 or less	684 (30%)
Between \$30,001 and \$49,999	431 (19%)

Between \$70,000 and \$89,999	242 (11%)
Between \$90,000 and \$109,999	151 (7%)
More than \$110,000	167 (7%)
Prefer not to answer	213 (9%)

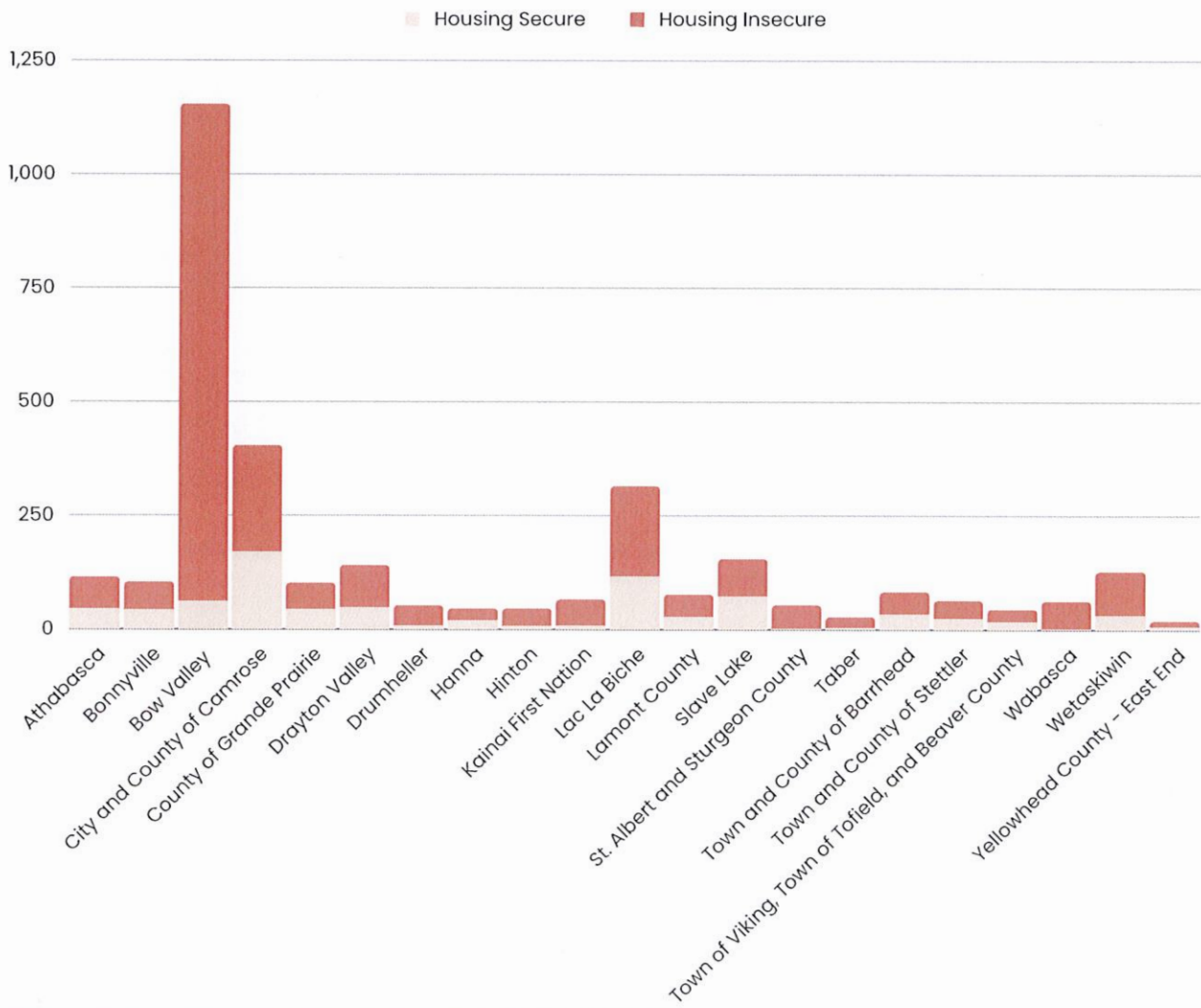
Despite 64% of housing insecure respondents being employed in some capacity at the time of the survey, 49% (1,115) reported an annual household income of \$49,999 or less in 2022. This, combined with the fact that according to the Economic Research Institute (2023), the cost of living is an average of 6% higher than the national average across all 21 communities and an average of 4% higher than the provincial average in Alberta across all 21 communities, speaks to the main reported reason for housing insecurity among respondents: low wages. This clearly suggests that without adequate wages to match their communities' cost of living, housing insecure respondents will continue to struggle with housing insecurity.



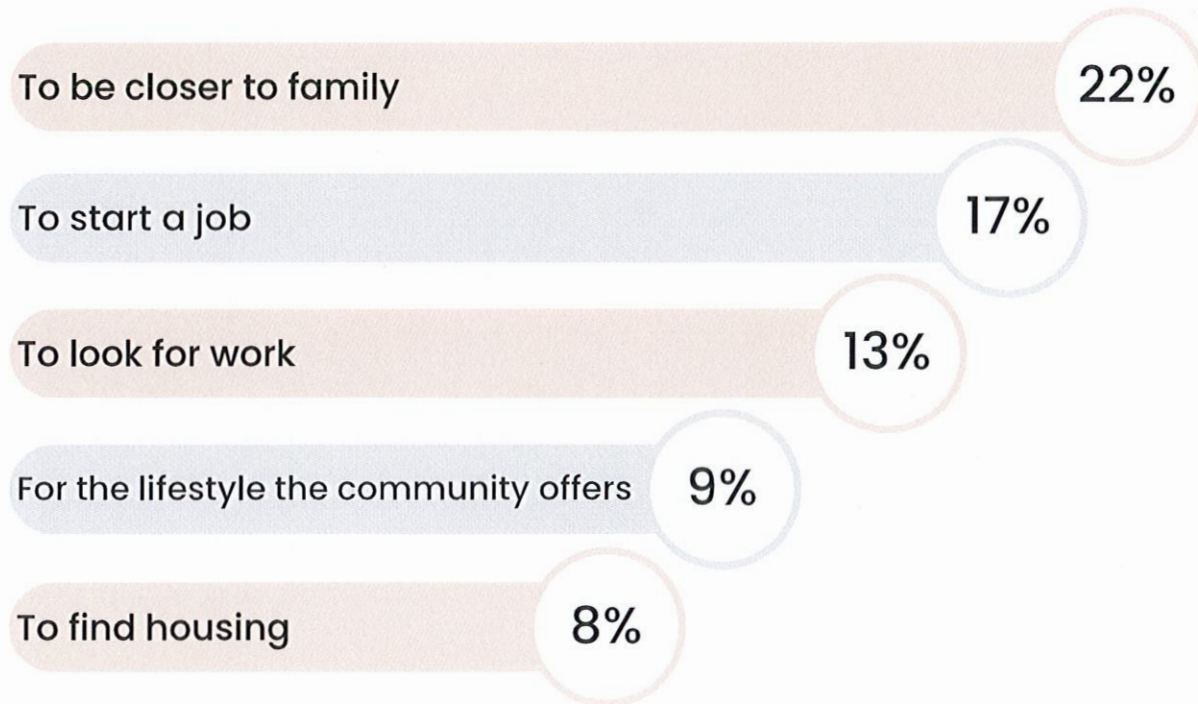
## Living Situation

Community members from across the province participated in the 2023 Housing and Service Needs survey. This is outlined in Figure 4, below.

**Figure 4: Survey Respondent Breakdown by Housing Status and by Community**

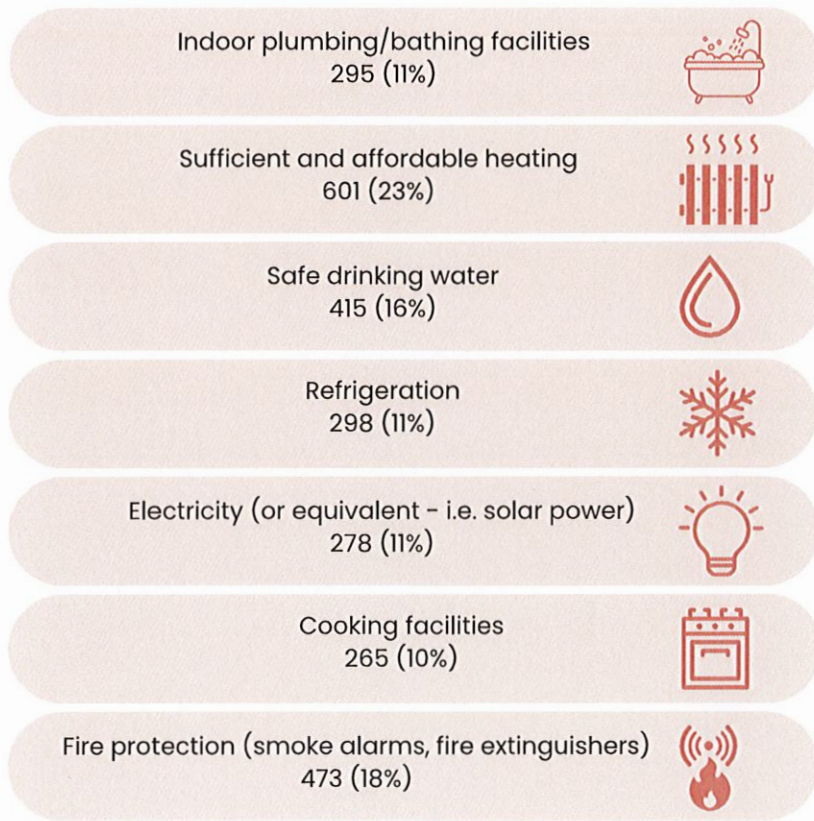


19% of housing insecure respondents have always lived in their community. Those who were not born in their community, were asked to indicate the reasons why they came to this community. The top five reasons respondents came to their community are:




To better understand current living conditions among housing insecure respondents, they were asked to identify which amenities are missing in their current housing situation. At the time of the survey, 23% did not have sufficient and affordable heating, 18% did not have fire protection, and 16% did not have access to safe drinking water.

## Figure 5: Breakdown of Housing Insecure Respondents' Missing Amenities



This breakdown highlighted respondents who lack basic amenities and is one of the ways in which respondents' objective housing situation is calculated. Some respondents self-identified as housing stable but lacked amenities that would consider their housing situation stable according to the Canadian definition of homelessness, including indoor plumbing, heat, electricity, and access to safe drinking water.



## ***Experiences of Violence***

Additional analysis also discovered that 5% (123) of housing insecure respondents were experiencing domestic/intimate partner violence in their living situations at the time of the survey; 59% (73) of whom identify as female, 35% (43) identify as male, 2% (3) as trans-male, and 2% (2) as gender non-conforming. 76% (93) of respondents identify as straight, 5% (6) as lesbian/gay, 1% (1) as bisexual/pansexual, 1% (1) as asexual, 2% (2) as two-spirit, and 1% (1) who noted their sexual orientation was not listed in the options provided on the survey. 60% (74) are Indigenous.

In addition to being housing insecure as a result of domestic/intimate partner violence, these respondents also noted low wages and an inability to afford rent/mortgage as reasons for housing insecurity. Additionally, of these respondents who were not born in their communities, the top two reported reasons for coming to the community were to look for work and fear for safety/fleeing from violence.

36% (44) of housing insecure respondents who experienced violence are employed, 57% (25) of whom are full-time employed. 51% (63) of these respondents reported an annual household income of less than \$30,000 in 2022. A lack of consistent income is often a reason why people are unable to leave their abuser. Further, 40% of respondents reported staying in foster care, a youth group home, or under a youth/young adult agreement.

At the time of the survey, the majority of these respondents accessed basic needs support and health and wellness services on a regular basis.

## Community Supports

In an attempt to better understand service needs and gaps across Alberta, respondents were asked: “Which support services do you access?” The main reasons housing insecure respondents accessed services were to help with basic needs (38%), health and wellness (28%), and support services (20%).

**Table 6: Reasons Why Housing Insecure Respondents Access Support Services**

Services Accessed	# of Housing Insecure Respondents
<b>Basic Needs</b> - Food, shelter, clothing, etc.	918 (38%)
<b>COVID-19</b> - PPE, information, supports	471 (19%)
<b>Crisis Financial Support</b> - Eviction notice, utility bill problems, damage deposits, etc.	299 (12%)
<b>Family/Parenting</b> - Child care, parenting/family issues, relationship issues, child developmental assessment tools/referrals, etc.	459 (19%)
<b>Financial</b> - Employment, housing, training/education, etc.	530 (18%)
<b>Health and Wellness</b> - Addictions, mental health, physical health care, spiritual/cultural, etc.	683 (28%)


<p><b>Legal</b> - Separation/divorce/custody, wills/estates, employment/labour standards, landlord/tenant issues, immigration issues, criminal/misdemeanor, etc.</p>	<p>311 (13%)</p>
<p><b>Support Services</b> - Help with government forms, help with accessing government/other programs or services, access to technology, etc.</p>	<p>482 (20%)</p>
<p><b>Transportation</b> - Access to basic services/education/employment, medical transportation</p>	<p>332 (14%)</p>

Further, we asked: “Does your community provide enough...employment opportunities; free/accessible recreational and social opportunities; social services; accessible and affordable housing; public transportation; access to food?”

**Table 7: Respondents' Perceptions of Service Provision in their Communities**

Does your Community Provide Enough:	# of Respondents Who Believe their Community Provides Enough...		# of Respondents Who Believe their Community Does Not Provide Enough...		# of Respondents Who Aren't Sure if their Community Provides Enough...	
	Housing Secure	Housing Insecure	Housing Secure	Housing Insecure	Housing Secure	Housing Insecure
Employment opportunities	289 (46%)	931 (44%)	189 (30%)	832 (39%)	157 (25%)	375 (18%)
Free/accessible recreational and social opportunities	362 (56%)	1,056 (50%)	196 (30%)	761 (36%)	86 (13%)	309 (15%)
Social services	466 (72%)	1,386 (65%)	90 (14%)	517 (24%)	87 (14%)	231 (11%)
Accessible & affordable housing	130 (20%)	556 (26%)	253 (40%)	1,215 (57%)	255 (40%)	358 (17%)
Public transportation <sup>3</sup>	125 (20%)	875 (41%)	420 (66%)	1,058 (49%)	96 (15%)	209 (10%)
Access to food (grocery stores, markets, food banks, etc.)	491 (76%)	1,486 (69%)	101 (16%)	489 (23%)	51 (8%)	175 (8%)

<sup>3</sup> Bow Valley was an outlier among communities in responding to this question with more respondents believing there was enough public transportation in their community. If Bow Valley's dataset is removed from this table, only 16% of housing secure respondents believe there is enough public transportation while 68% believe there is not enough transportation and 16% are unsure if there is enough transportation. Similarly, only 18% of housing insecure believe there is enough public transportation while 71% believe there is not enough transportation and 11% are unsure if there is enough transportation.



Interestingly, with the exception of public transportation (only when Bow Valley's dataset is included), housing secure and housing insecure respondents expressed very similar perceptions of community service provisions (within 0-7% of each other in every case).

Of note in Table 8 is the significant discrepancy in:

- The number of housing secure and housing insecure respondents who believe there is enough public transportation across Alberta (36% including Bow Valley and 17% excluding Bow Valley) versus the number of respondents who believe more public transportation is needed (53% including Bow Valley and 70% excluding Bow Valley); and,
- The number of housing secure and housing insecure respondents who believe there is enough accessible and affordable housing (25%) versus those who believe more is needed (53%).

Distance to access services proved a significant barrier for respondents; while 34% of housing insecure respondents travelled by vehicle to access services not available in their community, 16% relied on a family member or friend, 18%, relied on public transportation, 15% took a taxi or had a service agency arrange a ride for them, and 5% resorted to hitchhiking or catching a ride from a stranger.

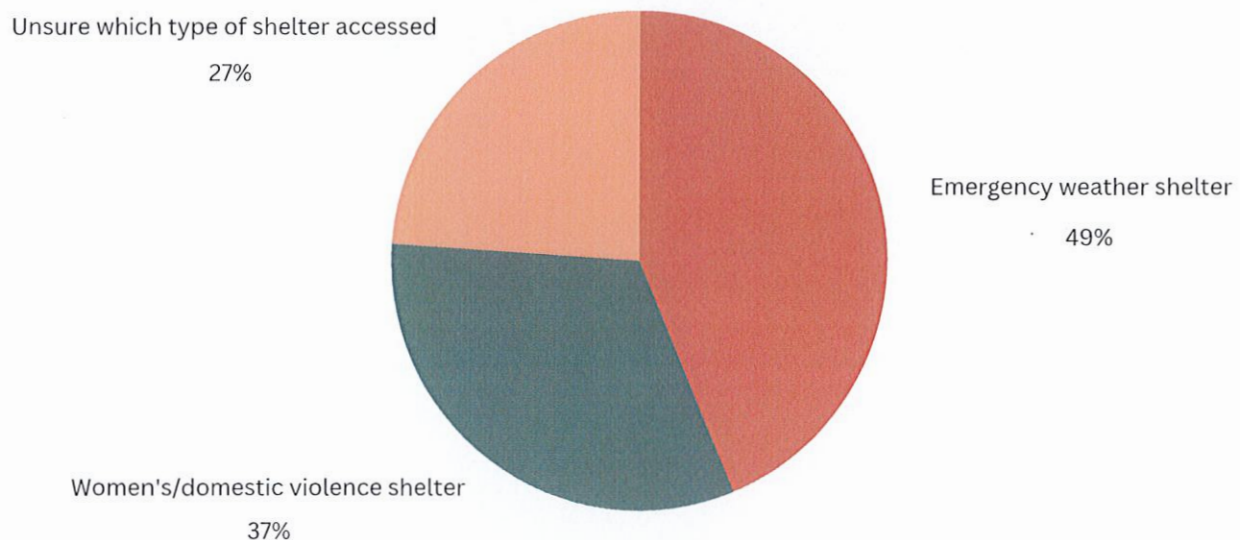
What's important to note here is that respondents who, due to transportation barriers, are unable to access the necessary support will continue to experience housing insecurity at much higher rates than those respondents who can access the support needed to stabilize their housing situation.



## Emergency Shelter Use

326 unique respondents (13% of housing insecure respondents) accessed emergency shelter in the past 12 months, though the results suggest that these respondents accessed multiple types of shelters throughout the year and on multiple occasions. 78% (255) of housing insecure respondents who accessed emergency shelter accessed a standard emergency shelter, 49% (161) accessed an emergency weather shelter (also known as a MAT shelter), 37% (119) accessed a women's/domestic violence shelter, and 27% (88) accessed an emergency shelter but are unsure what type of shelter it was. This can also be seen in figure 6 below.

**Figure 6: Emergency Shelter Use**



Additionally, 5% (124) of housing insecure respondents noted staying in transitional housing.

24% (581) of housing insecure respondents indicated that they did not access emergency shelter when they needed it. Table 9 outlines the several reasons. The top five reasons were:

1. The shelter was full
2. The right kind of shelter wasn't available (for example, I needed a women's shelter and couldn't access one)
3. There are no shelters in my area
4. I didn't feel safe
5. Lack of transportation

**Table 8: Reasons Housing Insecure Respondents Did Not Access Shelter Services When Needed**

<b>Reason for Not Accessing Shelter Services</b>	<b># of Respondents</b>
The right kind of shelter wasn't available (for example, I needed a women's shelter and couldn't access one)	188 (32%)
The shelter was full	203 (35%)
There was no shelter in my area	170 (29%)
I didn't meet the intake criteria to access the shelter	115 (20%)

I didn't feel safe	149 (26%)
The shelter was unclean	78 (13%)
The shelter did not welcome me because of my gender identity	58 (10%)
Alcohol/substance use is not permitted on site	83 (14%)
Lack of disability accommodations	56 (10%)
Lack of transportation	120 (21%)
No pets allowed	60 (10%)
Isolation from social support (family, partner, friends, etc.)	86 (15%)


## Housing Insecurity in Rural and Remote Alberta: From 2018 to Now

Consistent and recurring data collection is critical in painting a comprehensive picture of housing insecurity in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in Alberta, as well as to better understand new and existing trends in issues concerning residents experiencing housing insecurity across the province. This is the third iteration of the Alberta Provincial Housing and Service Needs Estimation and provides us an opportunity to highlight, compare, and contrast trends within the data.

RDN partnered with 20 communities to conduct the estimation in 2018, 24 communities in 2020, and 21 communities in 2023. Interestingly, in this iteration of the estimation (2023), RDN saw much more interest in regionalized data collection than in past iterations. While we only have 21 community reports, RDN worked with 22 organizations who represented roughly 45 communities altogether. This likely also speaks to the larger number of survey responses in 2023 compared to 2018 and 2020.

**Table 9: Number of Survey Responses Across Estimations**

<b>Housing &amp; Service Needs Estimation</b>	<b># of Total Survey Respondents</b>
<b>2018</b>	1,771
<b>2020</b>	1,893
<b>2023</b>	3,211



The increase in survey responses from 2018 to 2023 can also be attributed to a change in how surveys were administered to community members across iterations. In 2018, community members had to seek out service providers to support them in filling out a survey. In 2020, community members could fill out a survey on their own or with the support of staff in service provider locations or receive a unique code to take with them and access the survey online. In 2023, community members had the opportunity to fill out a survey individually or with support from staff at service provider locations or online through an open survey link. Given that each iteration of the estimation reduced more barriers to participation and the more regionalized data collection approach, it is understandable that response rates in 2023 increased significantly from 2018 and 2020.

The housing and service needs estimation process also underwent a change in analysis frameworks. In 2018, housing insecure respondents were identified solely from their self-identified housing status (as in, if they answered “yes” or “I don’t know” to the question “Is your housing situation unstable/do you feel like you could easily lose your housing?”, they were deemed housing insecure) whereas in 2020 and 2023, housing insecure respondents were identified through a series of questions in which responses were analyzed based on the national definitions of homelessness and from there, respondents were identified as housing secure or housing insecure. This was an important shift in analysis as this iteration of the estimation clearly showcases that many respondents who considered themselves housing secure were actually identified as housing insecure according to national definitions of homelessness. Because of this though, it is difficult to compare the number of housing insecure rural and remote Albertans across all three iterations to determine if rates of housing insecurity have increased, decreased, or stayed the same.


Though it is difficult to determine rates of housing insecurity across all three iterations of the estimation, secondary research suggests an increase in the rates of housing insecurity across the country. According to Statistics Canada (2023), there has been an increase in housing insecurity over the past five years: “Compared to 2018, those enumerated in an unsheltered location doubled

(a 100% increase), while those in sheltered locations increased by 3%.” Additionally, Statistics Canada reports an 11% increase in experiences of chronic homelessness,<sup>4</sup> from 60% in 2018 to 71% in 2020/2022 (2023). In British Columbia, 2020–2021 homelessness counts suggest an 11.5% increase in the number of residents who are housing insecure compared to in 2018 (The Homelessness Services Association of BC, 2021). Further, according to CTV News (2022), the City of Edmonton’s homeless population has doubled since 2020 when COVID-19 emerged. While there is limited quantitative data that speaks to Alberta on a provincial scale, recent secondary research from Schiff, et al. (2022) suggests an increase in housing insecurity in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in most provinces and territories, Alberta included. Further, conversations with rural, remote, and Indigenous communities and service providers suggest they are also seeing significant increases in the number of community members experiencing housing insecurity.

**Table 10: Number of Housing Insecure Respondents Across Estimations**

<b>Housing &amp; Service Needs Estimation</b>	<b># of Housing Insecure Respondents</b>
<b>2018</b>	1,098
<b>2020</b>	908
<b>2023</b>	2,429

<sup>4</sup> According to Statistics Canada (2022), chronic homelessness is defined as having a total of at least six months of homelessness over the past year and/or having recurrent experiences of homelessness over the past three years, resulting in a cumulative 18+ months of homelessness



The number of dependents and additional adults who were reported to have been sharing living conditions with housing insecure respondents has not changed much across all three iterations with the exception of the number of additional adults in 2023 where we saw more additional adults sharing living conditions with housing insecure respondents than we saw housing insecure respondents.

**Table 11: Number of Housing Insecure Dependents and Additional Adults Across Estimations**


<b>Housing &amp; Service Needs Estimation</b>	<b># of Dependents</b>	<b># of Additional Adults</b>
<b>2018</b>	905	994
<b>2020</b>	796	960
<b>2023</b>	2,354	2,537

The top two reported reasons for housing insecurity by respondents has been consistent across all three estimations:

- 1.Low wages
- 2.Inability to afford rent/mortgage

The third reported reason for housing insecurity across all three estimations varies:

- 2018: Respondents reported conflict.
- 2020: Respondents reported mental health concerns.
- 2023: Respondents reported increasing rent costs.



One of the biggest differences in trends across all three estimations comes when comparing employment rates among housing insecure respondents. In 2018, 31% of housing insecure respondents were employed in some capacity; in 2020 this number decreased to 27% and in 2023 this number more than doubled with 69% of housing insecure respondents employed in some capacity. High costs of living in rural and remote communities, low minimum wage rates, COVID-19, and the housing crisis are all likely contributing factors to why rates of housing insecurity are significant despite the majority of respondents being employed.

In 2018, 23% of housing insecure respondents accessed emergency shelter. This decreased to 13% in 2020 and has held at 13% in 2023. This significant decrease in shelter use between 2018 and 2020 can likely be attributed to COVID-19 and the resulting mandated shelter shutdowns and/or decreases in the number of available beds to accommodate for social distancing and is supported by data Infrastructure Canada's 2021 Shelter Capacity Report which indicates a 5.1% decrease in shelter usage nationally between 2020 and 2021. Further, Alberta experienced a loss of 1,004 shelter beds between 2019-2021 (Infrastructure Canada, 2023). This decrease has likely held into 2023 as a result of continued health regulations and mandates, decreases in funding to emergency shelters, and likely a shift in behaviour patterns among housing insecure respondents (i.e. looking to couchsurf versus accessing an emergency shelter). Another reason for the holding decrease in 2023 could be that more participating communities in the 2023 iteration of the estimation project did not have a shelter in their area compared to participating communities in 2018 and/or 2020.

Additionally, the number one reason respondents accessed services across all three estimations was for help with basic needs.



**Table 12: Reported Reasons for Accessing Services Across Estimations**

Housing & Service Needs Estimation	Reported Reasons
2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Basic Needs</li> <li>2. Financial</li> <li>3. Health and Wellness</li> </ol>
2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Basic Needs</li> <li>2. Support Services</li> <li>3. Financial</li> </ol>
2023	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Basic Needs</li> <li>2. Health and Wellness</li> <li>3. Support Services</li> </ol>


Interestingly, though the top three reported reasons for housing insecurity were low wages, an inability to afford rent/mortgage, and increasing rent costs, financial supports was not one of the three most accessed services by respondents in 2023. There are various reasons this could be the case, including that the 2023 estimation saw more than double the rate of employed housing insecure respondents than in previous years.

## Opportunities Moving Forward

In each of the community reports, RDN suggested two or three opportunities communities should consider to address housing insecurity in their area. While recommendations varied in each community based on their individual results, there were four recommendations that were most commonly suggested across communities, as shown in Table 13.

**Table 13: Breakdown of Common Recommendations**

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b># of Communities Who Received the Recommendation</b>
Increase community awareness and understanding of housing insecurity and homelessness	17
Consider public transportation options	14
Conduct a gap analysis and audit of service offerings	9
Conduct an audit of current housing options with the goal of increasing accessible and affordable housing	7



While individual communities can work to action these recommendations, there is a larger role for municipal, provincial, and federal governments as well as industry and funders to play in addressing housing insecurity in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in Alberta.

**Increase community awareness and understanding of housing insecurity and homelessness.** A significant finding of the data presented in this report is the number of housing insecure respondents who self-identified as housing secure. Of the 2,429 survey respondents who were identified as housing insecure, only 1,263 self-identified as housing insecure. This suggests that only 52% of housing insecure respondents believed their housing situation, at the time of the survey, to be insecure or inadequate. It is possible then, that the other 48% (1,166) of housing insecure respondents who believed they were housing secure have never accessed supports and services that could help improve their current housing situation. Additionally, 23% of housing insecure respondents did not have sufficient heating and 16% did not have access to safe drinking water, both of which are both considered human and/or tenant rights under provincial and federal policies.

Further analysis into qualitative responses from respondents related to the question, "What are two things you love about the community and what are two things you don't love about the community?", also suggests a divide among community members in several participating communities with reports of racism, discrimination, and judgment towards housing insecure respondents, Indigenous respondents, and 2SLGBTQIA+ respondents. Individual communities have been encouraged to host community conversations around housing insecurity with two goals in mind: first, to broaden the community's understanding of housing insecurity with the hopes that they will respond more empathetically towards housing insecure community members and decrease incidents of racism, discrimination, and judgment in the future. And second, to help community members understand the various experiences of housing insecurity with the hopes of seeing housing insecure respondents who believe they are housing secure recognize that their current housing situation is not considered secure or adequate according to federal standards and in turn, seek




appropriate supports to improve their housing situation.

### **Recommendations**

1. Calling for mandatory orientation and training for municipal, provincial, and federal elected officials around key issues of housing insecurity to better serve their constituents during their terms.
2. Calling for leadership from all levels of government in promoting a better understanding of housing insecurity among constituents by highlighting the realities of homelessness, specifically through investing in research and community education programs.
3. Calling for leadership from all levels of government in recognizing housing as a human right and emphasizing the importance of treating neighbours with respect and empathy, regardless of the race, gender, sexual orientation, or housing status.
4. Calling on all levels of government to address the staggering number of rural, remote, and Indigenous Albertans living in housing without sufficient heating or access to safe drinking water.
5. Calling on all levels of government to address the disproportionate rates of Indigenous housing insecurity in Alberta.

**Consider public transportation options.** Respondents across rural and remote Alberta overwhelmingly indicated a need for accessible and affordable transportation options. Overall, respondents, both housing secure and housing insecure, indicated a lack of transportation options as prohibitive to accessing a range of services from recreation opportunities to support services to schooling to health and wellness services and more. Speaking strictly to services not available in their community, 34% of respondents travelled by vehicle, 16% relied on a family member or friend, 18%, relied on public transportation, 15% took a taxi or had a service agency arrange a ride for them, and 5% resorted to hitchhiking or catching a ride from a stranger. Further, only 36% of respondents believed there were enough public transportation options with their communities and across rural and remote Alberta.

Additionally, respondents across several communities highlighted an overall lack




of accessibility in terms of current transportation infrastructure, and in particular, sidewalks. Community members with mobility challenges and those pushing a stroller or pulling a wagon noted significant challenges in using sidewalks in their communities to get around due to their lack of accessibility or current state of disrepair. Communities struggling with public transportation concerns were encouraged to conduct an accessibility audit of public infrastructure with the goal of increasing accessibility for community members and to look into developing local public transportation systems. It is critically important that respondents have access to services in some manner to ensure respondents can get the support they need to stabilize their housing situation. Whether that be access to medical or mental health support, accessing the employment centre, obtaining a job, or even finding housing, accessible transportation is crucial in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities.

### **Recommendations**

1. Calling on provincial and federal automobile insurance companies and insurance regulatory boards to work with service providers in rural and remote Alberta to develop more streamlined requirements for volunteer ride programs.
2. Calling for provincial and federal support in developing and implementing a long-term transportation system in partnership with local, regional, provincial, and federal non-profit organizations, advocacy groups, and industry leaders to support rural and remote constituents in travelling between communities.

**Conduct a gap analysis and audit of service offerings.** In the majority of communities, respondents identified a need for increased or improved services. This was particularly the case for the nine communities in which this recommendation was made. Respondents, both housing secure and housing insecure, indicated a need for several services, ranging from transportation services to educational supports to shelter services to health and wellness services. 24% of housing insecure respondents indicated that they did not access emergency shelter when they needed it because the shelter was full, the right kind of shelter wasn't available, or there were no shelters in their area. Additionally, 21% of housing insecure respondents have not completed high




school. These are just two examples which clearly highlight the lack of supports and services available in many rural and remote communities. Housing insecure respondents without access to the appropriate supports and services will undoubtedly struggle to stabilize their housing situation in the short- and long-term and housing insecure respondents with complex and intersecting needs will continue to lack adequate, stable and appropriate housing. Given the number of service gaps identified in the community reports, communities were encouraged to audit and map the availability of services in their area with the intention of either increasing the number and types of services available to residents or increasing awareness of services offered in the community.

### **Recommendations**

1. Calling on all levels of government to support rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in conducting local and regional audits of service offerings with the intention of identifying and addressing service gaps.
2. Calling on municipal and provincial governments, service providers, and funders to collaborate in developing a model for more regionalized approaches to service delivery in rural and remote Alberta.
3. Calling on the federal government to invest additional dollars in funding the implementation of coordinated access systems in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in Alberta and across Canada.

**Conduct an audit of current housing options with the goal of increasing accessible and affordable housing.** A major theme across communities was the lack of emergency shelter and affordable and accessible housing options in the midst of a national housing crisis. As noted previously, 24% of housing insecure respondents who needed an emergency shelter did not access one for various reasons. Aside from the top three reasons (outlined in Table 9), other reasons why respondents did not access an emergency shelter when needed include: the shelter was full, the right kind of shelter wasn't available, and there were no shelters in the area. Other reasons why respondents did not access emergency shelter(s) when needed include: they did not meet the intake criteria to access the shelter, alcohol/substance use was not permitted on site, and a lack of disability accommodations at the shelter. Additionally, 17% of housing insecure



respondents reported addictions/substance use, illness/medical condition, mental health issues, mental disability, and/or physical disability as a reason for their current housing insecurity. To address the complex needs of housing insecure respondents, communities with a lack of emergency shelter and/or accessible and affordable housing have been encouraged to advocate for more housing options in their area, which could include sustaining an emergency shelter, developing income-based housing units, transitional and permanent supportive housing units, renovating and repairing existing inadequate housing, and/or considering more creative solutions to a lack of housing (such as tiny homes, shelter pods, etc.).

### **Recommendations**

1. Calling on the provincial government to conduct an audit of emergency shelters<sup>5</sup> in rural and remote Alberta, focusing on current gaps in shelter services (i.e. lack of emergency shelters in certain regions, policies/criteria implemented by emergency shelters that excludes constituents from accessing one when needed, disability accommodations, etc.) with the intention of supporting a more inclusive, accessible, and robust emergency shelter system across the province.
2. Calling on local and provincial service providers, municipal and provincial governments, and funders to collaborate to develop a consistent model of the Housing First Philosophy across all new housing projects in rural and remote Alberta.
3. Calling on municipal and provincial governments to work with local service providers and housing developers to facilitate a review of current land zoning and bylaw regulations to support the development of more creative and diverse housing options.
4. Calling on all levels of government to increase funding for rural and remote accessible and affordable housing projects, and in particular, pre-development/seed funding and sustainable operational funding.

<sup>5</sup> In this report, emergency shelter refers to standard emergency shelters, emergency weather shelters (i.e. MAT shelters), and women's/domestic violence shelters



## In Conclusion

The results highlighted throughout this report showcase the realities of survey respondents' experiences with housing insecurity. With at least 8,320 community members (2,429 housing insecure respondents, 2,354 dependents, and 2,537 additional adults) experiencing housing insecurity across the 21 participating rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in Alberta, it is critical that service providers, government, industry, and funders work together to address housing insecurity across the province. Adequate housing is not only a human right, it is healthcare and while often viewed as a strictly social issue, it impacts not only social policy, but health systems, and economic development locally, regionally, provincially, and federally. Given the number of residents experiencing housing insecurity in rural and remote Alberta along with the current identification of service gaps in many communities across the province, a regionalized approach to addressing housing insecurity will be important moving forward. Additionally, additional research and data collection on rural, remote, and Indigenous housing insecurity is essential to continue identifying, monitoring, and addressing relevant trends.

To successfully address housing insecurity in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in Alberta and across Canada, an increase in provincial and federal funding to support communities located outside of urban centres is required.





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RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
NETWORK

Rural Development Network  
(780)-964-2736  
11443 - 143 Street, NW  
Edmonton, AB

Item Number	Subject	Requested On	People Responsible	Item Notes	Status	Target Date of Completion
1	10A St & Highway 43 (Subway Intersection)	22-Jun-20	CAO/Admin	Intersection has been surveyed - 2023 capital plan. Only \$50K in current budget, rest will be deferred to 2023 due to higher than expected pricing.	ON HOLD	8/1/2023
2	Recreation Centre Rate Review	27-Sep-21	CAO/Admin	CAO has received the rates and will review and bring to next Council meeting.	In progress	9/30/2023
3	Grande Prairie & District Catholic School Board	26-Oct-20	CAO/Admin	Sent Draft Joint Use Partnership Agreement to GPDCSD	In progress	9/30/2023
4	Community Bus Policy	8-May-23	Admin	Review and update this policy and it's fees and charges.	ON HOLD	12/31/2023

Current as of: Monday, September 25, 2023



Box 30, Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0

Phone: 780.354.2201

Fax: 780.354.2207

Monthly Report to Council

Date: Sept 11th 2023

From: Nick Kebalo

Department: PW

Project/Event	Highlights/Concerns
Pot hole filling/ crack sealing	Crack sealing complete for the season, have learned how to do this task more effectively for next season, have found relatively inexpensive equipment that will enable us to do more sealing in less time.
Sidewalks/road patching	All curb and gutter, and sidewalk work has been completed for the season. We are now finishing the landscaping around these areas. Paving is now scheduled for Sept 18 <sup>th</sup> 2023.
Chiller/Arena equipment	Plant started Aug 18 <sup>th</sup> we have been successful in making ice this season. The fouled chiller did cause some minor issues and slowed the ice making process overall. We were able to meet minor hockey's ask for September 11 <sup>th</sup> ice time.
Tree removal/planting	Tree removal have been completed except for the campground. This will take place in October while tree planting occurs.
Water valve/Hydrant repair and replacement	All water valves and hydrant repairs have been completed for the year.

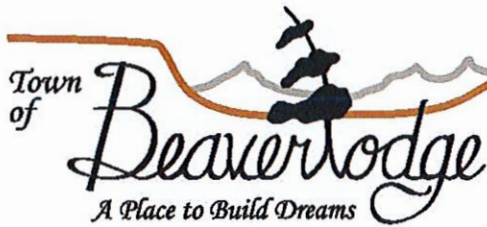
Monthly Report to Council  
From: Reanna Stockman

Date: September 19, 2023  
Department: FCSS

Project/Event	Highlights/Concerns
Administrative Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Newsletter, Newspaper, and posters are ongoing.</li> </ul>
Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Odyssey House/ Victim Services meeting September 5</li> <li>○ Meeting with AHS about started a Wellness Coalition Sept 19</li> <li>○ Rural Taskforce Meeting Sept 21</li> <li>○ Navigator Meeting September 21</li> <li>○ RDN Wrap up meeting September 27</li> <li>○ Phase Two Data Collection Meeting (Meals on Wheels grant) September 27</li> <li>○ Directors Network planning meeting September 28</li> <li>○ October 2 Meeting with new School Liaison</li> <li>○ October 4 Interagency Meeting</li> </ul>
Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Meals on Wheels going well. To date, 305 meals have been delivered. Have hired a staff member through the Food Bank to help co-ordinate.</li> <li>○ Partnership with University of Calgary for Social Work and Nursing practicum students has started. Had first Zoom meeting with all the students. Will continue to meet every two weeks.</li> <li>○ Extended the 60+ Mobility and Connection Program another 6 weeks and added a second class. Mondays will focus on Rhythm and Movement and Wednesday's resistance training. Classes start September 25.</li> <li>○ Child and Youth Mental Health Therapist will now come to Beaverlodge every two weeks until January and then will reassess needs and if service was utilized. Open to Beaverlodge and West County residents.</li> <li>○ Service Provider Open House had over 90 participants come through and 24 service providers. Huge thank you to Jeff and the Councillors that attended for all their help with serving and clean-up.</li> </ul>
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2 casual Bus drivers</li> <li>○ 2 part-time Home Support Workers</li> </ul>
Training & Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Spring Regional September 7 &amp; 8, 2023 in Slave Lake</li> <li>○ Community of Practice Reporting training September 18</li> </ul>

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Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Food Bank: July 31 – September 18 : \$4775 handed out in gift cards. 193 clients served.</li><li>○ Probation has been using the office bi-monthly for meeting with clients.</li><li>○ Odyssey House program is running in the basement of the pool has not had any in person visits over the summer. Summer is always slow as clients have a harder time meeting with kids home.</li><li>○ Currently 21 Home Support Clients</li><li>○ Community bus continues to run Wednesdays with an average of 6 riders. We have added the option of two more pick-up/drop-off locations for riders. One at the entrance to Parkview Village and one at the Big Beaver. Riders MUST call to book as the bus will not stop there unless pre-booked. No one has accessed these extra pick-up locations to date.</li></ul>
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**Monthly Report to Council**

Date: 25 September 2023

From: Tracy Deets

Department: Library

Project/Event	Highlights/Concerns
Programming / Events	Full slate of programming planned until Christmas. There will be a Parent/Toddler Group the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, Lego Club once per month, seasonal crafts (Thanksgiving, Halloween, Christmas), and kids movie days on non-school Fridays. For adults we have 6 concerts from October through May, plus a Pub Trivia night on Friday Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup> .
Administrative	<p>Peace Library System has begun allowing the setup of a VPN on library-owned laptops used by managers. My setup has been completed which will allow me to access all my files and enable me to more easily work remotely on occasion</p> <p>Attended Zoom "coffee chat" with PLS headquarters and other managers around the system</p> <p>Our first Library Board meeting since the summer break was held on Sep 19th</p>
Other	<p>The library was represented at the Community Service Providers Open House on Sep 14<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Once again the library operated the concession booth at the outdoor movie event at South Peace Centennial Museum on Fri Sep 8<sup>th</sup>. By our best guess, we sold 196 bags of popcorn, plus candy cups and hot chocolate/coffee</p>

**Monthly Report to Council**

Date: September 2023

From: Tanya Harvey

Department: Recreation

Project/Event	Highlights/Concerns
Recreation Center	<p>Aquatics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Piranhas Swim Club has rented the main pool Monday-Thursday and Saturday and Sunday mornings.</li> <li>• September aquatics availability has been drastically increased. Lane swim is available at 7:00am 5 days a week. Evening Public Swim has been added to weekends.</li> <li>• Eastlink members have access to the facility with the city covering their costs during public swim times.</li> </ul> <p>Fitness Center &amp; Fitness Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fitness Centre hours were increased.</li> <li>• Beaverlodge Regional High School and St. Mary Catholic School have begun bringing their students.</li> </ul>
Community Kitchen/Gym	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pickleball continues to rent the gym weekly.</li> <li>• The Beaverlodge Daycare has booked for their annual gala in November.</li> <li>• Drop-In adult volleyball is being explored as a Town of Beaverlodge program.</li> </ul>
Community Center/Multipurpose Room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work has begun to extend the storage space and improve the Community Centre entrance.</li> <li>• Drop-In pickleball starts at the end of September and will run until May. This is always well-received and is scheduled to run Tuesday – Thursday mornings.</li> </ul>
Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ice scheduling for the 2023/2024 season has begun.</li> <li>• Town of Beaverlodge Skating Lessons have been released.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Skating has been scheduled to occur Friday afternoon and Sundays 11:00am-1:00pm. Friday afternoons are utilized by homeschool groups, young families, and schools.</li> <li>• Requests are consistently being received by regional user groups looking for regular ice times. Working closely with Beaverlodge Minor Hockey we have been able to accommodate several new users for both regular and spontaneous bookings.</li> </ul>
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A staff member completed training to provide First Aid certification, allowing us to run Intermediate First Aid certification and recertifications.</li> </ul>
Grande Prairie Regional Recreation Committee – Administrative Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Branding redesign is complete, and the new website will launch at the end of September.</li> <li>• A multi-week social media scavenger hunt will include the NuVista Energy Centre.</li> <li>• Recreation Townhalls are being planned to identify barriers regarding sports in rural communities.</li> <li>• Work is being done to complete a regional facility allocation policy and is expected to be presented to the committee in December.</li> </ul>