

# ANNUAL REPORT

2022

Town of Westlock  
**Strategic Plan 2020-2030**  
A Community With Spirit!

**COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT**

**GOAL:** Westlock is a municipal leader in community resiliency and prosperity.

01

**RECREATION**

**GOAL:** We are a regional destination of choice for recreational amenities.

05

**RELATIONSHIPS**

**GOAL:** Our reputation for excellence in providing great governance and a commitment to community is widely recognized.

02

04

**HEALTH  
CARE**

**GOAL:** Westlock is a Health Service Centre of Excellence.

03

**COMMUNITY  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**GOAL:** The Town of Westlock asset management plan is the foundation of infrastructure investment decision making.

# ANNUAL REPORT

## Section 1 Introduction

Message from Mayor and Council. . . . .	1
Message from Chief Administrative Officer. . . . .	3

## Section 2 Overview

Town of Westlock By the Numbers . . . . .	5
Westlock & District FCSS. . . . .	7
Facilities, Parks, Playgrounds, and Trails . . . . .	7
Planning & Development . . . . .	9
Municipal Enforcement . . . . .	12
Fire Department & Emergency Services . . . . .	13
Operations . . . . .	14

## Section 3 Year in Review

Capital Projects . . . . .	15
Featured Updates. . . . .	16
2022 Events. . . . .	19

## Section 4 Finance

Where does the money come from? . . . . .	23
What were taxes used for in 2022? . . . . .	23
Where did the utility revenue come from? . . . . .	24
How does the utility revenue get spent? . . . . .	24

## MESSAGE FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

In October of 2021, the municipal election brought some change to our council. Now with a full year together, I am so proud of the work we are accomplishing. We are fortunate that our Council is an even split between new and experienced members. We've paired our new and experienced councillors up together to serve on boards and committees.

This combination of years of understanding and a new fresh set of eyes has been so beneficial. We are working and learning together, all with our combined focus on good governance and serving our community. We are committed to representing our municipality on provincial and federal matters.

Councillor Murtaza Jamaly's dedication to Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) has served our region well and his experience has been a source of knowledge for Councillor Jon Kramer.

With Councillor Jamaly's appointment as the Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA) president, he continues to advance the importance of FCSS and what these supports mean to rural communities.

Councillor Snell joined the Alberta Municipalities Association's 2022-2023 Sustainability and Environment Committee. This provincial committee is comprised of nine municipalities and ensures our region is involved as new initiatives and opportunities arise.

The Homeland Housing Board is governed by thirteen directors elected from member municipalities. Over the years, Mayor Leriger's commitment to this organization has contributed to its stability and growth, and he is currently serving his second year as Vice Chair.

This is the work of Westlock Town Council. Our advocacy for our municipality never stops. Our council is founded on service to our community through everyday needs and planning our strategy for years to come. Our council members serve on boards and committees throughout our region to inform, guide, and lead the endeavours within our region.



Front row (l to r): Councillor Jon Kramer, Mayor Ralph Leriger, Councillor Abby Keyes  
Back row (l to r): Councillor Laura Morie, Councillor Randy Wold, Councillor Curtis Snell, Councillor Murtaza Jamaly

## COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Municipalities are responsible for everyday things that often go unseen, things like infrastructure, land development and planning, recreation, roads, utilities, waste management, and water services. Committees and boards are key components of how we do our jobs. Working with our regional and provincial partners, we build essential relationships to gather information and opportunities for our community.

**A sampling of some of the boards and committees our mayor and council work on are highlighted below. To view our entire board and committee listing, visit [www.westlock.ca/p/council](http://www.westlock.ca/p/council).**

### COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMITTEE

#### Councillor Morie

Formed by a bylaw in September of 2021, the Community Events Committee was established to advise and participate in coordinating and promoting community events within the Town of Westlock.

### COMMUNITY FUTURES TAWATINAW REGION

#### Councillor Wold

Community Futures Tawatinaw Region office is a non-profit organization that's dedicated to building an economically diverse future for the region.

### FCSS ADVISORY BOARD

#### Councillors Jamaly and Kramer

The FCSS Advisory Board acts in an advisory capacity to the Town of Westlock, Westlock County, and Village of Clyde to enhance, strengthen, and stabilize family and community life in our region.

### HOMELAND HOUSING BOARD

#### Mayor Leriger and Councillor Morie

This public, not-for-profit organization provides housing and care services for 880 residents.

### REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

#### Councillors Snell and Wold

The Regional Waste Management Commission is responsible for the Westlock Regional Landfill, Recycle Facility, and in 2022 partnered with [AltRoot](#), in an exciting initiative to turn organic waste into nutrient-rich compost.

### WESTLOCK REGIONAL MUNICIPAL AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

#### Councillor Keyes

The Westlock Airport is owned by the Town of Westlock and Westlock County, with Westlock County overseeing operations. This board provides guidance on airport operations.

## WHO DOES WHAT?

Roles and Responsibilities

#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



- ✓ Air traffic and airports
- ✓ Banking
- ✓ Border control
- ✓ Child Tax benefits
- ✓ Criminal law
- ✓ Employment insurance
- ✓ Federal law
- ✓ Foreign affairs
- ✓ Human rights law
- ✓ Immigration
- ✓ Income tax
- ✓ Indigenous peoples; reserves
- ✓ International relations and trade
- ✓ Internet & telecoms regulation
- ✓ Military/Defence
- ✓ National parks
- ✓ Official languages
- ✓ RCMP
- ✓ Student loans

#### PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT



- ✓ Administration of justice
- ✓ Building codes
- ✓ Civil law (family, health)
- ✓ Crown land resource extraction
- ✓ Domestic trade
- ✓ Education/Post-secondary education
- ✓ Employment
- ✓ Health care
- ✓ Labour standards
- ✓ Municipalities
- ✓ Occupational health and safety
- ✓ Property and civil rights
- ✓ Province, property tax
- ✓ Provincial highways (including highways within city, town, village boundaries)
- ✓ Provincial Income Tax
- ✓ Provincial licensing
- ✓ Provincial parks
- ✓ Public land management
- ✓ Rental & leasing rules
- ✓ Sales tax
- ✓ Social services
- ✓ Worker's compensation

#### MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT



- ✓ Budget and property tax
- ✓ Economic development
- ✓ Licenses within municipalities (e.g. pet ownership, business operation)
- ✓ Municipal infrastructure
- ✓ Municipal land development
- ✓ Municipal planning
- ✓ Municipal policing and emergency services
- ✓ Municipal property assessment
- ✓ Municipal public transit
- ✓ Municipal recreation (e.g. swimming pools, parks)
- ✓ Municipal roads
- ✓ Municipal utilities
- ✓ Municipal waste management
- ✓ Municipal water management
- ✓ to provide services, facilities or other things that, in the opinion of council, are necessary or desirable for all or a part of the municipality

*Municipality: city, town, village, hamlet, summer village, municipal district, and specialized municipality*



## MESSAGE FROM CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

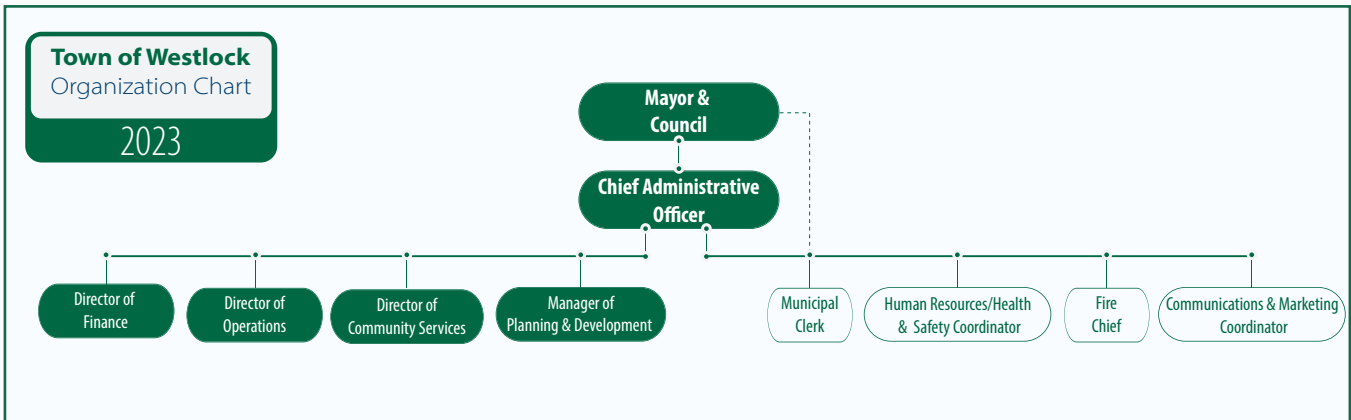
On behalf of the Town of Westlock organization, I am happy to present our 2022 Annual Report. This report serves as a highlight and review of the previous year and provides insight into the work of our municipality. For me, it also reinforces what a great team this is. I appreciate all their day-to-day tasks and how they continually rise to face new challenges and opportunities.

An educational and comprehensive Land Use Bylaw (LUB) update was completed this year that provided many opportunities for public engagement. This project was supported by surveys, open houses, explainer videos, and highlights, ensuring the final product is user-friendly, Westlock-made, and will serve our community well for many years.

In amongst all the day-to-day work, we held many community events this year. We expanded on our annual events with the much-appreciated help from the newly formed Town of Westlock Community Events Committee. We welcomed the Blue Suede Music Festival in 2022 and hosted our first town-wide garage sale that same weekend.

Alternative Root (AltRoot) is an Alberta-based waste management company specializing in handling organic waste streams from municipal sources to produce organic compost and nutrient-dense soil located within our Regional Waste Management Commission facility. With this new compost initiative, the Town of Westlock manages all waste locally, and we continue to explore opportunities to advance the compost and organics program.

We often say “We do things differently in Westlock” and 2022 exemplified that attitude. Our organization is committed to serving our community and we strive to lead our region through dedicated public service, innovation, and good governance. We are a community with spirit and an organization with heart.



## TOWN OF WESTLOCK ADMINISTRATION



Simone Wiley,  
Chief Administrative Officer



Julia Seppola,  
Director of Finance



Robin Benoit,  
Director of Operations



Gerry Murphy,  
Director of Community Services



Danielle Pougher,  
Manager of Planning & Development



## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the municipality ensures that the policies and programs of the municipality are implemented. The CAO advises and informs Council on the municipality's operations while performing and exercising the duties, functions, and powers assigned through the *Municipal Government Act* and Council.

Legislative Services include activities related to the custody and maintenance of bylaws, policies, corporate records, Council agendas and minutes, elections, and the administration of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP).

The Chief Administrative Officer also oversees Protective Services, Fire Department and Emergency Management, Corporate Communications, and Human Resources/Health and Safety.

### What's the difference between a bylaw and a policy?

A bylaw defines the governing rules of an organization, while a policy defines the day-to-day operation of the organization. When Council gives a bylaw third reading, that means it has passed and will be applied to the municipality. When Council approves a policy, it will then be used to guide the Town of Westlock organization.

## FINANCE SERVICES

The Finance department is responsible for budgeting, property tax, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and utilities. Taxes help ensure that the Town of Westlock citizens have excellent services that contribute to a quality lifestyle and deliver the many day-to-day services and programs that citizens need, want, and deserve.

### What are property taxes used for?

Municipalities collect taxes from residential, commercial, and industrial property owners. These property taxes pay for a range of public services in our community, including fire services, roads, waste collection, snow removal, sewers and more.

## OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

The Operations department performs a wide variety of daily tasks, maintenance, and repairs related to infrastructure such as streets, laneways, sidewalks, curbs, storm mains, and gutters. This department also monitors, maintains, and repairs water and sanitary systems throughout the Town. Additionally, under contract, Operations maintains the regional water treatment plant, pumping stations, and distribution system.

### What does an Equipment Operator do?

Starting out, an equipment operator performs those duties required to maintain municipal infrastructure systems and operate small hand tools, power tools, and light and heavy equipment.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Community Services department is responsible for making health and fitness opportunities available in the Town.

The management of Recreation, Facilities, Parks, and Trails within Westlock is provided by this department. Community Services also oversees Municipal Enforcement, Family & Community Support Services (FCSS), and the Community Bus.

### What does a Customer Service Representative do?

Customer Service Representatives are often the first point of contact between our organization and the public. So, in addition to administrative duties, they are an essential component in our public relations. Staff are responsible for point-of-sales, daily admissions, and registrations.

## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Planning and development provides legislation information and requirements regarding land use, planning, and safety codes.

The department also oversees business licenses, Geographic Information System (GIS) and mapping, asset management, economic development, and the municipal cemetery.

### How does GIS support asset management?

Asset Management is a critical task for any organization. Assets "live" in space, a location in the world. A GIS lets us visualize an asset's location, understand its relationship with other assets or features, interpret and ask questions about a feature and its connections, and analyze or interpret patterns and trends.

# Town of Westlock by the numbers



**4,921**

Population

**2,385**

Private Dwellings

**50**

Flower Planters

**7 social media channels**

Twitter, (5) Facebook, LinkedIn

**171**

Hydrants

**10.2 kms**

Trails

**24.1 kms**

Storm Mains

**103**

Flower Poles

**45.61 kms**

Water Mains

**1.7 kms**

Collector Roads Gravel

**417**

Catch Basins

**13.82 kms**

Paved Collector Roads

**763,000 Post Reach**

Across all social media channels

**56.67 kms**

Sanitary Mains

**25**

Park Benches

**213**

Storm Manholes



# Town of Westlock by the numbers



**131**  
Stop Signs

**101**  
Yield Signs

**23.29 kms**  
Paved Local Roads

**41.21 kms**  
Sidewalks

**538**  
Water Valves

**3.35 kms**  
Culverts

**0.98 kms**  
Paved Alleyways

**1,500 posts**  
Across all social media channels

**15.74 acres or 6.37 HA**  
Storm Pond

**21.47 kms**  
Alleyways Gravel

**5,900 Fans & Followers**  
Across all social media channels

**566**  
Sanitary Manholes

**31.37 kms**  
Ditches

**849,000 Impressions**  
Across all social media channels

**7.86 kms**  
Local Roads Gravel



OVERVIEW



## WESTLOCK & DISTRICT FCSS

Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) is a program from the Government of Alberta that is intended to help individuals adopt healthy lifestyles, improve their quality of life and build the capacity to prevent and deal with crisis situations should they arise.

The FCSS program is an 80/20 funding partnership between the Government of Alberta and participating municipalities.

FCSS is based on a shared understanding that municipalities are in the best position to:

- assess community needs and set priorities
- support individuals, families and communities through preventative social programs and services

Westlock & District FCSS is a partnership between the Town of Westlock, Westlock County, and the Village of Clyde, with the Town of Westlock assigned as the governing municipality.

Westlock and District FCSS provides preventative services and supports initiatives that help individuals and strengthen community resiliency while valuing personal uniqueness.

## FACILITIES, PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, AND TRAILS

### WESTLOCK AQUATIC CENTRE

**10605-104 Avenue**

Spend the day at the Westlock Aquatic Centre swimming in our 6-lane swimming pool with climbing wall, zero-depth entry, and splash park area, relaxing in the hot tub and steam room, working out in the weight room and fitness area, playing racquetball or squash, or checking out our virtual rec room with golf, sport, and game simulator. We also offer swim lessons, aquafit classes, special event days, and have a meeting room for special events and parties.

### WESTLOCK ROTARY SPIRIT CENTRE

**9603-100 Street**

Wondering what you can do at the Westlock Rotary Spirit Centre? With a 3 court field house, NHL sized arena, walking track, weight room, fitness room, curling rink, and Kali's Korner (children play area) there's always something going on. There are meeting rooms, a concession area, and a 21-site campsite at Mountie Park Campground with a new day use picnic area.

### OUTDOOR AMENITIES

If the weather cooperates, head over to one of our outdoor amenities:

- Lions Park/Playground  
110 Street and 100 Avenue
- Belvedere Park/Playground  
105 Street and 110 Avenue
- East Glen Park/Playground  
103A Street and 106 Avenue
- Polymanth Park/Playground  
107 Street and 108A Avenue
- Whissell Park 10708-100 Avenue  
Whissellville Pond 11104 100 Avenue
- Southview Park/Westlock Community Garden  
9903-9927 100 Avenue
- Skateboard Park  
10711-104 Avenue
- Keller Field Ball Diamond  
within Spirit Centre Park
- Soccer field/Football Field  
10516-106 Street
- Tennis/Pickleball Court South of Rotary Spirit  
Centre along Rotary Trail 9603-100 Street
- East Glen Outdoor Rink  
10503 Street and 105 Avenue
- Off Leash Dog Park with wind shelter  
101 Avenue and 108 Street
- Rotary Trail 10.2 KM
- Mountie Park Campground  
100 Street and 96 Avenue

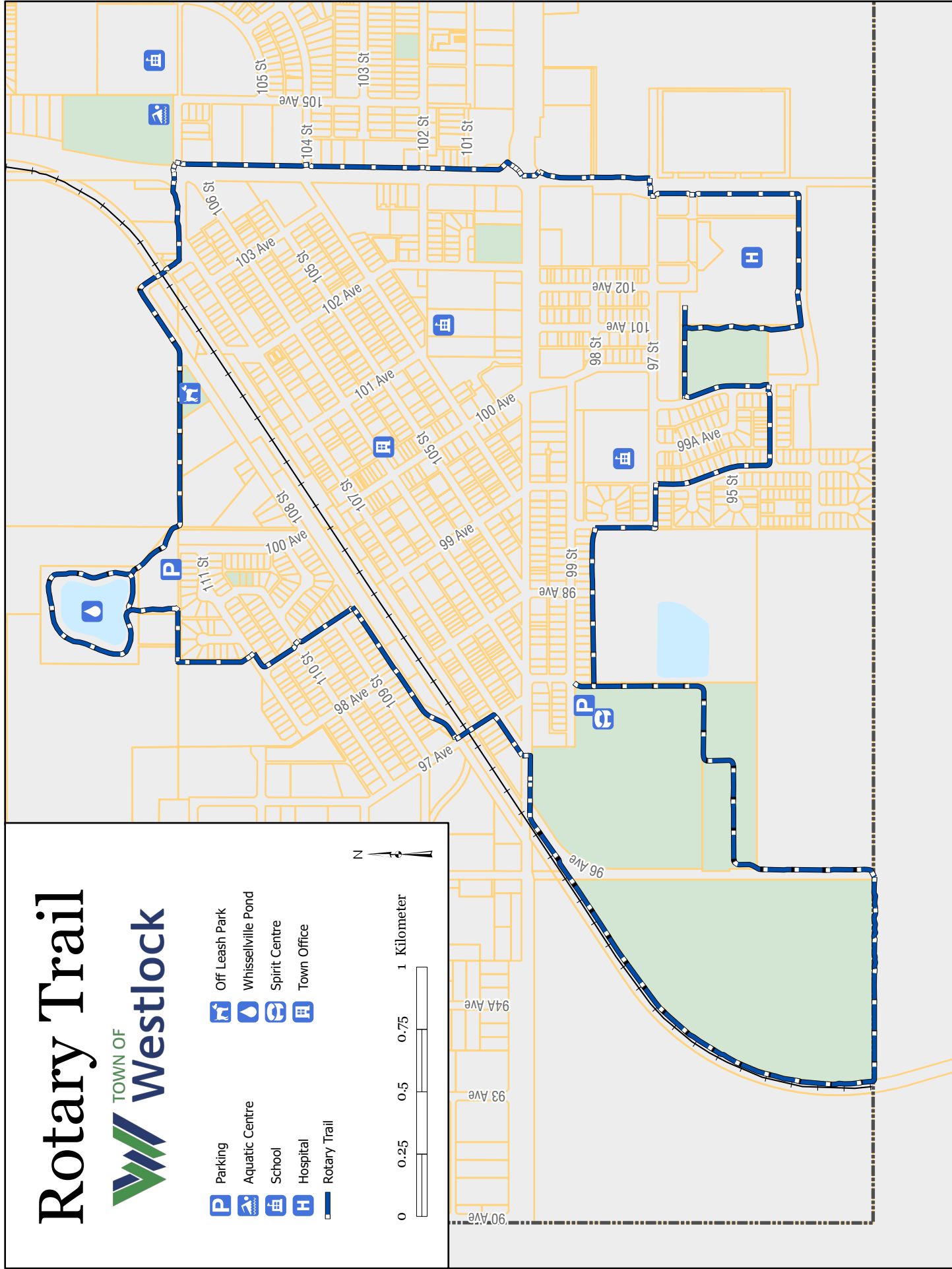
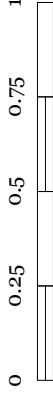
# Rotary Trail



- |                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Parking        | Off Leash Park     |
| Aquatic Centre | Whissellville Pond |
| School         | Spirit Centre      |
| Hospital       | Town Office        |
| Rotary Trail   |                    |



0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Kilometer



## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

### 81 DEVELOPMENT PERMITS ISSUED



AVERAGE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT PROCESSING TIME = 6.4 DAYS  
(date received to date issued)

### 48 BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED



## BUSINESS IN THE TOWN OF WESTLOCK



**78 NEW**  
Business Licenses

**44 NEW**  
Resident Business Licenses



**400 Active Businesses**  
(resident & non-resident businesses)

**\$23,367,100.00 NEW DEVELOPMENT IN 2022**  
(based on Development Permit Values)

# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

## NEW LAND USE BYLAW 2022-12 ADOPTED



Planning and Development worked through an extensive process in reviewing the Land Use Bylaw, which had been in effect since 2015. Public consultation, engagement, and education drove the review, with an online survey and follow-up report on survey results, multiple open houses, infographics, diagrams, and a detailed series of videos.

- **38 Project Update Registrations**
- **58 Survey Participants**
- **14 Open House Participants**
- **607 Visits to the Project Page**
- **3,023 Video Views**

Our New Land Use Bylaw is user-friendly, flexible, progressive, Westlock-made and will serve us well for many years to come.

All the information on our review, including highlights, videos, infographics and reports can be found at [www.westlock.ca/p/land-use-bylaw-update](http://www.westlock.ca/p/land-use-bylaw-update).

### Land Use Bylaw Update Highlights

# What's Changing?



#### USER-FRIENDLY

Highly visual & accessible. Anyone will be able to reference and navigate the Bylaw with ease.

##### HOW WE DID IT

- Introduced new layout & a how-to guide for new users
- Improved navigability and linking throughout the document
- Simplified, streamlined, and organized regulations
- Updated and added definitions to aid interpretation
- Introduced diagrams, graphics, and tables

#### FLEXIBLE

Encourages flexibility of use and surety of development for businesses & landowners.

##### HOW WE DID IT

- Expanded use options across all Land Use Districts to encourage a variety of uses and provide more options for the future development of land
- Exempted more types of development from requiring a permit, including a-frame signs, interior renovations, and home offices
- Provided clarity on the development permit process including clear timelines for review & approval

#### PROGRESSIVE

Capitalizes on emerging development trends & meets current legislative requirements.

##### HOW WE DID IT

- Introduces new use types including renewable energy devices, breweries, wineries, and distilleries, and pet care services
- Expanded secondary suite types to encourage garage and garden suite development
- Updated to reflect the current Alberta Building Code
- Updated to align with the modernized *Municipal Government Act*

#### WESTLOCK MADE

Reflects the needs and wants identified by Town residents, business owners & stakeholders.

##### HOW WE DID IT

- Reduced landscaping requirements for commercial and industrial developments
- Increased parking for multi-family developments
- Improved definitions and regulations to promote higher quality modular construction
- Updated residential accessory development regulations

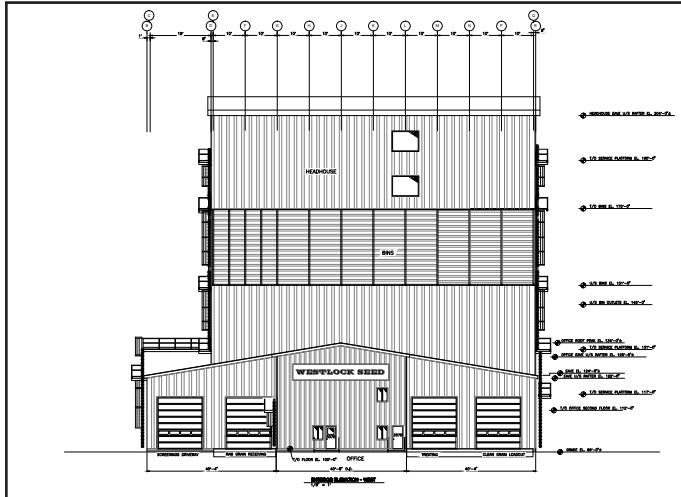


# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

## NEW DEVELOPMENT SHOWCASE

It was a busy development year in our community. Thanks to [Westlock Seed Cleaning Co-op](#), [Fuelhawk Equipment Warehouse](#), and [Westlock Eye Centre](#) for allowing us to include the concept imagery and information from their projects.

OVERVIEW



### WESTLOCK SEED CLEANING CO-OP SEED CLEANING PLANT

\$11.5 million  
12,528 sq ft, 10.8 storeys



### FUELHAWK EQUIPMENT WAREHOUSE AND OFFICE

\$3.0 million  
10,420 sq ft, 2 storeys



### WESTLOCK EYE CENTRE RENOVATION AND FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT

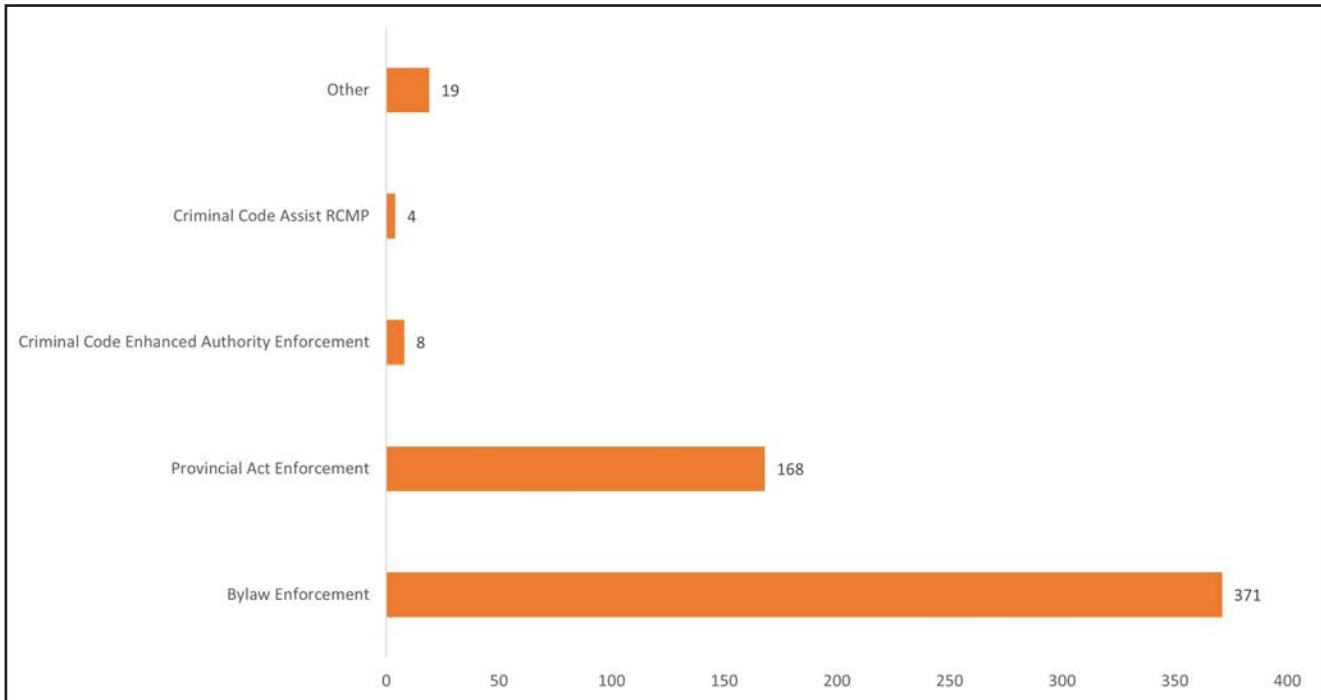
\$625 thousand  
New Interior and Façade





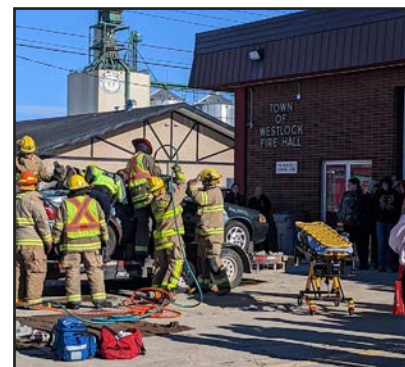
# MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT

## 2022 Municipal Enforcement



OVERVIEW

Throughout the year, our Peace Officer is engaged in public education and facilitates Defensive Driving and the P.A.R.T.Y. (Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth) Program. Youth from local schools spend an afternoon with emergency services staff on-site at the fire hall listening to presentations and watching a live demonstration.



P.A.R.T.Y. Program, March 16, 2022  
R.F. Staples Secondary School on-site at Town of Westlock Fire Hall

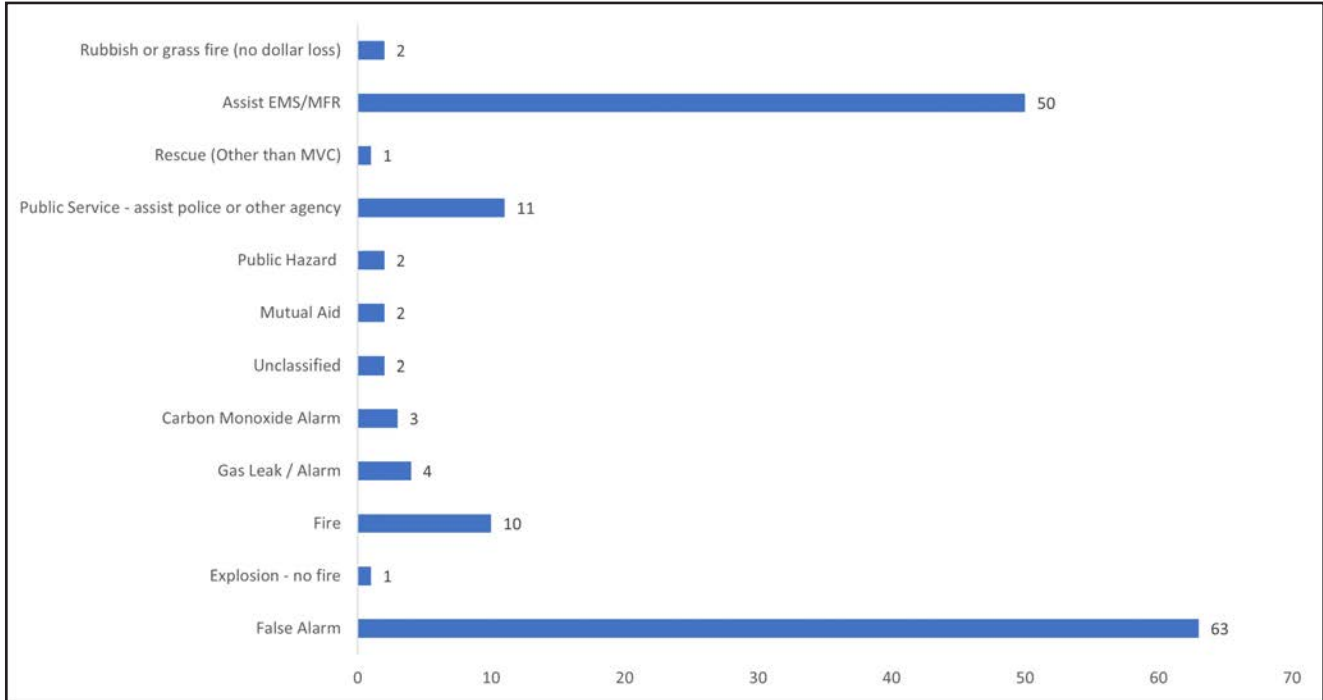
The Town of Westlock Peace Officer is a member of the [Alberta Municipal Enforcement Association \(AMEA\)](#). The AMEA is a non-profit professional association of municipal enforcement agencies in Alberta serving over 300 members since 1980. The Association strives to enhance and promote the profession of Municipal & Bylaw Enforcement through education, training, and collaborative interaction.





# FIRE DEPARTMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

## 2022 Incident Totals



## TRAINING

Incident Command System 200, Incident Command Systems 300, All-Hazards Incident Commander, Level 1 Firefighter, Apparatus Driver/Operator, Dangerous Goods Awareness and Operations, First-Aid/CPR/Oxygen Administration



September 12, 2022 · Town of Westlock and Westlock County Fire Departments successfully completing their 1001 Level 1 evaluations. April 9, 2022 Lesser Slave Regional Fire Service's training center as part of their Level 2 skills, Dangerous Goods Awareness and Operations level qualifications



## OPERATIONS



**THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT SNOW**

**TOWN OF WESTLOCK HAS 46.6 KM ROADS & LANES**

**DURING AN AVERAGE SNOWFALL EVENT, OPERATIONS WILL:**

- Remove 42,000 cubic metres of snow in a 12-day cycle
- With five trucks working each day, each truck will make 25 trips to the snow dump during that day

### WHAT ABOUT WATERLINE BREAKS?

Traditionally, we find out about waterline breaks by seeing the water or by public reporting it.

**AGING INFRASTRUCTURE + GROUND FREEZING + MOVING INFRASTRUCTURE PUTTING PRESSURE ON INFRASTRUCTURE = WATERLINE BREAK**



The new leak detection system will help mitigate the damage and save time as it can provide early warning signs so we can proactively plan repairs.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS

The 2022 construction season was another busy year for the Town of Westlock. Projects ranged from lagoon desludging, a multipurpose asphalt trail, replacing a playground, demolishing Jubilee Arena, and installing a water leak detection and monitoring system. We began the groundwork for more extensive projects such as the new Public Works shop, cold storage, and the sand and salt storage building.

### JUBILEE ARENA DEMOLITION

Jubilee Arena, formerly Westlock and District Jubilee Family Recreation Centre, opened in 1963. Upon the completion of the Westlock Rotary Spirit Centre in 2012, it was set for demolition, but that path was altered, and it became a storage facility for the Town of Westlock.

Demolition was then set for the 2022 construction season, with August 2022 as a target that came and went. Delays of extreme cold weather and discovering asbestos in an unexpected location pushed the timeline further into the year. Finally, demolition was completed on January 9, 2023.



### POLYMANTH PLAYGROUND

#### 107 Street and 108A Avenue

On May 24, 2022, we closed Polymanth Playground and began removing the existing equipment to clear the way for [Canadian Recreation Solutions](#) to construct the new playground. Our grand opening was held on August 11, 2022, with community members, Town Council, and Town staff on hand to celebrate.



### WATER LEAK DETECTION AND MONITORING SYSTEM

This system will monitor hydrants throughout the community and provide data to pinpoint leaks and maintain our infrastructure in a new way. This will be a multi-year project with the installation of 50 sensors in 2022 and another 30 in 2023.



## FEATURED UPDATES

### CHECK IN ON THE SOLAR PANEL PROJECT OF 2020

The Town of Westlock partnered with Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC) and Enmax on a solar panel project. On January 24, 2020, the ten inverter PV system (rated power of 450,000kW) became operational.

The annual yield for the system has averaged 587,282kW. Since February 2020, the array has generated 1,761 mWh of power, of which 699 mWh has been sold back to the grid.



Westlock Rotary Spirit Centre,  
Solar Panels

### PUBLIC SATISFACTION SURVEY

The 2022 Public Satisfaction Survey ran from September 16 until 30, and respondents were entered into a draw for a \$100 Visa Gift Card. These surveys help identify areas for improvement and help ensure we continue moving forward together. The survey was available online and in print at Town Office, Westlock & District FCSS, and the Westlock Rotary Spirit Centre. One hundred fifty-nine verified respondents took the time to complete the 34 questions.

<b>Where do you receive your primary source of information on the Town of Westlock?</b> <small>NOTE: This was a multiple-choice response. Of the 159 respondents, there were 308 responses.</small>	<b>Westlock is a strong community that supports the diverse needs of residents</b>	<b>The Town's actions and commitment to the environment</b>
75% Social Media 40% Website 32% Newspaper 21% WRNS:Connect 18% Utility Insert 5% Radio	Good = 50 Acceptable = 48 Poor = 28 Very Good = 14 Very Poor = 14 Don't know = 5	Acceptable = 60 Good = 54 Very Good = 15 Don't know = 15 Poor = 9 Very Poor = 6

YEAR IN REVIEW



## WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Town of Westlock believes that managing waste, recycling, and organics can mean more than just being responsible for cleaning up the environment. It can benefit our community as we expand our waste management program. We've been taking steps by starting small to develop strategies to ensure our waste is managed locally. Local waste management ensures we are responsible for our environmental impact as we are involved in every stage of the process. It ensures those economic benefits and business opportunities remain in our community.

### WESTLOCK REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

We are fortunate to have an exceptional program at the [Westlock Regional Waste Management Commission \(WRWMC\)](#) that leads the industry with recycling programs and a progressive regional landfill. We made great strides in 2022 by adding a monthly organics winter pick-up to our [waste, recycling, and organics schedule](#).



**Wednesdays**  
**Thursdays**  
**Thursdays**

**Waste**  
**Recycling**  
**\*Organics**

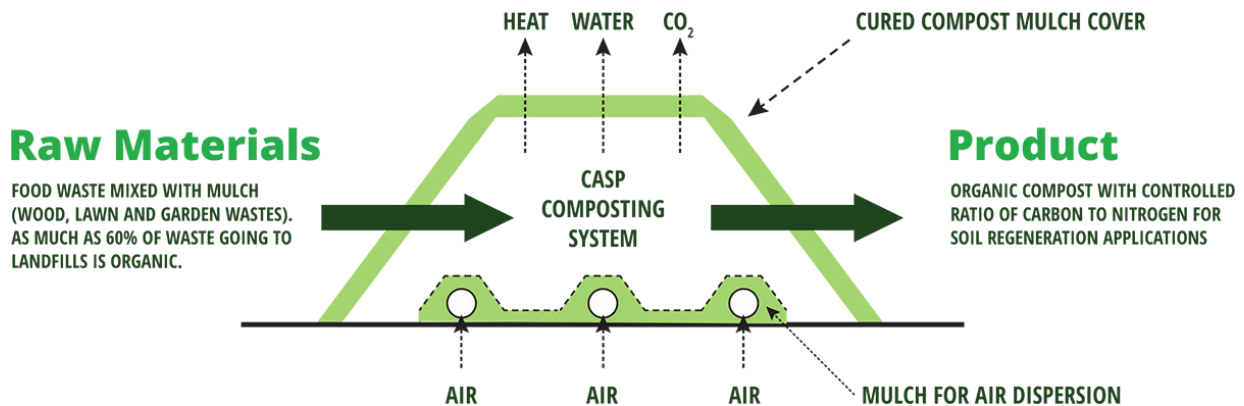
\*Monthly organics pick up runs from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of December to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of March

\*Weekly organics pick up runs from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of April to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of November



### ALTERNATIVE ROOT

A highlight of 2022 was the partnership between WRWMC and a new Westlock facility, [Alternative Root \(AltRoot\)](#). Using Covered Aerated Static Pile (CASP), AltRoot composts municipal food wastes, wood chips, and garden wastes. This initiative with Westlock Landfill diverts organic wastes from the regional landfill. It extends the landfill's available life while reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions by eliminating methane emissions from anaerobic conditions in the landfill.



In 2022 nominations for the Emerald Awards ranged across the province and many initiatives, and we were so proud of AltRoot's nomination. The [Alberta Emerald Foundation](#) showcases those raising the bar in addressing local, regional, and global environmental and climate issues, each sharing a unique approach to environmental stewardship. These nominations celebrate and support Albertans leading the way to a more sustainable future.



## CURBSIDE ROUNDUP

Partnering with the [Alberta Recycling Management Authority](#), we held a curbside roundup event over two days in June 2022. We had great results with a strong community response and support from our staff.

**Curbside Roundup**  
**June 1 & 2, 2022**

ELECTRONICS  
 PAINT  
 TIRES  
 USED OIL MATERIALS  
 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

TOWN OF Westlock  
 albertarecycling.ca  
 Alberta recycling 30th Anniversary  
 MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

**PAINT** 1,345 aerosol cans, 3,320 gallons of paint

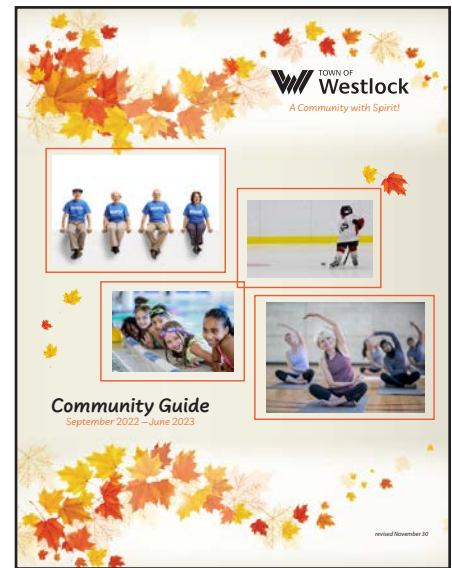
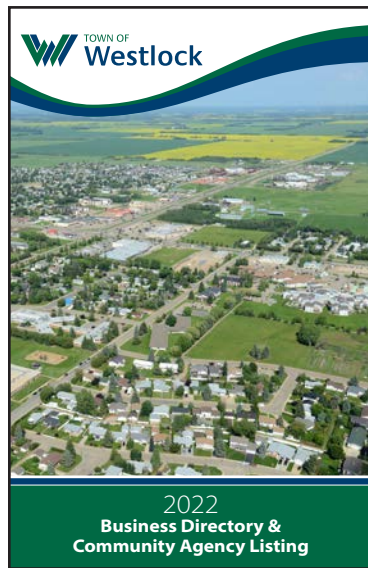
**TIRES** 115 collected

**ELECTRONICS** Three Sea-Cans, approximately 300 electronic items

**USED OIL** 3,100 litres of used oil, 910 oil containers, 87 oil filters, and one drum of antifreeze

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)** four full 1M3 bins of HHW, 1,190 aerosol cans, 49 propane tanks (various sizes)

## PUBLICATIONS



The Town of Westlock Business Directory and Community Agency Listing was produced as a digital document and a hard copy available at all Town facilities. To date, the digital copy has been accessed 608 times.

Our 2022 Summer Program guide covered July and August and was produced as a digital document and hard copy available at all Town of Westlock facilities. To date, the digital copy has been accessed 2,897 times.

The Community Guide covered September 2022 to June 2023 and has been accessed 6,228 times.

YEAR IN REVIEW



## 2022 EVENTS

The Town of Westlock plans several town-wide events every year. In 2022, we hosted Family Day at our recreation facilities, a 10th-anniversary celebration at the Westlock Rotary Spirit Centre, a town-wide garage sale, the inaugural gathering with the Kipohtakaw First Nation in honour of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, and our Fire Department's annual Firefighter in the Sky fundraiser.

With the formation of the Town of Westlock Community Events Committee, 2022 was an incredibly active year. This group of dedicated volunteers and town staff planned and hosted Canada Day, Music in the Park, Haunted House, and an expanded and bigger-than-ever Christmas Light Up.

### FEBRUARY

Family Day Celebrations kicked off on Monday, February 21, 2022, with a full day of free skating, hockey, and inflatables at Westlock Rotary Spirit Centre and a free Wibit swim at the Westlock Aquatic Centre.



### MAY

On May 1, 2022, the Town of Westlock proclaimed May 1 to be Albert and Florence Miller Day to honour their memory of community spirit and generosity.

In keeping with their spirit of philanthropy and vision of serving the community, we are honoured to share that the [Westlock Community Foundation](#) was established as a charitable non-profit organization dedicated to improving our community.

### JUNE

We celebrated the Westlock Rotary Spirit Centre's (WRSC) 10 year anniversary from June 6 to 12 with a circus, free movie, free bbq, recreation showcase, and retro pricing. WRSC also hosted provincials Ringette and U18 and welcomed a new concession vendor to the facility in 2022. Our youth summer programs were a great hit throughout July and August.



Municipal World launched Canada's Best Municipal Flag Contest, and we were excited to make it to the quarter-finals in June.



## JULY

Our Community Events Committee's first event was Canada Day, and what an event it was. Festivities started with a free pancake breakfast to fuel the rest of the day's activities. These ranged from free swimming, skatepark competition, dog show, live entertainment, market, food trucks, face painting, henna, bike parades, inflatables, and fireworks.



## AUGUST

The first Town-Wide Garage Sale was held on August 6 and 7, making that a busy weekend as we welcomed the [Blue Suede Music Festival](#) to Westlock.

The Community Events Committee hosted the first-ever Music in the Park event, sponsored by [Westlock Cultural Arts Theatre Society](#), on August 14.



## SEPTEMBER

On September 7, our annual Community Showcase featured local organizations providing information and registration opportunities for recreation programs.

We were honoured to welcome the [Kipohtakaw First Nation](#) to the Westlock Memorial Hall, on Wednesday, September 28, for our inaugural gathering in honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We are committed to continuing to build a meaningful relationship with Kipohtakaw First Nation and are thankful for this opportunity.

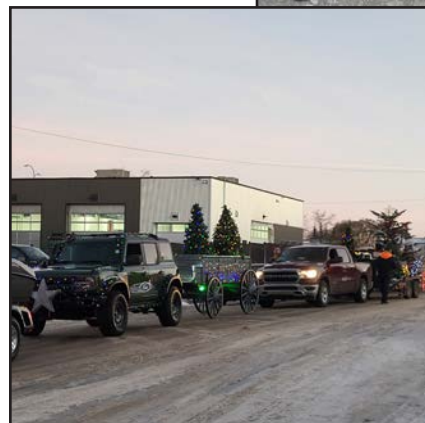
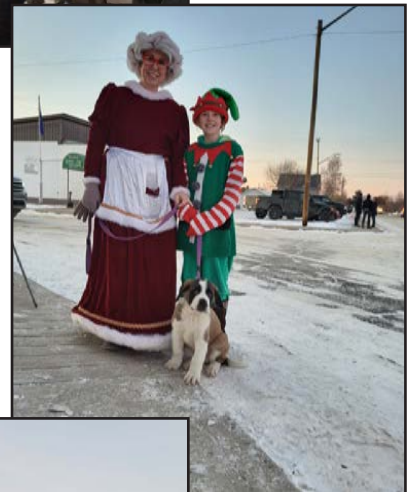


## OCTOBER

Westlock Rotary Spirit Centre hosted the Haunted House for the first time on October 31. A spooktacular time was had by all!

## NOVEMBER

The Community Events Committee changed things up for our annual Light Up by moving to a two-day event on November 18 and 19. Families had many options with Christmas Light Up and late-night shopping, family activities throughout the town, and a free Christmas swim and skate with Santa.



## DECEMBER

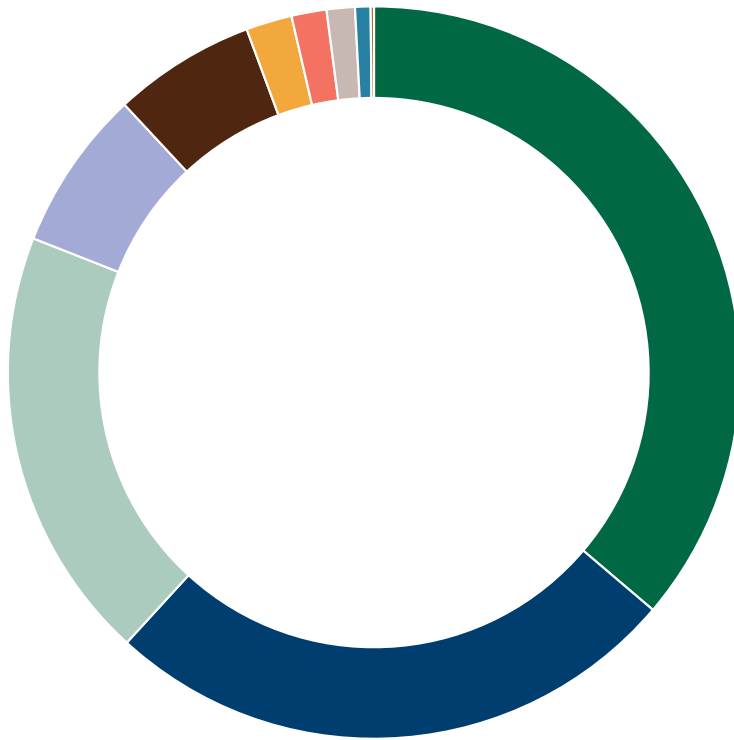
Town of Westlock Fire Department held their annual Firefighter in the Sky fundraiser throughout December. Volunteer firefighters and trucks onsite collected food and cash donations at local grocery stores every Sunday throughout the month. The final Sunday saw Captain Brian Hegedus take to the sky in Tower 1 as donations continued to flow.

We are so proud of our Fire Department for all they do and for this fantastic fundraiser.



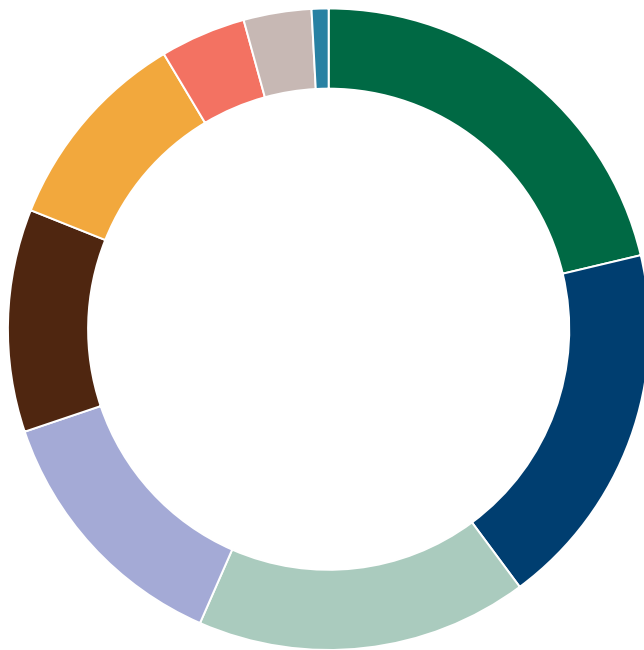
**Firefighter in the Sky 2022 set a new record with final donations of 1,834 lbs of food and \$5,107.50.**

## WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?



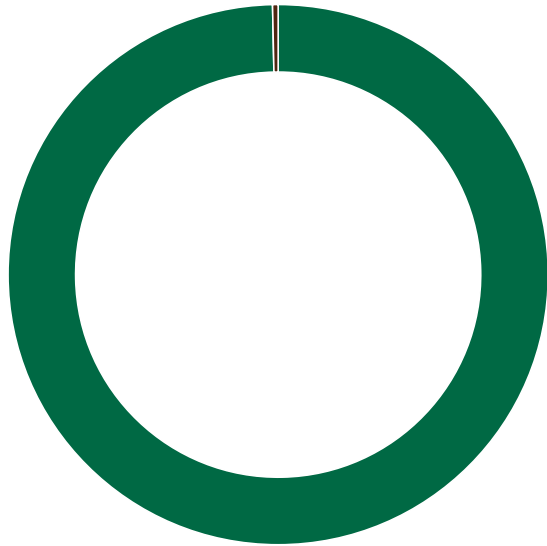
36.2%	Net Municipal Taxes	\$7,344,058.00
25.6%	User Fees and Sales	\$5,186,454.00
19.2%	Other Revenue	\$3,887,841.00
7.1%	Franchise fees	\$1,438,399.00
6.3%	Government Transfers Used in Operating	\$1,273,938.00
2.0%	Rental Revenue	\$411,949.00
1.5%	Penalties Costs of Taxes	\$313,447.00
1.2%	Investment Income	\$252,581.00
0.7%	License and Permits	\$138,319.00
0.1%	Fines and Costs	\$29,767.00
		<b>\$20,276,753.00</b>

## WHAT WERE TAXES USED FOR IN 2022?



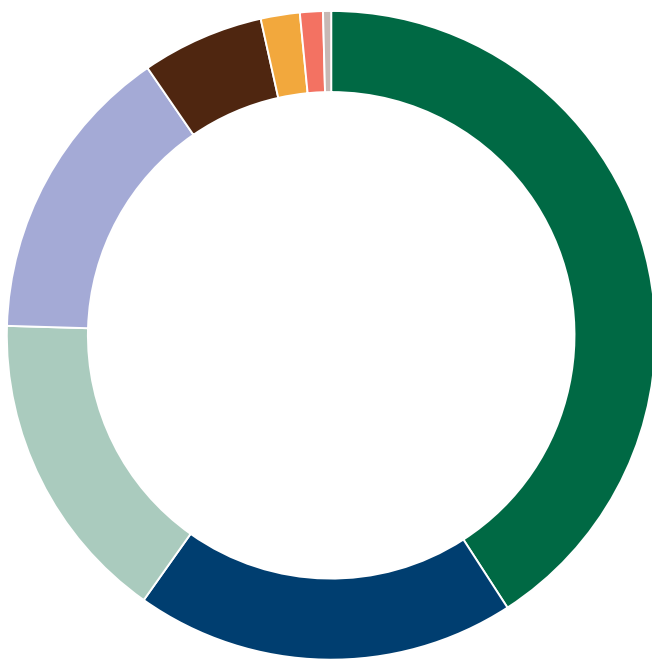
21.3%	Recreation, culture	\$1,563,789.21
18.5%	Public Works, Common Services, Roads, Sidewalks, Public Transit	\$1,362,314.97
16.7%	Administration	\$1,228,280.24
13.3%	Principal Debt Repayment	\$973,689.99
11.2%	Net Transfers to Savings for Future Capital	\$824,075.48
10.4%	Protective Services (Fire, Police, Community Enforcement & Emergency Services)	\$761,255.90
4.3%	Planning, Development, Economic Development, Tourism, Building Maintenance	\$317,012.04
3.4%	Legislative	\$250,961.43
0.9%	Public Health and Welfare (FCSS, Cemetery)	\$62,678.74
		<b>\$7,344,058.00</b>

## WHERE DID THE UTILITY REVENUE COME FROM?



User Fees and Sales of Goods	\$4,122,935.00
Other Revenue	\$13,766.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,136,701.00</b>

## HOW DOES THE UTILITY REVENUE GET SPENT?



41%	Materials, goods, utilities and other	\$1,682,768.00
19%	Contracted and General Services	\$780,522.00
16%	Salaries, wages and benefits	\$644,990.00
15%	Net Transfers to Reserves for Future Capital	\$615,888.00
6%	Principal Repayment	\$250,919.00
2%	Transfers to local boards	\$80,150.00
1%	Interest on Long Term Debt	\$46,991.00
0%	Other	\$16,592.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,118,820.00</b>

Town of Westlock Financial Statements are available at [www.westlock.ca/p/finance-and-budget](http://www.westlock.ca/p/finance-and-budget).



