

Mountain View

COUNTY



REFLECTING BACK 2003 LOOKING FORWARD 2004



WELCOME TO MOUNTAIN VIEW COUNTY

This report is designed for individuals, businesses and organizations with an interest in Mountain View County. It is both a review of milestones achieved in 2003 (along with the 2003 audited financial statements) and a look at key priorities for 2004.

As a county in growth mode, Mountain View is focused on creating a progressive environment. At the same time, we're committed to balancing economic development with the unique amenities created by a quality rural lifestyle.

Ratepayers who live in the County experience the benefits of living in a picturesque community that blends the best of rural living with the sophistication, infrastructure and convenience of urban centres. Those who may be considering a personal or business investment in Mountain View may be surprised to see the depth of services, growth opportunities, and lifestyle options available here.

We welcome your inquiries. If you have questions, or would like to know more about our past and our exciting future, please contact us at: 403-335-3311 or www.mountainviewcounty.com



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MESSAGE FROM THE REEVE

A GROWING COUNTY

Over 2003 and well into the future, Mountain View County is building a framework to balance growth with a premium quality rural lifestyle. To this end, Council focused on three priorities in 2003 including: The New Administration Building; Drafting the Municipal Development Plan; and Regional Collaboration.

Administration Building – Planning for the Future

Three years ago, this Council was faced with the reality that the current administration building needed significant repairs and renovation to address major deficiencies, code violations and the need for more space, improved functionality, energy efficiency and technological enhancements. The anticipated cost and scope of renovation was such that a committee was formed in January 2003 to investigate options for a renovated or new facility to serve the needs of the County well into the future.

The committee (which was comprised of five ratepayers, representatives from Council and Administration and architects from Cohos Evamy) triggered an extensive process that involved research and public consultation. Two major public reports (Renovation, New Construction) were generated and shared with ratepayers during several public meetings. The process resulted September 2003, in Council's decision to pursue construction of a new building, on land owned by the County at the Olds Didsbury airport beginning summer 2004.

The new building blends energy efficiency, flexibility, practical functionality, a progressive technology platform and environmental considerations into a unique facility that projects a progressive image for Mountain View County and honors our rural heritage.

The building is being financed through reserves and grants. No tax increases have, or will be required for the building. The building is scheduled to open in the summer of 2005.

The Municipal Development Plan – A Guideline for the Future

Over the last two years, Mountain View has embarked on an ambitious journey to chart the future of the County. The Municipal Development Plan (the MDP) is a guideline that determines priority land use and development and addresses the balance between healthy growth and maintaining a quality rural lifestyle. In 2003, the focus was on extensive public consultation to ensure the MDP would reflect the needs, issues, and hopes of ratepayers across the County which included:

- A subdivision policy that protects agriculture
- Opportunities for growth and diversification in value added agriculture
- A strong focus on environmental stewardship
- Different subdivision policies for different parts of the County (to reflect and encourage diversity)

May 2004, The MDP received its first reading. July 2004, The MDP will have its public hearing before being adopted as a by-law under the Alberta Municipal Government Act. The MDP will form the basis for a major long term strategic planning initiative Council is starting in 2004.

Regional Collaboration – Working Together for Regional Economic Development

Working collaboratively with municipalities in our County and with other regions in Alberta has, and will continue to be, a priority for Council. This is a long-term undertaking and one that needs communication, cooperation and a shared vision. Key milestones are:

- Formation of an Inter-Municipal Cooperation Steering Committee comprised of representatives from Council and our five urban centres; with the conceptual and financial support of Alberta Municipal Affairs
- Council and Administration participation in a working group of 14 urban and rural municipalities (from Wataskiwin to the south end of our County) to address strategic development along the Highway 2 and Highway 2A corridors. Council recognizes that this is a unique window of opportunity to create a new vision for Central Alberta

Looking Forward – Planning for Growth

Financially, Mountain View County has the resources to manage current needs, and through prudent planning and reserves; to fuel growth, capital projects and unforeseen emergencies. For example, as the agricultural industry has weathered drought and BSE, we have deferred farm tax assessment payments and reduced late payment penalties. We will continue to ensure Mountain View is resourced to support agriculture through difficult times.

Council believes the County's issues, needs and opportunities extend well beyond the geographical boundaries of our own districts. That's why Council is committed to working on many boards and committees to represent the needs and issues of Mountain View with the province, the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC), other regions, and urban centres. To ensure we build sustainable infrastructure for families, farms and businesses; every decision that crosses Council table goes through this scrutiny:

- Will this add value to the County today and for future generations?
- Is it consistent with the County's priorities for value added agriculture, environmental stewardship and strategic growth?
- Does it deliver optimal value for ratepayers?
- Is it a wise and prudent use of resources?

As Council, we're committed to the democratic process that encourages healthy debate and ratepayer feedback. Our job is to make decisions based on solid information, our best read of ratepayers' needs and the big picture of how Mountain View fits into provincial and federal agendas. This Council has worked hard to ensure decisions are made carefully and in the best interests of the County; recognizing that positive and negative feedback is part of the job.

A Positive Environment – for Families, Farms and Business

Here in Mountain View, we're blessed with many unique advantages. We have some of the best farmland in Canada; our land is rich in natural resources; we're exceptionally well situated on the fastest growing corridor in North America; and we experience rich diversity in terms of industry, geography and culture. Most important, we're home to rural Albertans – entrepreneurial, ethical, hardworking, progressive friends and neighbors who take pride in our county.

Compared to other Alberta counties with assessments of 1.4 Billion (rural) or greater; Mountain View County's (2002 data):

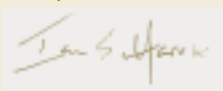
- Net Municipal Property Taxes Per Capita are well below the median of Alberta counties
- Residential Equalized Tax Rate is below the median of Alberta counties
- Non Residential Equalized Tax Rate is above the median of Alberta counties
- Total Operating Expenditures Per Capita are well below the median of Alberta counties (20% below)
- Total Public Works Expenditures Per Km of Road is less than the median of other counties
- Equalized Assessment Per KM of Roads is well below the median of Alberta counties

The last two points illustrate, that Mountain View maintains a very large road system with a much lower assessment base compared to other counties with assessments greater than 1.4 billion.

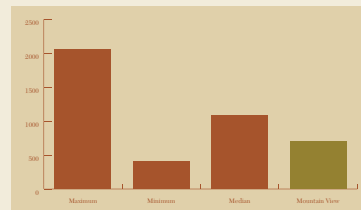
Thank you

I would like to thank members of Council, Administration, County Staff and the many volunteers who give of their time to participate in committees and community initiatives. Together, the Mountain View Team is exceptional; individually, each of you makes Mountain View County the positive, progressive community that it is.

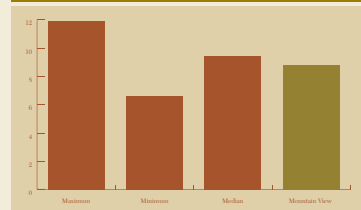
Kindly Submitted,



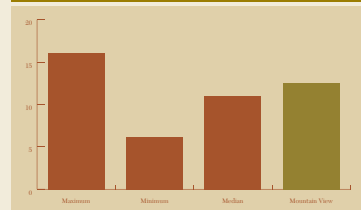
Ian Harvie
Reeve, Mountain View County



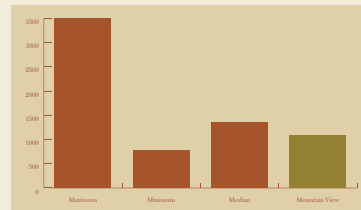
Net Municipal Property Taxes Per Capita



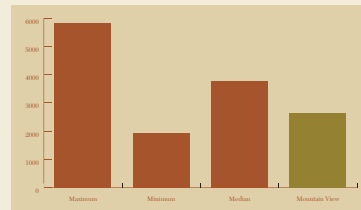
Residential Equalized Tax Rate



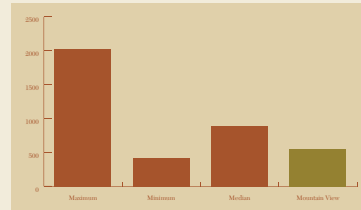
Non Residential Equalized Tax Rate



Total Operating Expenditures Per Capita



Total Expenditures Per Km of Road



Equalized Assessment Per Km of Roads (in thousands)



LETTER FROM ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS & COUNTIES

DEAR FRIENDS OF MOUNTAIN VIEW:

It is my pleasure to offer introductory comments to this unique annual report which reflects a year of progress and points to a year of continued growth.

As one of 64 municipal counties in Alberta, Mountain View is distinguished by many positive characteristics. Located on the highway 2 corridor, Mountain View embraces a rich diversity of agriculture, natural resources, recreation, tourism and the arts. It's ideally positioned for growth and it reflects the pulse of central Alberta by thriving in virtually every industry sector.

The County's newly developed Municipal Development Plan points to a future that champions growth, yet pays close attention to maintaining agriculture as the priority land use, and safeguarding the rural quality of life that so many Albertans treasure.

Mountain View has taken a leadership role in spearheading regional

economic development, and collaborating with others to deliver shared services that offer optimal value to rural Albertans.

At the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties, we view Mountain View as having a tight pulse on the issues, challenges and needs of rural Albertans. Your voice plays an important role in the development of policies and initiatives that will ensure a strong and productive future for rural Alberta.

Here's to 2004-2005

Sincerely,



Jack Hayden
President
AAMD&C Board of Directors



MOUNTAIN VIEW COUNTY COUNCIL

Mountain View County is divided into seven districts; each of which is represented by an elected County Councillor. In addition to their work on Council, Councillors participate in a wide range of committees, boards and volunteer activities to ensure:

- A tight pulse on the needs and issues of ratepayers
- Representation of rural Alberta's challenges and opportunities at the policy level regionally, provincially and federally
- Constant feedback on County initiatives and programs

Each Council member has a strong personal and business investment in Mountain View, and as such, understands the importance of strategic growth, rural values, and community support.

Over the last three years, Mountain View Council has served ratepayers with a high level of service, dedication and sheer hard work. Our sincere appreciation to:

Division 1	Ben Penner
Division 2	Charlie Van Arnam
Division 3	Dave Derksen
Division 4	Ian Harvie, Reeve
Division 5	Linda Burrell, Deputy Reeve
Division 6	Ron Richardson
Division 7	Pat James



Back Row: (left to right) Ron Richardson, Pat James, Dave Derksen, Ben Penner, Charlie Van Arnam; Centre: Linda Burrell (Deputy Reeve); Front: Ian Harvie (Reeve)



COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

ADMINISTRATION HIGHLIGHTS

Mountain View County Administration is structured to offer ratepayers and those interested in investing in the County (personally or through a business) friendly and timely access to information and support. All departments can be reached via phone; Monday to Friday; 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM; through the County Office at 403-335-3311 or 24/7 by visiting the website at www.mountainviewcounty.com

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LOOKING BACK – A YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2003, Mountain View County passed many critical milestones – all of which have contributed to our thriving rural community. Under the direction of Council, Administration has focused on supporting the New Administration Building initiative, the MDP and Restructuring Public Works to offer improved service and better response times for ratepayers.

Administration has also invested considerable time on remediation of the Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission; Tackling infrastructure needs for the County; and Pursuing opportunities for shared services with the County's urban centres.

In addition to these priorities, staff have worked hard to enhance services in a number of areas including; property assessments, accounting procedures and reporting, operation of recreational properties, the county wide Global Information System (GIS), enhanced agricultural services through severe drought conditions, county wide collaboration and coordination of disaster response plans, EMS and fire services. Specifics of these initiatives are included in Department Reports.

Public Works

2003 saw a major and timely overhaul of the Public Works department – all in an effort to enhance services, improve response times and simply keep pace with the realities of a growing community; i.e. more residents and increased traffic. The enhancements have focused on three main areas:

- Two new regional supervisors in the field and more front line day to day operation staff to keep a tighter pulse on community needs, improve coordination of staff time and equipment allocation and to be more responsive to issues as they occur
- New equipment and upgrades on existing pieces to improve productivity and efficiency
- New processes for managing dust control and road maintenance

The result is a better maintained road system, quicker and more efficient snow removal, and a more efficient and cost effective public works system that will take Mountain View well into the future. Most important, ratepayers have expressed their

appreciation for the changes through fewer complaints.

Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission (MVRWMC)

In 2003, the MVRWMC ran into considerable operating, administrative and financial difficulties and was faced with the potential of insolvency. The County worked with the urban centres and the province to provide financial and administrative assistance to get the Commission back on track and to safeguard ratepayers' investment.

In response, Administration focused time and resources to analyze the operating and accounting system, assisted in developing a business plan and set up new accounting procedures which are now being administered by the County's Finance Department. The Commission is now operating in a transparent way and is endeavoring to offer sustainable services to the region.

LOOKING FORWARD – INTO THE FUTURE

Infrastructure

Part and parcel with the strategic growth priorities identified by Council, is the need to revisit municipal infrastructure, which is aging and requiring rehabilitation to keep pace with changing demographics and economic development.

Over the last five years, public funding has been reduced creating many challenges for municipal governments – Mountain View County being no exception. Today, the County is working with provincial and federal governments to analyze long-term infrastructure needs and to build a long-term plan that will realistically address public funding levels; municipal growth priorities; and the relative roles of each level of government.

On the provincial front, the County is working closely with Alberta Transportation to determine strategic locations for interchanges and enhancements along Highway 2 and to provide input on provincial highway and bridge rehabilitation.

Safety and Shared Services

The issue of safety for employees and residents is a key priority for Council and Administration. We have, and will continue to, invest

in training, equipment and public awareness around the importance of safety.

In a rural community like Mountain View that spans a large geographic distance, the need to work together to deliver fire protection, ambulance services, policing and emergency services is imperative – both from a safety and an efficiency perspective.

With Council's support, Administration has made positive inroads with our urban centres to share services, avoid duplication of costs and overhead and enhance communications (through GIS and the HUB radio system) so that residents can be serviced quickly and with the best of resources.

Challenges

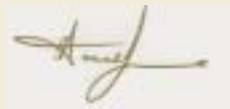
Like any rural county in growth mode, Mountain View has challenges. Specifically, Council and Administration continue to address:

- An infrastructure that is not keeping pace with increased traffic and development
- Attracting staff for specialized positions. For example; Mountain View had difficulty filling the vacant planner position in 2003 which impacted service levels (This has since been rectified)
- An rural assessment base that is being driven to an increasing extent by urban market values
- Meeting the increasing needs of a growing population

Administration will continue to look for efficiencies and ways to deliver the best value we can to our ratepayers and our urban partners. The process is challenging, but as a team of municipal governments, we are making solid progress and building a framework for collaboration – long term

Thank you

As a final note, I wish to extend my appreciation to Council for their solid direction and support; and to the County staff – people who feel strongly about the calibre of their service to our ratepayers and who can be counted on to deliver their best – everyday.



Harold Johnsrude
County Commissioner; CA

AGRICULTURE

Mountain View County is home to a thriving agriculture industry – albeit one that is currently tackling unprecedented challenges in both the crop and livestock sectors. Some 1800 farms and ranches are located in the County; most of which are mixed operations. Grain, cattle and hay comprise the bulk of production, however there is a growing emphasis on specialty crops and livestock including; market gardens, greenhouses, tree and berry farms and exotic species like llama and bison.

Environmental Stewardship

Mountain View County has a strong commitment to environmental stewardship within the agriculture industry and participates in a number of water management programs, including the Mountain View County Watershed program and the Community Riparian Program; and soil conservation initiatives including the PFRA shelterbelt program. In each of these, Mountain View works on a collaborative basis with provincial and federal governments.

2003 – Challenging Year for Agriculture

A combination of severe drought, grasshoppers and the discovery of BSE in an Alberta cow last May, made 2003 one of the toughest years in agricultural memory. The drought; following on three years of extremely dry conditions, created catastrophic crops conditions for many parts of the County and a new challenge – the presence of grasshoppers in areas that had never seen them previously. All agricultural programs were reconfigured in 2003 to deal with the drought and to focus on grasshopper management.

In 2004, early indications point to more moisture, but nowhere near the amounts needed to reverse the long dry trend. As of mid-June, grasshoppers were making an appearance in Bearberry, Eagle Hill, and on land alongside the Red Deer River. The County is working with farmers to spray and manage infestations early in the season.

Restructured Agriculture Service Board

In 2003, County Council and the Agriculture Department took a hard look at the way the Agriculture Service Board was structured to ensure it was meeting the needs of local farmers. Going forward, the Board will be comprised of four ratepayers and three councillors as opposed to seven councillors as it was in the past. It is the view of

Council and the Department that this structure will better serve the interests of County farmers and ranchers.

2004 – Focus on Value Added and Diversification

In 2004, the Agriculture Department is focusing on four key areas:

- Achieving greater clarity for the extension role of the County relative to the Province to ensure local farmers and ranchers are getting access to the expertise they need in a timely and responsive way
- Continued emphasis on value added and diversification in the industry
- Ongoing support to farmers grappling with the effects of drought and grasshoppers
- Participating in research and education on the impact and management of the West Nile virus

At this time, the US border for Canadian beef remains closed, which is putting increased pressure on cow calf operations throughout the county. While Mountain View is committed to supporting ranchers through aggressive lobbying and deferred tax payments, the provincial and federal governments have assumed the lead role in long-term resolution of the issue.

ASSESSMENT

New technology is driving both a fundamental change in the way assessments are being conducted in Mountain View County and the opportunity to conduct detailed analysis on assessment values and market trends.

2003 – Integration of the ASSET program

In 2003, the County integrated Alberta Municipal Affairs' ASSET (Assessment Shared Services Environment) which was mandated by the province as a tool for assessment audits. The transition to the system has involved countless hours of work and a significant financial investment by the County. However it now links Mountain View to a broad database of assessment data that is collected all over the province, providing a timely and accurate basis of comparison of equalized assessments in Mountain View relative to other counties and regions. The County's participation in ASSET requires

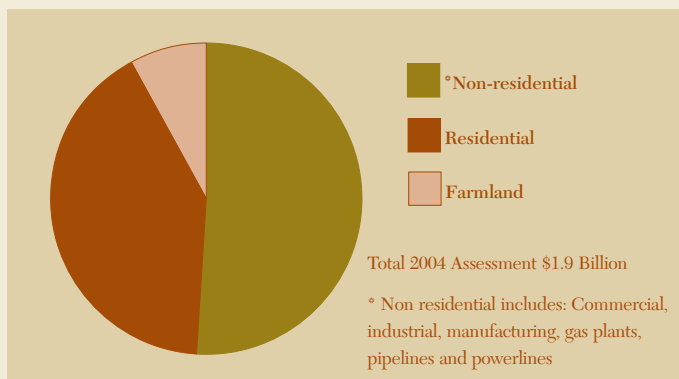
Mountain View to provide assessment data to the province using a standardized and comprehensive set of criteria.

2004 – Building a current basis of assessment information

In 2004, Mountain View County has begun using the CAMELOT program; new Windows based software that offers greater accuracy and speed in the calculation of data generated from the field. Together, with a major initiative to bring residential, business and farm assessments to current status (which has required a global re-inspection of properties across the County); The County is becoming well positioned to deliver accurate and timely assessments for ratepayers and analysts alike.

Going forward in 2004, the Assessment department will focus on:

- Completion of global re-inspections across the County
- Using the ASSET database to generate more comparison data between Mountain View and other regions, counties and urban centres in Alberta
- Working with Administration and Council to address the implications for County ratepayers of increasing assessment values driven by urban market trends (residential and industrial) in Calgary and along the Highway 2 and Highway 2A corridors



Source of 2004 Mountain View County Assessments

EMERGENCY SERVICES, POLICE, FIRE PROTECTION

A rural community that spans a large and diverse geographic area, Mountain View County is exceptionally well serviced with fire protection; ambulance providers; disaster planning; and County traffic and by-law enforcement handled by Mountain View Constables. This is the direct result of a high level of collaboration, communication and cooperation between the County’s districts and urban centres.

Mountain View County has two contracted ambulance providers; five fire authorities, 911 dispatch from Red Deer and dispatch from STARS out of Calgary (Mountain View is the only rural community that has STARS dispatch services). Fire departments are resourced with state of the art equipment, highly trained crews and the latest communication equipment.

Fire department operating costs are shared on a population ratio basis (% rural versus % urban) by the County with rural urban centres as follows:

Urban Centres	% Paid by County	% Paid by Urban Centre
Sundre	64%	36%
Olds	Fixed: 24% Variable: 56%	Fixed: 76% Variable: 44%
Didsbury	38%	62%
Carstairs	44%	56%
Cremona	80%	20%

2003 – Major milestones

- Spring 2003, the new Water Valley fire station was opened
- Two new rapid attack vehicles were purchased (100% paid for by the County)
- A major disaster simulation put the region’s fire departments, ambulance providers, RCMP, County Constables, public works staff; hospitals and Disaster Services Team to the test – a test that was passed with flying colors. Video taped by STARS, the simulation is now being used as a successful template for other counties and municipalities



DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- 2003 was the second of a three-year implementation strategy for a comprehensive Geographical Information System (GIS) designed by a team of County stakeholders including: Fire Chiefs; County constables, ambulance providers; and SPOG (The Sundre Petroleum Operators Group which represents over 30 local oil companies). Because of the collaborative nature of the initiative, the GIS system provides all participants with a framework for timely information transfer and proactive emergency planning. Now close to completion, the system:
 - Pinpoints land coordinates and location of accesses to residences, farms and businesses across the County
 - Incorporates automated vehicle locating
 - Can be used by emergency responders in pinpointing locations and in guiding emergency vehicles to sites

2004 – Going Forward

Communication and collaboration will continue to be the guideposts in the future. In 2004, the County is:

- Fine-tuning the unique HUB radio system (put in place early in the year) that connects all service fire departments, ambulance providers, 911 in Red Deer; STARS in Calgary, the RCMP, Mountain View Constables and hospitals on a confidential radio frequency – instantly.
- Putting two new tanker trucks into Olds and Carstairs
- Forging even stronger communication links between all service providers in the County to improve efficiencies, reduce costs, and ensure state of the art training, equipment and technology
- Implementing the Rural Addressing Program which provides a street address for all County subdivisions (urban and rural) which is linked to 911 and STARS, offering EMS, police and fire services a faster and more efficient way to locate properties in the event of emergencies (currently, residences are located by legal land descriptions which may or may not include all residences on a piece of land)

Our heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers who contribute time, experience and expertise to ensure ratepayers are kept safe throughout the year.

Thank you to the following individuals who volunteer as rural fire authority members:

Dale Charlton	Carstairs and District Fire and Emergency Authority
Richard Goerzen	Carstairs and District Fire and Emergency Authority
David Hughes	Cremona and District Fire and Emergency Authority
Bradley Teigen	Cremona and District Fire and Emergency Authority
Doug Miller	Didsbury and District Fire Authority
Bruce Beattie	Sundre and District Fire Authority
Tom Guzmanuk	Sundre and District Fire Authority

PLANNING

The key focus of the Planning Department, has and will continue to be, the Municipal Development Plan (the MDP) – a framework that will guide development in Mountain View County for the next 10-15 years. The MDP addresses a myriad of issues including:

- What should Mountain View County look like in the future?
- What are the key land use priorities?
- What are the needs of each area relative to residential, industrial and recreational priorities?
- How does the County champion diversity in land use throughout the county?
- How will rural quality of life be maintained?
- How will growth be managed?
- How will the importance of agriculture be safeguarded?

Public Feedback

2003 saw a series of open house events (8 sessions in all) to determine ratepayer issues, concerns, and hopes for the MDP. Feedback was substantive and valuable and has gone a long way to ensuring the plan is responsive, progressive and reflective of the County's values which include:

- Solid confirmation that agriculture is a top priority in terms of land use – both for primary and value added sectors
- The importance of environmental stewardship
- The need to maintain diversity by drafting a range of guidelines unique to different areas of the County
- The need to be prepared in the future for heavier demands resulting from growth

Other milestones of 2003 included:

- Development of the West Sundre Area Structure Plan which impacts land north of the Red Deer River
- Adoption of the Dog Pound Area Structure Plan which is a blueprint for development on the south boundary east of Highway 22
- Work on the Carstairs Area Structure Plan
- Appointment of Allison Williams to the post of Director of Planning after the retirement of the previous director
- Participation in the Highway 2 and Highway 2A Corridor Design Strategy (including 14 urban and rural municipalities) to review design and structural standards to drive industry and commercial development in the region
- Participation in the Red Deer River Basin Advisory Committee

Looking forward 2004

May 2004, the MDP received its first reading and will be adopted as a by-law under the Alberta Municipal Government Act after its public hearing July 2004. As the plan goes forward, the Planning Department will be working closely with Administration and Council to ensure integration of its priorities into Mountain View County's long-range strategic development plan.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mountain View County includes: 1747 miles of maintained roads, 1 million acres and roughly 1500 square miles. Public Works staff looks after 140 pieces of equipment and trucks; over 1226 miles of gravel roads and 521 miles of chip sealed roads.

Over the last 18 months, Public Works has undergone a timely reorganization. Timely; because resources and capacity were not meeting increasing needs for service as a result of growth and increased traffic on roads.

Positive change

- In 2003, two new regional supervisors were added to the Public Works Department allowing for much improved response times in the field, a tighter handle on regional needs and issues, and better supervision on projects
- 2003 also saw revisions to the road maintenance organizational system which included moving from 7 to 10 Road Maintenance Districts. This resulted in less miles of roads per district and therefore improved service
- A new process was introduced to manage dust control on roads in much improved efficiency and significantly lower costs
- The snow removal system was overhauled to ensure snow removal within 72 hours of a major snowfall (a major snowfall is 4 inches or more)

2003 projects

In 2003; Mountain View County's Public Works Department:

- Constructed 2 miles and a major hill cut in the Water Valley area
- Based 10 miles and finished base work on an additional 8 miles
- Resurfaced 46 miles of chip seal roads
- Replaced 3 major bridges in the Bearberry area, south of Westward Ho and east of Didsbury
- Replaced 3 deep 4 foot culverts along with other smaller bridge/culvert replacements
- Re-gravelled approximately 450 miles using 123,000 yards of gravel
- Plus many other smaller projects
- Developed a new salt/sand storage facility in Didsbury which is well situated and meets environmental specifications

2004 PRIORITIES

In 2004, Public Works will be:

- Offering dust control to all ratepayers on the 200 metres fronting their properties at a minimal cost
- Purchasing a dirt screener to do a better job of pit reclamation resulting in higher quality materials
- Upgrading gravel crush is being upgraded on the east side of the County by modifying screens to produce more rock and less clay
- Introducing a new process of wetting sand with calcium for winter sanding that will reduce usage of salt

RECREATION

Mountain View is the destination of choice for people of all ages, who enjoy camping, hiking, fishing and golf and who appreciate a broad mosaic of cultural activities from quilting to theatre, pottery to painting, crafts to folk art.

One hour north of Calgary, 2 hours south of Edmonton, Mountain View County is nestled in central Alberta, close to the Rocky Mountains, deep in the heart of river country.

2003 was a year of fundamental and positive change in Mountain View County's Recreation Department. A new parks by-law was introduced to achieve better control of campgrounds by empowering County Constables to manage infractions so visitor experiences will be more enjoyable.

Positive change in 2003

- The Westward Ho camp ground moved to a registration only system to manage the number of campers on site for the May long weekend

- All campsites have now been numbered to enable faster location of campers in the event of emergency
- Operators of other County parks (Water Valley and Bagnall park campgrounds now report directly to the Park Warden who is stationed at the Westward Ho campground)

Going forward:

- The County will focus on maintaining the quality and calibre of campsites in the area
- More seasonal sites will be added to manage increasing demand

For a complete listing of Mountain View County's recreational options, please visit www.mountainviewcounty.com





FINANCIALS

FINANCE

Mountain View County's Finance Department is responsible for ensuring accountable, transparent and responsible use of public funds. To ensure this, the department uses state of the art accounting software and technology to track revenue, expenses, and long term investments. The Department presents a detailed monthly statement to Council. These statements are available to public, and inquiries are encouraged at any time. (The Department also spearheads technological support for the County in a number of capacities).

In addition to managing the County's operating and capital budgets, the Finance Department provides financial administration for the Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission and Mountain View Regional Emergency Services.

In 2003 and continuing into 2004, the Finance Department invested considerable time and resources to reconcile the administrative and financial challenges faced by the Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission.

Going Forward

In 2004, the Finance Department is working hard to offer more flexibility for bill payment electronically through the web site. This summer, payment options will be available on-line for payment of taxes and County bills, as well as for services provided by the Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission and Mountain View Regional Emergency Services.

Continuous improvement remains a high priority. In 2003 there were initiatives to streamline financial statement preparation and changes in the way time cards feed payroll preparation. In 2004, initiatives in cash receipts and accounts payable will be considered including the new payments options referred to previously. With continuous improvement, Key Operational Indicators (KOI) are important for measuring performance. The Finance Department will continue to act as a performance measurement resource for Public Works as well as other departments.

2003 COUNTY FINANCIAL RESULTS

Despite a significant number of unforeseen events, the 2003 budget year finished up with a small surplus

2003 started with a balanced budget and ended up with a small surplus (\$ 11,000). However, between start to finish, there were a number of unexpected events – many of which reduced both revenues and expenditures.

Some "unforeseens" the County managed its way through included:

- A number of bridge construction projects and capital purchases by fire authorities were delayed (for various logistical and provincial funding reasons)
- Major spring snowfalls, along with an early winter, drew down on the Snow Removal Reserve
- BSE – resulting in a second year of farm tax deferrals and penalty reductions

Highlights

The top Financial Statement highlights for 2003 do not include the Notes to the Financial Statements and some of the supporting schedules. Any ratepayer who prefers to review more detailed statements and analysis; or any ratepayer seeking any explanation of any item on the Financial Statement, is encouraged to call Greg Wiens, Director of Finance, at the County office.

Assets and Liabilities

(Consolidated Statement of Financial Position – page 16)

- Compared to 2002 the County had \$850,000 less cash available at the end of 2003. This was largely the result of significant capital purchases in 2003
- Taxes Receivable increased \$ 285,000 in 2003 (compared to 2002). This was due to a combination of an increase in the number of properties with outstanding taxes, and an increase in the average amount of taxes outstanding on each property.
- A Note Receivable from Mountain View Seniors' Housing for \$3 million along with a corresponding Debenture with Alberta Capital Finance Authority was added to the balance sheet. The County obtained this financing and then loaned funds to

Mountain View Seniors' Housing for the construction of a Seniors' Lodge in Didsbury

- Reserve Funds (page 20) were reduced by \$800,000 (Less than the budgeted reduction of over \$2 million dollars). The delay of major bridge construction projects, the postponement of some capital purchases for fire departments and some unbudgeted additions to the reserves were responsible for the difference
- The Capital Reserve decreased \$1.8 million from 2002 to 2003. This decrease was due to capital purchases made in 2003 and funding of the 2002 Capital Fund deficit from this reserve

Maintaining Consistency

The Capital Reserve, along with the Capital Fund, allows the County to budget consistent amounts for capital each year and more importantly – to absorb natural peaks and valleys in capital spending, as occurred in 2003.

Fluctuations are a reality that happen every year, that is why the County has processes in place to anticipate and budget for them.

Revenue

(Statement of Operations and Unappropriated Equity – page 17)

- Overall, revenues were \$930,000 lower than budgeted. This was because of lower Special Transportation Grants due to delayed bridge projects (these are partially funded by the Provincial Government). This decrease in revenue was slightly offset by increases in tax, general and investment revenue
- Transfers from Reserves were comparable to 2002 but \$1 million lower than budgeted. Again, due to delays on bridge projects and fire authority capital expenditures (This meant the County's role in funding its share of these projects was postponed)
- Transfers to Reserves were \$480,000 more than planned in the budget. This was because of (1) An increase in the amount of interest paid to the reserve funds; (2) The addition of funds to the Snow Removal reserve (after it needed to be used for the heavy snow falls in 2003) and (3) Adding unused budget dollars to the Gravel and Re-chipping Reserves
- Transfers to the Capital Fund were \$400,000 more than

budgeted. This was related to the treatment of the Water Valley Fire Hall construction – because of a corresponding decrease in operating expenses, there was no bottom line impact.

Expenses

(Schedule of Operating Expenditures – page 21)

- Overall expenses were almost \$2.9 million below budget. \$1.9 million of the decrease is because of delayed bridge projects and \$800,000 was because of delayed Fire Authority capital purchases.

- The remaining \$200,000 was the net amount from the other budget areas. There were increased expenses related to Mountain View Regional Waste Commission but this was more than offset by decreased spending in the Agriculture, Legislative and General Administration departments.

Copies of complete 2003 Mountain View County Financial Statements are available at the County office.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Reeve and Council of Mountain View County

We have audited the consolidated statement of financial position of the Mountain View County as at December 31, 2003 and the consolidated statements of equity and operations, and the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the municipal administration. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Mountain View County as at December 31, 2003 and the results of its operation and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the disclosed basis of accounting in Note 1.

Red Deer, Alberta
February 27, 2004



Chartered Accountants
Collins Barrow Red Deer LLP

FINANCIALS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at December 31, 2003

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Financial Assets		
Cash and deposit certificates	11,343,176	12,195,892
Taxes receivable (note 2)	1,064,088	780,207
Accounts receivable		
Federal government	84,230	66,960
Provincial government	460,881	1,148,220
Local governments	69,665	19,359
Other	517,083	787,825
Investments (note 3, 14)	81,587	81,327
MVRES - Note receivable (note 12)	296,107	361,873
MVSH - Note receivable (note 12)	3,027,134	
Inventories	1,357,051	1,379,594
Prepaid expenses	454,897	294,202
Trust accounts (note 4)	308,423	349,539
Total Financial Assets	19,064,322	17,464,998
Physical Assets		
Land and improvements	3,776,838	3,766,838
Buildings	3,172,276	2,656,754
Equipment and furnishings	11,941,192	10,001,226
Vehicles	3,299,950	3,237,346
Total Physical Assets	22,190,256	19,662,164
Total Assets	41,254,578	37,127,162
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable		
Federal government	91,906	369
Provincial government	353,601	61,978
Local governments	5,076	23,638
Other	868,168	690,401
Deferred revenue	703,846	567,431
Current portion of capital lease obligation (note 5)	16,542	15,798
Current portion of long-term debt (note 6)	55,655	
Trust accounts (note 4)	308,423	349,539
	2,403,217	1,709,154
Other liabilities	231,918	246,838
Capital lease obligation (note 5)	15,853	32,395
Long-term debt (note 6)	2,944,345	
	5,595,333	1,988,387
EQUITY		
Unappropriated operating equity	208,499	197,286
Operating reserves (note 7)	12,349,931	13,157,813
Capital reserves (note 7)	936,805	2,701,805
Capital fund	6,153	(532,100)
Equity in physical assets	22,157,857	19,613,971
Total Equity	35,659,245	35,138,775
Total Liabilities and Equity	41,254,578	37,127,162

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND UNAPPROPRIATED EQUITY

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Budget (unaudited)	2003	2002
Revenues	\$	\$	\$
Net Taxes Available for Municipal Purposes (Schedule 4)	10,650,283	10,704,447	9,663,422
Sale of Goods and Services			
Sale of goods	366,500	395,187	161,217
Sale of services	219,800	319,244	251,800
Other	44,250	53,737	259,885
Other Revenue From Own Sources			
Return on investments	500,000	534,921	580,341
Other licenses and permits	325,000	331,771	347,324
Park fees	223,500	217,397	213,425
Penalties and costs on taxes	121,000	124,547	118,773
Rentals	151,500	168,854	149,591
Other	101,715	132,715	66,082
Unconditional Provincial Grants	31,769	31,769	34,315
Conditional Grants from Other Governments			
Federal	5,000		752,270
Provincial - Transportation road grant	520,723	520,723	520,723
- Special transportation grants	1,613,500	391,641	580,494
- Other grants	344,758	351,955	450,237
Municipal		9,000	131,294
Other Transfers			
From own agencies			7,786
Total Revenue	15,219,298	14,287,908	14,288,979
Total Operating Expenditures (Schedule 1)	16,404,729	13,542,733	13,129,457
Excess of Revenue over Expenditures	(1,185,431)	745,175	1,159,522
Net Interfund Transfers			
From Reserves (Note 7)	3,400,772	2,346,508	2,453,822
To Reserves (Note 7)	(1,060,341)	(1,538,625)	(7,907,254)
Transfers to Capital Funds	(1,155,000)	(1,541,845)	(1,208,126)
Debt Repayment			(11,778)
Increase in Operating Fund During the Year		11,213	(5,513,814)
Beginning Unappropriated Operating Equity	197,286	197,286	5,711,100
Ending Unappropriated Operating Equity	197,286	208,499	197,286

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF CAPITAL FUND EQUITY

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Budget (unaudited)	2003	2002
	\$	\$	\$
Revenues			
Sale of physical assets	1,528,000	864,600	470,547
Other	24,000	24,000	109,571
	1,552,000	888,600	580,118
Expenditures			
Public works	2,602,000	2,788,694	1,438,605
Truck fleet	105,000	62,604	149,828
Other capital	273,900	805,894	1,420,765
	2,980,900	3,657,192	3,009,198
Deficiency of Revenues over Expenditures	(1,428,900)	(2,768,592)	(2,429,080)
Net Interfund Transfer			
From Reserves	847,637	1,765,000	656,295
From Operating	1,155,000	1,541,845	1,208,126
Increase (Decrease) in Capital Fund During the Year	573,737	538,253	(564,659)
Capital Fund Equity (Deficiency) at Beginning of Year	(532,100)	(532,100)	32,559
Capital Fund Equity (Deficiency) at End of Year	41,637	6,153	(532,100)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
Cash flows provided by:		
Operating Activities		
Increase (Decrease) in Operating Surplus	11,213	(5,513,814)
Increase (Decrease) in Operating Reserves	(807,882)	5,453,432
Increase (Decrease) in Capital Fund	538,253	(564,659)
Decrease in Capital Reserves	(1,765,000)	(656,295)
Increase in Equity in Physical Assets	2,543,886	2,303,641
Total increase in equity	520,470	1,022,305
Changes in Non-Cash Working Capital		
Decrease (Increase) in Taxes Receivable	(283,881)	(79,405)
Decrease (Increase) in Accounts Receivable	890,505	(765,280)
Decrease (Increase) in Inventories	22,543	(256,999)
Decrease (Increase) in Prepaid Expenses	(160,695)	79,924
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable	542,365	(136,912)
Increase in Deferred Revenue	136,415	79,150
Decrease in Other Liabilities	(14,920)	(38,779)
Total Change in Non-Cash Working Capital	1,132,332	(1,118,301)
Total Funds Provided by Operating Activities	1,652,802	(95,996)
Investing and Financing Activities		
Repayment of Long-Term Debt	(15,798)	(11,380)
Proceeds from Long-Term Debt		59,573
Change in Long-Term Investments	(260)	892
Issue Note Receivable - MVSH	(3,027,134)	
Issue Debenture	3,000,000	
Proceeds from Note Receivable - MVRES	65,766	185,000
Additions to Physical Assets (Schedule 2)	(3,641,394)	(2,994,502)
Cost of Physical Assets Disposed (Schedule 2)	1,113,302	617,343
Total Funds Provided by Investing and Financing Activities	(2,505,518)	(2,143,074)
Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(852,716)	(2,239,070)
Net Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning	12,195,892	14,434,962
Net Cash and Cash Equivalents, Ending	11,343,176	12,195,892
Net Cash and Cash Equivalents Consists of:		
Cash	73,207	141,338
Bonds and term deposits	11,269,969	12,054,554
	11,343,176	12,195,892

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF RESERVES

For the year ended December 31, 2003

Reserves for operating and capital activities are as follows:

OPERATING RESERVES:	Beginning of Year	Additions	Deletions	End of Year
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Public Transport	202,059	11,437	5,731	207,765
Public Works:				
Divisional Projects	637,735	84,341	536,020	186,056
Road Patching	434,341		340,730	93,611
Public Works Special Projects	1,648,198	445,000	420,224	1,672,974
Snow Removal	331,000	232,995	232,995	331,000
Gravel		64,725		64,725
Re-Chipping		97,225		97,225
Family & Community Support Services (F.C.S.S.)	97,870	5,539	35,785	67,624
Major Projects	1,406,798	79,625		1,486,423
Tax Rate Stabilization	2,263,479	333,534	260,137	2,336,876
Recreation	84,646	4,791	10,745	78,692
Parks	12,008			12,008
Administration Building	20,000			20,000
Didsbury Fire	270,672	15,320		285,992
General Fire (2)	249,007	255,134	504,141	
Working Capital (1), (2)	5,500,000		91,040	5,408,960
Total Operating Reserves	13,157,813	1,629,666	2,437,548	12,349,931
CAPITAL RESERVES:				
Administration Equipment	6,805			6,805
Salt/Sand Pad - Didsbury Yard	95,000		95,000	
Heavy Equipment	2,600,000		1,670,000	930,000
Total Capital Reserves	2,701,805		1,765,000	936,805
TOTAL RESERVES:	15,859,618	1,629,666	4,202,548	13,286,736

- (1) This reserve is set aside to provide liquidity and reduce financing costs in the interim period between when most of the County's expenses are incurred and when annual property taxes are collected. The maximum amount of the reserve is set by a capping formula. This reserve was first established in 2002 with a transfer from Unappropriated Operating Equity.
- (2) Funding to the General Fire Reserve is based on a 20 year capital replacement plan. Although the 20 year plan is fully funded, within the plan there are years when the reserve will be under funded at year end. When this occurs, funds will be loaned from other funds to offset the deficiency in the General Fire Reserve and the loan is shown as a deletion from the loaning fund and an addition to the General Fire Reserve. In 2003, \$91,040 was loaned from the Working Capital Reserve.

SCHEDULE OF OPERATING EXPENDITURES

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Budget (unaudited)	2003	2002
	\$	\$	\$
General Government			
Legislative	320,250	290,814	276,669
General administration	1,922,000	1,774,338	1,519,172
Protective Services			
Police protection	192,000	187,670	127,824
Fire protection	1,298,260	490,892	473,666
Emergency services	259,371	257,688	256,418
Environmental Development Services			
Agriculture Service Board	626,413	507,747	467,431
Planning and zoning	506,200	492,744	492,642
Recreation and Cultural Services			
Recreation buildings and facilities	257,650	262,944	238,043
Recreation boards	446,810	449,551	412,292
Community Services			
Public transportation	32,500	37,500	31,700
Public Works	10,292,076	8,354,657	8,490,660
Environmental Health Services	81,000	207,200	130,392
Family and Community Support Services	146,650	178,924	115,860
Fiscal Services			
Debt charges and allowances	7,049	43,150	7,302
Other transfers and requisitions	16,500	6,914	89,386
Total Expenditures	16,404,729	13,542,733	13,129,457

SCHEDULE OF TAXES LEVIED

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Budget (unaudited)	2003	2002
	\$	\$	\$
Taxation			
Real property taxes	11,293,251	11,350,068	10,281,432
Power and pipelines	9,104,670	9,161,401	8,211,330
Previous Year (Underlevy)Overlevy	(127,708)	(127,708)	76,559
Current Year Underlevy(Overlevy)	—	(59,384)	127,708
	20,270,213	20,324,377	18,697,029
Requisitions			
Alberta School Foundation Fund	9,329,998	9,329,998	8,756,287
Mountain View Management Board	289,932	289,932	268,186
Chinook's Edge Regional Division No. 5	—	—	9,134
	9,619,930	9,619,930	9,033,607
Net Taxes Available for Municipal Purposes	10,650,283	10,704,447	9,663,422

FINANCIALS

2004 BUDGET

	\$
Revenues	
Municipal Taxes	11,113,000
Tax Allowances	353,000
Sales of Goods & Services	550,000
Other Revenue from Own Source	1,433,000
Government Grants	3,962,000
Transfers from Reserves	7,635,000
	25,046,000
Expenditures	
Legislative	374,000
General Administration	1,993,000
Protective Services	1,459,000
Environmental Development Services	1,146,000
Recreation & Cultural Services	711,000
Community Services	34,000
Environmental Health Services	219,000
Family/Community Services	201,000
Public Works:	
Bridges	2,833,000
Major Road Projects	1,043,000
General	7,704,000
Debt Charges	16,000
Debenture Interest & Other	211,000
Transfer to Operating Reserves	886,000
Transfer to Capital Fund	6,196,000
Transfer to other Municipal Groups	20,000
	25,046,000

2004 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Municipal Tax Rates:

- The residential municipal tax rate was decreased by 1% from 2003 levels and the non-residential tax rate decreased slightly. Farmland tax rates decreased by almost 1%
- The Education residential tax rate decreased by 8% and the non-residential rate decreased by 3%
- Although tax rates decreased, with increases in the assessment base, the total municipal taxes collected will increase by 5% and the education requisition paid will increase 4%
- 2003 education requisition was \$9.33 million, the 2004 requisition is \$9.72 million
- In 2004 a new tax levy was introduced to cover the costs of funding the Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission. Previously this funding came from general tax revenue

Public Works:

- Major projects totaling \$2.8 million are planned to replace aging bridges, culverts and roads within the County. The Provincial and Federal Governments will share 70 – 80% of the costs of these projects

General:

- In early 2004 the Federal Government announced that they would refund the full amount of GST paid by municipalities. This is expected to result in over \$200,000 in additional funds for County operations
- Included in the budget is \$5.5 million dollars for building a new County Administration building. This project will be funded from grants and County reserves

MOUNTAIN VIEW COUNTY COMMITTEES 2003-2004

Agricultural Service Board

Ron Richardson (Chairman)
 Ben Penner
 Jack Richardson
 Don Petersen

Linda Burrell
 Alex Hamilton
 Albert Kemmere

Mountain View County Disaster Services Agency

Ian Harvie,
 Tony Martens (Director)
 K. Heppler (Deputy Director)

Ron Richardson
 Jayson Nelson (Deputy Director)

Airports

Sundre Airport Commission

Linda Burrell
 Martin Ellefson
 Sheldon Valentine

David Charkwa
 Stewart Erikson
 Roberta Wiltse

Mountain View Regional Emergency Services Commission

Ben Penner (Regular) Dave Derksen (Alternate)

Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission

Dave Derksen

Mountain View Senior's Housing

Dave Derksen Charlie Van Arnam

Mountain View Waterways Restoration Group

Linda Burrell
 Ben Penner (Alternate)

Ron Richardson

Alberta Association of Municipal Districts & Counties

Pat James, Provincial Director
 Linda Burrell, Central Zone

Parkland Airshed Management Zone

Linda Burrell

Cremona District and Recreation Board

Charlie Van Arnam

Parkland Regional Library Board

Dave Derksen (Regular) Ron Richardson (Alternate)

Family and Community Support Services (F.C.S.S.)

Charlie Van Arnam
 Pat James

Linda Burrell

Parks Committee

Linda Burrell (Chair) Ben Penner

Finance Committee

Ian Harvie
 Harold Johnsrude

Linda Burrell
 Greg Wiens

Seed Cleaning Plant Carstairs

Ben Penner Charlie Van Arnam (Alternate)

Seed Cleaning Plant Olds

Pat James Ron Richardson

Carstairs and District Fire and Emergency Services Authority

Ben Penner
 Richard Goerzen

Dale Charlton

Cremona District Fire and Emergency Services Authority

Charlie Van Arnam
 David Hughes

Brad Teigen

Didsbury and District Fire Authority

Ian Harvie
 Doug Miller

Dave Derksen

Olds and District Fire Services Committee

Pat James Ron Richardson

Sundre and District Fire Authority

Linda Burrell
 Ted Guzmanuk

Bruce Beattie

Fire Guardians

Juergen Sadlowski (Bergen Area)
 Leane and Lorne Patmore (Water Valley)
 Bob Towns (Eagle Hill)

Harvey A. Reid (Cremona Area)

Council County Commissioner
 Assistant Commissioner Agriculture Fieldman

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board & Weed Control Committee

Herman Epp
 John Lukas
 Jack Riddle

Ernie Israelson
 Lynn Reid
 David M. Smith

Red River Water Basin Committee

Ian Harvie Allison Williams

Sundre Petroleum Operators Group (SPOG)

Linda Burrell

Sundre Public Involvement Round Table (SPIRIT)

Linda Burrell

Didsbury & District Policing Advisory Committee

Ian Harvie Jayson Nelson

Olds & District Policing Advisory Committee

Pat James, Jayson Nelson

Inter-Municipal Co-operation Steering Committee

Charlie Van Arnam
 Harold Johnsrude

Ron Richardson

Mountain View Regional Water Services Commission Negotiations Committee

Ian Harvie Ron Richardson
 Pat James Harold Johnsrude

Olds Didsbury Airport Committee

Pat James Charlie Van Arnam
 Harold Johnsrude Tony Martens

Administration Building Committee

Charlie Van Arnam
 Ron Richardson
 Tony Martens
 Cohos Evamy

Linda Burrell
 Harold Johnsrude
 Wayne Milaney

GROW WITH US

RURAL TRANQUILITY – URBAN SOPHISTICATION

Located half way between Calgary and Red Deer on the Highway 2 Corridor, Mountain View County blends the peace of rural living with the sophistication of urban services.

Embracing five urban centres (Didsbury, Carstairs, Olds, Sundre, Cremona), Mountain View County is home to 12,000 rural residents; (with an additional 14,000 persons living in urban centres) a strong agriculture and food industry; thriving oil and gas/manufacturing; rich natural resources; exceptional recreation and tourism venues.

Mountain View County includes:

- 7 electoral divisions
- 1747 miles of maintained roads
- 1 million acres
- Approximately 1500 square miles
- 1800 farms (focus cattle, grain, forage and specialty crops)

Mountain View County rate payers are serviced by:

- A tightly run EMS team offering integrated fire, ambulance and police services
- A well developed education system including public and private schools at the pre school, elementary, secondary and post secondary levels
- Olds College – Canada’s premiere agriculture and land sciences institution
- Exceptional health, dental, and social care facilities and services: including seniors housing
- Numerous and varied recreation and arts activities

Businesses in the County are supported by:

- An outstanding transportation infrastructure including highways, rail, and air
- Direct access to the Highway 2 corridor, and the Calgary International Airport which is the main distribution hub for Western Canada and the Pacific Northwest
- A well educated workforce
- A rapidly growing service sector
- Access to Olds College human resource development programs and workplace training
- The Alberta supernet and technology infrastructure

Come and grow with us.



URBAN CENTRES

Mountain View County has five thriving urban centres offering quality and affordable lifestyles. Each centre has its own unique culture and offers a wide range of services for growing families and businesses.

To find out more about each one, please visit their websites.

Town of Carstairs	www.town.carstairs.ab.ca
Village of Cremona	www.village.cremona.ab.ca
Town of Didsbury	www.didsbury.ca
Town of Olds	www.town.olds.ab.ca
Town of Sundre	www.sundre.com



www.mountainview.com
Ph: 403-335-3311