

2009

ANNUAL REPORT

DECEMBER 31, 2009

City of Lethbridge

ALBERTA, CANADA



VISION

TO BE A HEALTHY, ATTRACTIVE AND
ECONOMICALLY VIABLE CITY



Chirstopher Klassen

MISSION

TO SERVE OUR RESIDENTS AND
GUESTS, TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP
AND TO ASSIST THE COMMUNITY IN
ACHIEVING THE VISION

The City of Lethbridge Acknowledges:

City Staff
for their contributions
to this report



This Annual Report has been prepared
and compiled by the
City of Lethbridge
Financial Services Department.

<http://www.lethbridge.ca>

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CITY OF LETHBRIDGE

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December 31, 2009

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John Dubbelboer (cover picture)

Mayor's Message

In the face of global economic uncertainty, Lethbridge has focused on building a strong, innovative and prosperous community. The 2009 Annual Report describes a community that has a great deal to celebrate, even in the midst of challenge.

The opening in September of the University of Lethbridge Community Stadium was a sports milestone for Lethbridge. Sited on the University of Lethbridge campus, the stadium is the product of a partnership between the City of Lethbridge and the University of Lethbridge, with additional funding from the Province of Alberta. The stadium's artificial playing surface will be home to high school football and university soccer and rugby. A synthetic 400 metre running track and associated field events space will meet the needs of high school track competitions and will allow the City to bid for provincial and national athletic events. An important feature of this arrangement from the City's perspective is that it will not be responsible for the maintenance costs associated with the facility.



Sandy Slavin, Executive Director of Athletics, Jeremy Girard, Student Union President, MLA Bridget Pastoor, Dr. Gary Bowie, Chairman Lethbridge Sports Bid Committee, Dr. Bill Cade, President University of Lethbridge, Pronhorn Luxie, MLA Barry McFarland, MLA Evan Berger, MLA Greg Weadick, Mayor Bob Tarleck



A festival of a different sort took place in September with a celebration organized by the Allied Arts Council to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the CPR High Level Bridge. "In the Shadow of the Bridge" was a day-long community celebration culminating with the spectacular lighting of the bridge orchestrated by community volunteers.

Mayor's Message (continued)

The Plan Your City Project represented an ambitious effort to engage citizens in developing a vision for the Lethbridge of the future. More than 500 Lethbridge residents participated in the City Circles process, providing their reflections on what it will take to make Lethbridge an even better place to live into the year 2050. In all there were 48 City Circles, generating ideas that were presented at the October 17 Ideas Fair. The Plan Your City process may have been the most innovative and comprehensive community consultative process in the history of Lethbridge.

The Living Home project is another dramatic example of a successful community partnership. The City received the 2009 Minister's Award for Municipal Excellence in the Leader in Partnership category at the annual conference of the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association for its role in the Living Home project. The award was shared with its project partners, the Lethbridge College and Cedar Ridge Quality Homes.

The Living Home breaks new environmental ground by minimizing the environmental impact of the construction, maintenance and operation of a single-family home.



Construction of the new Downtown Fire Headquarters began in April 2009, with completion anticipated by the summer of 2010. This facility will house all fire administration, prevention, and public safety communication activities. It will replace the 6th Avenue South station which is too small and badly situated in terms of traffic congestion.



Throughout 2009, work also continued on a project that will shape the development of west Lethbridge for many years to come. Consisting of two high schools, a public library, and 51 Acres of community park/school grounds, West Lethbridge Centre is designed to be a community focal point for west Lethbridge. Completion date is targeted for September, 2010.



Council spent considerable time in 2009 revisiting plans for a construction project that is not on the immediate horizon. But confirmation of the Chinook Crossing option for a future third bridge is nevertheless important, as it allows the City to continue transportation planning to a population horizon of 110,000 and to finalize land-use planning in West Lethbridge.

Mayor's Message (continued)

The Lethbridge arts community followed three stories in 2009. First, work commenced on a much-needed renovation and expansion of the Southern Alberta Art Gallery building in the heart of Galt Gardens. This project is scheduled for completion in 2010. Second, the City continued detailed planning for a new community arts facility to supplement or replace the Bowman Arts Centre, which is too small and inflexible to meet the growing needs of the arts community for rehearsal and studio space. The third project is a future performing arts structure. Recognizing that little has been done since 1966 to address the changing needs of the musical and performing arts communities, the City embarked on a major study to help it better understand those needs. The study looked at the optimum size of such a structure, where it might be located, and how it might contribute to the development of a Lethbridge arts district.



The economy was, of course, on everyone's mind in 2009. Lethbridge avoided the worst of the economic roller-coaster. Local construction activity remained strong and the Lethbridge housing market lived up to its reputation as one of the most stable in Alberta. While the Lethbridge manufacturing sector proved to be resilient, firms dependent on the energy sector or the US market experienced serious pressures.

The attention City Council gave to air transportation is another important economic development story. Recognizing that restricted air access to the Lethbridge region is a serious obstacle to economic development, Council forged a unique marketing partnership with the County of Lethbridge. The goal of this partnership is to market the County of Lethbridge Airport to the air transportation industry with a view to increasing air access to better meet community and regional needs. Re-introducing regional flights to the County of Lethbridge Airport could be part of this marketing strategy.

After a year of difficult negotiations, the City reached an agreement with National Bank with respect to \$7.9 million of devalued assets. The agreement will ensure the City receives 75% of its original investment, or \$5.9 million. As a consequence of this unfortunate investment experience, this spring Council will review Audit Committee recommendations respecting possible changes to the City's investment policy.

Accurate, timely financial reporting is important for any municipality, so Lethbridge is understandably proud that it received recognition from two sources. A report released in December by the Frontier Centre for Public Policy ranked Lethbridge first among 88 Canadian cities for the clarity and transparency of its financial reporting. Lethbridge also received an award in 2009 from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for the high standards of its accounting performance and financial reporting.

2009 might have been termed the Year of Challenge, particularly on the economic front. Nevertheless, the last year has demonstrated that Lethbridge is a resilient community driven by passion and directed by partnership.

Yours truly,

Robert D. (Bob) Tarleck, M.A., M.Ed., Ako'Tasi
Mayor

City Council 2007–2010



Back: Alderman Ryan Parker, Alderman Ken Tratch, Alderman Jeff Carlson, Alderman Rajko Dodic

Front: Alderman Tom Wickersham, Alderman Margaret Simmons, Mayor Bob Tarleck, Alderman Barbara Lacey, Alderman Shaun Ward

In order to set direction for the new Council, the Mayor and Aldermen brought information about community priorities from the 2007 election campaign into their Council visioning session.

The visioning session provided a process that put all the community issues and opportunities on the table, and provided a method for setting priorities among them. With this information in hand, Council then asked residents who participated in a Community visioning session to describe their ideal future for the city. This process resulted in a prioritized and measurable list of goals and action items for Council's 2007–2010 term of office.

A document entitled “**Towards A Sustainable Future**” was made available to the public in January 2008.

CITY COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES 2007–2010

Affordable Housing –

To increase the supply of affordable housing units in Lethbridge within three years, in collaboration with other orders of government, Social Housing in Action (SHIA) and other community partners.

Environmental Policy and Plan –

To contain or reduce the community's total impact on the environment.

Financial Stewardship –

To approve a three-year budget that demonstrates fiscal constraint, recognizing the impact on levels of service.

Communications Strategy and Plan –

Effective and regular two-way communication between City Council and the community.

Enhanced level of community engagement.

Advocacy on Behalf of the Community –

Increased, permanent operating fund transfers from provincial and federal government sources.

Continued support from other orders of government for programs and services provided within the city region (military, housing, air services, businesses, non-governmental organizations, etc.).

Greater influence on shaping regulations that affect the city.

Strategy for E-Business –

Greater public access to services and information through appropriate technology.

Infrastructure and the capacity for e-business are in place.

Selected stand-alone business transactions are in place.

Downtown Revitalization –

The downtown will strive to enhance quality of life for all Lethbridge citizens. The city's vibrancy is rooted in its diverse population and accordingly it will strive to be an open, safe, affordable, accessible and welcoming place to people of all walks of life. This social diversity will be embraced and celebrated through urban design, architecture, and the day-to-day function and role of Downtown Lethbridge.

Inter-municipal Planning –

Agreement on orderly development on the perimeter of the city that is mutually beneficial to neighbouring municipalities.

Growth Management Strategy –

Community agreement on the orderly, sustainable development of the community up to the perimeter.

Approved Municipal Development Plan that includes a sustainability plan.

CITY ORGANIZATION

Legislative and Administrative
ORGANIZATION CHART

CITIZENS

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Bob Tarleck

Alderman Ryan Parker

Alderman Barbara Lacey

Alderman Rajko Dodic

Alderman Shaun Ward

Alderman Ken Tratch

Alderman Jeff Carlson

Alderman Tom Wickersham

Alderman Margaret Simmons

CITY MANAGER
Garth SherwinPolice Commission
Lethbridge Public Library Board
Museum Board
Other Commissions, Authorities,
BoardsDirector of the City
Manager's Office
Kathy HopkinsCommunity Relations
Communications
Performance Measures
Intergovernmental Affairs
Regional Issues
Strategy Management
City Wide projects
Economic Development LiaisonLand Development/
Real Estate
Michael KellyCity Clerk
Dianne NemethCity Solicitor
Doug HudsonCorporate Services
Corey WightTreasury
Payroll
Taxation & Assessment
Purchasing & Stores
Fleet Management
Information Technology
Records Management / F.O.I.P.
Human Resources
Risk Management/Insurance
Financial Reporting & Budget
Long-term Financial PlanningCommunity Services
Bary BeckLA Transit
Nature Centre
Leisure Services
Recreation & Culture
Social & Community Development
ENMAX Centre
Fire/EMS Services
Cemeteries
Planning
Facility Services
Social Housing
Regulatory Services
Environmental ServicesInfrastructure Services
Doug HawkinsTransportation Planning
Public Operations
Water Treatment Plant
Wastewater Treatment Plant
Utilities (Water, Wastewater,
Electric Distribution, Sanitation,
Landfill, Recycling)
Storm Sewer
Utilities Customer Care
Fleet Maintenance
Urban Construction
Asset Management
Parks ManagementPlanning & Development
VacantDevelopment Services
Building Inspection
Planning

OUR FOCUS

1. THE CITY OF LETHBRIDGE AS A "SYSTEM"

A system is defined as a set of related entities that receives INPUTS, adds value to them through CORE PROCESSES to achieve a defined purpose (desired OUTCOMES) for its customers.

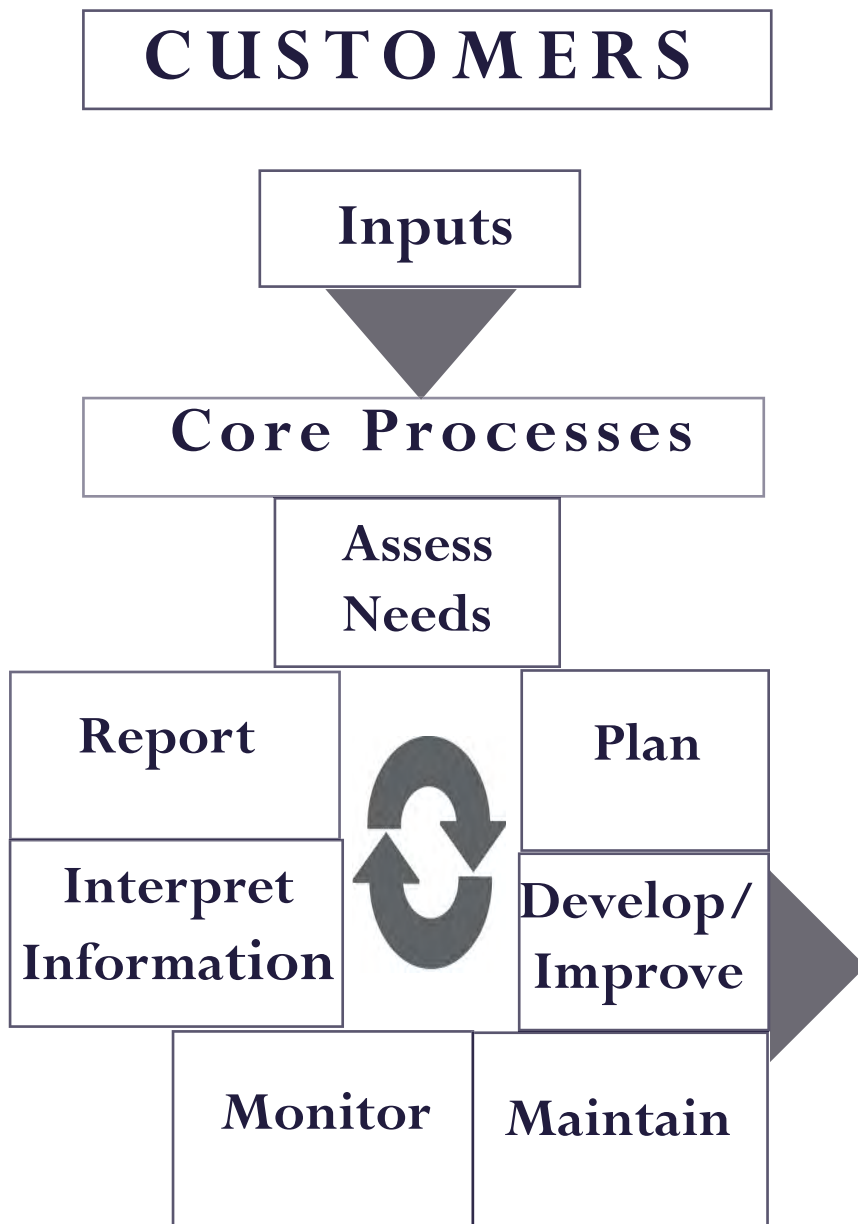
2. CUSTOMER FOCUSED SERVICES

The purpose of the corporation is to serve and assist the citizens of Lethbridge in achieving the vision. Every action must centre on meeting customer needs.

3. RESULTS ORIENTATION

Improved performance is a continuous process based on meaningful, results oriented performance measures.

We continue to use **"Towards A Sustainable Future"** as a guiding document representing Council's commitment to working toward a future community that truly expresses the vision and values of the citizens. This document strengthens the ability to govern, provides leadership that inspires City staff in delivering services to the community, and provides citizens with opportunities to contribute and participate. In addition, **"Towards A Sustainable Future"** outlines Council's priorities to be achieved over the next three years.



Business Units completed business plans with performance measures to ensure the alignment of services in support of the corporate goals and objectives. The inclusion of performance measures further strengthened the linkage between planning, monitoring, reporting and evaluating.

4. SUPPORT

City employees are creative, innovative and skilled. Their involvement in corporate decision making is key in making improvements to the processes that serve the community. The Corporation is committed to creating an environment which fosters involvement of all employees in shaping new skills, capabilities and relationships.

CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

On behalf of Administration at the City of Lethbridge, I am proud to highlight the major accomplishments in our 2009 Annual Report. These successes are a tribute to the vision of City Council, the relationships we have built with our community partners and the dedication of more than 1,400 employees, providing services to the residents of Lethbridge. We were innovative in our service delivery approaches, which made 2009 a very exciting year!

An unprecedented infusion of Economic Stimulus Grants provided the opportunity to access additional funding at both the Federal and Provincial level. A total of twelve million dollars was awarded from the Building Canada Fund (BCF) towards the construction of a new Community Arts Centre and the extension of North Scenic Drive. RinC (Recreation Infrastructure Canada) funding will assist us in expanding and renovating the Nicholas Sheran Arena. Funding from the Community Adjustment Fund (CAF) will construct a picnic shelter in the north Lethbridge Sportspark, home to local Rugby and Soccer groups, and \$4 million will assist with the construction of a Technology Commercialization Centre.

The expansion and renovations to the ENMAX Centre continued throughout the year. This is arguably the most complex project that Facility Services has ever delivered. In addition to being sequentially designed, tendered and delivered, this multi-year project is unique in that it is allowing the building to stay fully occupied throughout construction. When complete in 2012, the ENMAX Centre will continue to provide high caliber special events and activities that our community has come to expect in a modern facility for another 25 years.

The strategic purchase of the downtown IGA site allows for the Community Arts Centre project to move forward as anticipated in the Capital Improvement Program. The proposed site and concept also provides an opportunity for future co-location of a performing arts facility. This visionary decision will help to create our very own "arts district" for our residents.

Many of the City's greatest success stories have come from partnerships within the community. The largest partnership undertaken is the West Lethbridge Centre (WLC) project, which is a collaboration of the City of Lethbridge, Lethbridge Public Library Board, School District #51, and Holy Spirit School Division #4. Together these four entities have constructed two high schools, a public library and a community park including three ball diamonds, four soccer fields, eight tennis courts, four basketball courts, more than 1,140 trees and 4,430 meters of pathway. The WLC opens this fall and will meet the increased demand for services and growth in west Lethbridge.

Outputs

1. Infrastructure
2. Services
3. By-Laws

Outcome

- A Sustainable Community**
- a) Economic Vitality
 - b) Social Equity
 - c) Environmental Quality
 - d) Cultural Vibrancy

During 2009 the Lethbridge Regional Landfill was renamed the Waste & Recycling Centre. Enhancements at the Centre included a new indoor tipping area and baling equipment to allow the site to stay open during windy weather, the addition of another weigh scale to reduce lineups, a compost pad for leaf and yard organics, and site provisions for year round diversion of paint, electronic waste and household hazardous waste. Our newly introduced Residential Fall Leaf Collection Program was widely accepted by residents with 125 tonnes of residential leaves diverted from the landfill.

Waste and Recycling Services also completed the automation of all residential waste collection. In addition to helping keep our city clean, automated waste collection benefited City workers by substantially decreasing injuries and exposure to dangerous and infectious waste that they would have encountered previously.

The City of Lethbridge also successfully passed its tri-annual Health & Safety Audit. It is encouraging to see that our employees significantly contribute to workplace safety and are eager to participate in improving health and safety in the organization. The City was also awarded a Certificate of Recognition which signifies that the provincial standard has been achieved and allows employers to receive WCB premium rebates, which provide integral funding for health and safety programs and initiatives.

Finally, The City of Lethbridge earned a 2009 Minister's Award for Municipal Excellence as a leader in the Partnership Category. This Government of Alberta award was granted for a partnership with Lethbridge College and Cedar Ridge Quality Homes for the development and creation of The Living Home, an environmentally sustainable home in SunRidge. The City's demonstrated excellence was shared with other municipalities across the province.

While the global economy presented plenty of challenge, Lethbridge was actually able to take advantage of unexpected opportunities. Our strong financial position, funding from other governments, and advanced project planning allowed us to move ahead of schedule in building municipal infrastructure this year which is good news for this city's future.



Garth Sherwin, CA
City Manager

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



Integrated Risk Management

In 2009, we provided Integrated Risk Management strategies, tools and advice, which enabled the City and its Business Units to identify, manage, and mitigate risk as it relates to people, property and the environment.

Our integrated approach allows for a clearly defined mandate, a stronger and more influential corporate presence, an enhanced capacity to monitor compliance, and increased accessibility to resources.

While managing the City's General Insurance Program to ensure that the corporation's assets and operations are appropriately insured, and in assisting Business Units to conform to regulatory requirements, we are ever mindful that general and environmental risk management and Occupational Health and Safety are the fundamental cornerstones of loss prevention.

2009 Achievements:

- Coordinated a Security Risk & Threat Assessment Audit on City Hall, resulting in the formation of a new position and recruitment of a Corporate Security Coordinator.
- Conducted a Builders Risk Liability Seminar for project managers and introduced the concept and advantages of owner-controlled insurance for the City's large renovation and new construction projects. Obtaining owner-controlled insurance has since become a typical component of Integrated Risk Management's services.
- Successfully passed an external Health & Safety Program Audit, allowing the City to renew its "Certificate of Recognition."
- Produced a substance release video entitled "Releases, Reporting and You," which is used as an employee training tool to stress the importance of recognizing and reporting substance releases in protecting our environment.
- Published Integrated Risk Management's first "Annual Report" for the year 2008, depicting trends and statistical data with respect to WCB and third party claims and insurance premiums.



Value of Insured Assets: \$807.5 M (24% increase)
Insured Buildings & Facilities: 299
Insurance Premium Cost Per Capita: \$17.52
Integrated Risk Management Committees: 19

Insured Vehicles: 526 (9.8% increase)
Employees: 1,703
Hours Worked by City Employees: 2.67 M

Galt Museum and Archives

Three major special exhibits were featured in 2009, including *Everett Soop: Journalist, Cartoonist, Activist* [circulated by The Nickle Arts Museum, University of Calgary]; *The Mighty Bridge* [created in house in celebration of the CPR High Level Bridge Centennial]; and *Dinosaurs & Company* [a traveling exhibit produced by the Exhibition Production Centre, Musée de la Nature et des Sciences, Quebec]. In our permanent gallery, the *Japanese Experience* exhibit was redesigned to accommodate material from the Taber Buddhist Church and the request from our stakeholders to see more artifacts in this gallery.



Other exhibits included themed archival photographs from the Archives; *Art of the Bridge* by the Lethbridge Artist Club and *Moods of the Bridge* by the Lethbridge Photography Club; the LCI student project *Juno Beach – A Journey of Honour*; a University of Lethbridge student photo exhibit *In Pursuit of Fair Trade*; and *Dinosaurs Finds!*, an exhibit featuring photography, tools and work by southern Alberta paleontology expert Wendy Sloboda. These photo exhibits were moved online to the Galt's flickr.com for continued viewing. The exhibit *For you the war is over: Second World War POW Experiences* opened at The Military Museums in Calgary in 2009. 100 artifacts were crated at the Galt for this and the travelling exhibit *Vanishing Landscapes*, which was shown by the Estevan Art Gallery & Museum.



Off-site exhibit cases display material at the Lethbridge Public Library, Lethbridge Regional Police Headquarters, the Lethbridge Seniors Centre and Davis Pontiac Buick where the CPR Superintendent's Car was displayed in the showroom. 65 artifacts were featured in the Adopt-An-Artifact online project, and Lethbridge living Magazine continued highlighting museum artifacts in their editorial feature *What is it?* which were then incorporated into an adult-learning course in the Yukon. Collections tours were provided to Sociology and Fine Arts students from the U of L as well as Lethbridge-based U of A Alumnae. Four behind-the-scenes collections tours were offered, with two participants invited to select artifacts for the *2010 Treasures & Curiosities* exhibit.

Archives highlights and activities include major ongoing cataloguing projects for The Lethbridge Herald and Oldman River Regional Services Commission. The backlog was reduced again this year. The numbers of elementary teachers and students who visited rose substantially. Support was provided to Lethbridge College Environmental Studies, and U of L History students. Access to scanning stations and technical support was provided to members of the Playgoers Club of Lethbridge as they digitized their scrapbooks documenting the club's history. The Archives in turn received a cash donation and copies of the scrapbooks for the holdings.

In October, the Galt became the 28th international, and second Canadian partner on flickr The Commons – an archival images initiative bringing attention to the world's historic photographs. Our 150 photos have been seen over 72,000 times.



Community program participants	2,241
School program participants	9,958
Buses booked for 5328 students	248
Special events participants	3,682
Facility rental attendees	12,917
Unique visitors to www.galtmuseum.com	32,795

Archives researchers	783
Archives gallery visitors	200
Archives Online visitors	5,315
Scanned archival images	10,649
Volunteers	244
Volunteer hours	8,847
TOTAL on site attendance	43,685

MUSEUM VISITORS

Lethbridge	60%
Southern Alberta	16%
Other Alberta	6%
Canada	11%
International	7%

Galt Museum and Archives (continued)



Educational Programs at the Galt continue to draw schools from across southern Alberta as students from daycare to post-secondary participate in curriculum coordinated programs. Lethbridge schools are the largest users with classes visiting numerous times throughout the year. Students develop a sense of ownership and familiarity with the museum that help develop respect and knowledge of our role. Many express an interest to volunteer or work here when they're older.

The Galt endeavours to provide an experience for each visitor that is uniquely theirs. For its size of facility and staff, the Galt offers an impressive range of programs, and large numbers of

visitors participated in Saturdays at 1:00, Café Galt, Museum Community Days and various guided tours, including a new series of podcasts available on audio wands. The Galt acquired the Get Outta Town Bus Tours brand and took participants into five areas of southern Alberta.

Annual partnership programs were delivered in conjunction with the Lethbridge Historical Society [Alex Johnston Lecture Series], the Helen Schuler Nature Centre [Wild Tales on Park Trails tours] and Cemeteries [Cemetery Tours]. The Regional Historical Heritage Fair was held in May and helped kick-off the sixth annual Historic Lethbridge Week organized in conjunction with the U of L, Lethbridge Public Library, LHS and other community groups. A juried sculpture exhibit was organized for the second year to coincide with the Allied Arts Council's ArtWalk and the Province's new Alberta Arts Days.



2009 events saw record and sold out numbers for our successful Scotch & Burns, "A Gold Medal" Eggstravaganza, Galt "Bedrock" Beer Tasting and two Halloween screenings of the Rocky Horror Picture Show. Proceeds from the fourth annual Whoop-Up Days Scenic Plaza Block Party organized in cooperation with our neighbours were donated to the Lethbridge Seniors Organization. Museum store revenue increased over 2008 and the Facility Rentals area again surpassed its revenue target. In October, we undertook our second annual mailing requesting community support. Working with the Friends of the Galt, an endowment was set up at the community foundation. The Galt Board and staff solidified the Southern Alberta Regional Network of neighbouring cultural institutions whose goal is regional collaboration. The Board of Directors clarified a number of governance concerns and completed a thorough review of the Board manual.

Our south garden saw the placement of an additional 35 sponsored bricks added to the 250 already in place. These surround the life-sized bronze statue commissioned with the support of the Galt School of Nursing Alumnae Association, Heart of Our City and others. Local sculptor Don Toney was on hand during the GSNA Banquet in June for the dedication of the statue. The area was beautified later that summer with flowers reminiscent of 1910 gardens in Lethbridge. In September, the Lethbridge & District Horticultural Society unveiled their Centennial Native Plants Garden at the front entrance after nurturing the plants through the spring and summer.



Galt Board and staff members were invited to be speakers at conferences and association meetings, presenters of course materials, and were nominated for various awards. The Board and staff of the Galt Museum & Archives are most appreciative of the many community partners, supporters and volunteers who have supported their endeavours through partnerships, advice, donations and time.



Helen Schuler Nature Centre

The Helen Schuler Nature Centre (HSNC) has been delivering a wide range of nature interpretive programs in our community through a team of volunteers, staff and partners since 1982. In 2009 over 30,000 people of all ages experienced and discovered Lethbridge's unique natural environment through the 1,000 programs and services offered by the Nature Centre throughout the southern Alberta region. Visitation to the Nature Centre was up by 10% over 2008 and up 20% from 2005. Community involvement and participation in the Nature Centre's activities continues to grow.



2009 was a year for the Nature Centre's volunteers to shine! Volunteers are at the heart of all the programs and services delivered by the HSNC each year. Volunteer hours increased by nearly 65% from last year. Community members donated over 2,500 hours (1600 in 2008) to the delivery of Nature Centre programs including: facilitating the exhibit room 9 allowing for continued free admission), trail roving, program assisting, research and leading of nature walks. Approximately 1,000 more hours were donated through the special projects and conservation projects (such as the coulee clean-up). A grant, sponsorship and City funded Special Project Coordinator position has allowed for better support, recruitment and expansion of the volunteer program.



In 2009, a number of volunteers were recognized for their outstanding commitment to the Lethbridge community. On Earth Day (April 22nd) the Nature Centre coordinated the presentation of a youth stewardship award. This award was presented by Mayor Robert Tarleck in honour of Tyler Vanden Dool's dedication to environmental stewardship and learning. That same day, four of the HSNC's youth volunteers were recognized at the Volunteer Lethbridge's "Leaders of Tomorrow" volunteer recognition event. Erin Mick gratefully accepted a Volunteer Excellence Award. In November, long-time volunteer Gill Smith was acknowledged for her volunteer commitments and life-time achievements by the Government of Alberta, with her nomination for the 2009 "Stars of Alberta" Volunteer Award. Two individuals from the Nature Centre were recognized by the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce in the 2009 FIRE Awards. These awards are presented to front line service providers and nominations are done by the public. Volunteer, Mary Anderson, and staff member, Jen Buit, were both nominated. Jen Buit was recognized with a FIRE Award for demonstrating excellence in customer service in 2009.



Helen Schuler Nature Centre (Continued)



The HSNC hosted exhibits on the topics of Seasons, Amphibians, Seeds and Natural Olympians this past year with just over 20,000 visitors in attendance. A permanent exhibit was developed by the HSNC and installed at the Weston Family Conservation Centre in the Waterton Parkfront for The W. Garfield Weston Foundation and the Nature Conservancy of Canada. Nearly 700 individuals visited this exhibit between the May and September long weekends. The focus of the exhibit is the unique and diverse flora and fauna of Southern Alberta, as well as how simple acts of conservation by individuals and groups can have a dramatic impact on the landscape. Conservation examples and ideas are interspersed throughout the exhibit.

In March, staff and volunteers of the HSNC hosted a booth at the Home and Garden Show to promote the up and coming exhibit and to attract new individuals and groups to the coulee clean-up event. The interactive display was well received and the Nature Centre was awarded a 5 Star Exhibitor Award.

Over 5,000 children from pre-school to high school grades attended school programs at the Nature Centre in 2009. School programs link with the Alberta Science and Social Science curriculum and offer teachers the opportunity to expand their classroom learning to the outdoors and natural areas. Generous funding provided by The W. Garfield Weston Foundation allowed the Centre to expand outdoor education programs even farther into the Southern Alberta region in 2009. Nearly 300 Grade 5 students engaged in experiential learning with conservation messages that included full-day field trips to the Waterton Parkfront, additional in-class follow-up projects, and the development of "Conservation Caches" (based on the Geocache phenomenon). A permanent "Conservation Cache" was developed and is maintained by the HSNC in both the Lethbridge Nature Reserve and the Waterton Parkfront. Journal logs indicate nearly 200 people discovered these caches. Many included international and out-of-province visitors.



Great Blue Heron (by Kenorich)



The HSNC also delivered a number of waste reduction and water conservation themed lesson plans in Lethbridge schools for Grade 4, 7 and 8 audiences throughout September to November. The lesson plans were developed by the Waste and Recycling and Water and Wastewater Departments of the City of Lethbridge. This partnership allowed HSNC staff to reconnect with many of the classes that had visited the Nature Centre, thus reinforcing the learning experiences. It also allowed for expansion into new audiences. Waste and Recycling and Water and Wastewater Departments benefited, as it allowed lesson plans and resources to be promoted to teachers as well as tested and evaluated before further development is done. Nearly 500 students participated in this program.

Helen Schuler Nature Centre (Continued)

In 2009, the HSNC offered nearly 200 public programs, most of which were drop-in and free of charge. These programs were attended by nearly 8,000 people. The Helen Schuler Nature Centre offers a suite of programs from pre-school ages to adult natural history field trips and guest speakers. Programs are designed to offer something for every level of interest and all ages, including multi-generational programming.



Since 1999, the HSNC staff has presented Creature Theatre in Galt Gardens on Thursday evenings in July and August. As a celebration of its 10th year, Creature Theatre 2009 hosted interpretive theatre troops from Kananaskis Country as well as the Parks in the Classroom program from Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation to compliment this year's program. 300 participated in the high-energy musical theatre presentations featuring costumes, hilarious characters and lots of audience participation! The Nature Centre also took part in the piloting of teleconferencing equipment at the Lethbridge Public Library, with the in-house developed Creature Theatre program being broadcast to nine libraries across the Southern Alberta region.



Grant funding from the Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) allowed for the redevelopment of interpretive signage in both Popson and Cottonwood Park and the playground area of Canyon Creek. These signs focused on Western prairie rattlesnakes and their role in the overall ecosystem health of our local prairie landscape. The signs also provided information to assist park users in avoiding rattlesnakes and better understanding their behaviours and habitat requirements. The HSNC also undertook a survey of local residents on the topic of rattlesnakes to evaluate the public education programs. Over 200 survey responses were collected and survey results were shared with the ACA, the Alberta Multiple Species at Risk program and the local Fish and Wildlife office.

An increased number of project-based volunteers participated in conservation initiatives in 2009. The Nature Centre coordinated the second annual coulee clean-up sponsored by BFI Canada and Pratt and Whitney. Over 250 bags of garbage were removed from coulee areas throughout the city by nearly 350 individual participants. The Nature Centre also led the Stick It To Knapweed city wide weed pull in June and July. This project also received generous funding from the ACA.



The Helen Schuler Nature Centre looks forward to expanding on the successes of 2009 into 2010 and hopes to see everyone in the community out enjoying and caring for all the wonders and joys of nature that our local environment has to offer.

LA Transit

The 2009 – 2011 Operating Budget included service expansion based on the 2006 Transit Service Standards. This service expansion included increasing the frequency of service Monday – Friday evenings from every 60 minutes to every 30 minutes. It also included an increase in peak hour frequency between the College and Downtown plus in the Indian Battle Heights area from 30 minutes to every 15 minutes. These improvements are part of the ongoing efforts to improve service to transit customers.

To accommodate these improvements, new buses were needed. When considering these new buses, Transit considered feedback from customers and staff. As a result the new buses included the following features:

- Air conditioning
- No securement required for rear facing wheel chairs
- Added passenger stanchions and grab straps
- Improved designation signs, brighter with heated glass
- New aerodynamic design
- New paint scheme
- High back padded passenger seats
- Wider front door entrance
- Cleaner burning engines

Five new buses were purchased; two were for the 2009 peak hour service, one for the new Westside route scheduled for July 2010 and two are replacement buses.



A facility functional audit was conducted in 2009. The current facility, constructed in 1984, is at or exceeding capacity for vehicle storage and office space while most major garage equipment is also at or near the end of its useful life. The audit recommended an expansion plan that includes a new service line, new exterior bus wash, additional storage, above-ground fuel tanks, and an expanded office area that will meet Lethbridge Transit's immediate and short term facility needs. These recommendations have been referred to the 2011 – 2013 Capital Improvement Program.

In 2009 Access-A-Ride service was expanded by 1,050 hours to increase capacity for demand trips during peak hours. This resulted in an increased ridership of 4,700 trips or approximately 4%. Three new buses were ordered in 2009 as replacement buses with delivery to be in the spring of 2010.



Lethbridge Public Library

It was a tug between nostalgia and the future, with 2009 marking 90 years of community service and the excitement of a new chapter unfolding via the Crossings Branch Library construction in West Lethbridge. An anniversary celebration in October offered a chance to review the Library's history - a place with books, microfilm, card catalogues, video and cassette tapes and absolute silence. Today's library encompasses conversations, food and drink, wireless Internet, DVDs, CDs, e-books, databases of information, a website with online catalogue searching and so much more. However, some things like meeting at the library for story time haven't changed the library has remained the community's gathering place.

A capital campaign was launched to cover the cost of the Crossings Branch Library collections. The community was asked to support the library fundraising efforts and major donations were received in 2009 from Richardson Oilseed Ltd., the Kinsmen Club of Lethbridge, Melcor Development Ltd., the City of Lethbridge and numerous individuals and organizations. City residents watched the construction with interest and soon saw a distinctive structure with a wall of windows and an angled entrance jutting into the west side skyline.



Todd Gnissios, the then Acting Director and Bev Shimazaki, the acting Director who retired in May 2009

Behind the scenes, the purchase and cataloging of a million dollars worth of books and materials was ongoing throughout 2009 – the Crossings Branch Library will have over 45,000 new items for the public to browse and borrow. Opening day is scheduled for August 23, 2010.

Children's Services added two new sites to the family literacy outreach program Rhyme Time, working with new immigrants at Immigrant Services and young parents at 5th on 5th Youth Services.

They also added self-guided weekend activities and a once a month evening story time to provide evening events for families. July and August saw the circulation of children's material increase 14% from the previous summer and attendance at children's summer programs was up 20% overall.

The Teen collections were expanded to include Books on CD, Playaway Digital Audio players as well as magazines.

A general reorganizing of the entire library's collection from children's books to reference works took place in 2009-clearing out unused items and making way for the new.



Lethbridge Public Library (Continued)

Adult Services added 2 new licensed databases: PressDisplay (800+ newspapers from 80 countries in 40 languages) and the ever-popular ConsumerReports.org. The benefits of databases like Business Source Elite and Canadian Reference Centre were also highlighted for the local business community.

Self check out became a reality in November giving customers the chance to avoid lineups by checking out their own items.

The Library implemented videoconferencing capabilities as part of the RISE (Rural Information Services Initiative) Project which will see videoconferencing services offered in 79 public libraries in Southern Alberta.



The opening of the Page!break café by RoundST and an outdoor café patio in May was greeted with enthusiasm by library customers.

Adult program highlights included: The Banff Mountain World Tour Film Festival; an International Film Festival in March and a Foreign Film Festival in October. The Library and the Lethbridge Astronomy Society presented several speakers, including astrophotographer Alan Dyer, to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Galileo's first exploration of the sky.

Authors who visited the Library in 2009 included BJ Smith, Frances Riviere, Jane Harris Zsovan, Anita Selby, Charlie Russell, Fred Stenson, Robin and Marian White, Gordon Fox, Ann Alma and Larry Verstraete.

An International Literacy Day 'Caught Reading' photography contest, partnered with the Lethbridge Photography Club, Save On Foods and others, drew a large number of entries.

Caught Reading Unseen Words



MLA Bridgette Pastoor, Lil Radley, Debi Charlesworth, Becky Colbeck of Save On Foods, MLA Greg Weadick, & in front Colleen Bains winner of the Caught Reading Contest.

In 2009, more than 535,000 people visited the Library or stopped by the Bookmobile. Library items were borrowed over 918,400 times. As a welcoming, gathering spot for children, teens and adults of all ages the Library had over 4,470 programs which attracted 50,845 people.

ENMAX Centre

The City of Lethbridge ENMAX Centre continues to be the premier provider of a wide variety of entertainment and events within our community. Our accomplishments include the commencement of the facility expansion and renovation project, strategic investment in our workforce, careful attention to customer feedback and strong partnership development within the community.



Blue Man Group



In 2009, the ENMAX Centre was proud to attract and host 43 performance or event days with high profile entertainers including Neil Young, Brooks & Dunn, Backyardigans, Johnny Reid and So You Think You Can Dance Canada. The various special events attracted approximately 60,000 fans. The building also scheduled 111 days of activity through recreational ice usage.

PBR Extreme Bull Riding

Neil Young



Brooks & Dunn



Lacrosse



Johnny Reid

ENMAX Centre (Continued)

Home of the Lethbridge Hurricanes of the Western Hockey League, fans enjoy fast action-packed hockey entertainment. Support of the community owned club continues to grow with corporate sponsorship and patron attendance. During 2009 the hockey club hosted 37 hockey games with a great playoff run. A total of 135,505 fans were in attendance throughout the year.



The City of Lethbridge ENMAX Centre expansion and renovation project started construction in May 2009. The purpose of this project is to improve existing services and to continue to meet and/or exceed the needs and expectations of our customers and business partners.

The improvements to the building will allow the facility to compete in the increasingly competitive market place for the next 25 years. The building space is currently 151,833 sq. ft., through this expansion an additional 40,809 sq. ft. will be added creating an overall total space of 192,642 sq. ft. This project is scheduled to be completed over a 3 year period from 2009-2012. During these 3 years the building will be open to the public and fully operational from October-April of each construction year.

As part of Phase I construction the following work has been completed:

- Upgrades to various utility services (sewer, gas, electrical).
- Outside precast panel walls measuring 31' X 5' and weighing 8,000 pounds each were removed.
- Initial work on the foundation footings for the new outside wall has begun.
- New outside walls will be built during the 2009-10 season.

Cost: Total cost for this project will be \$33,722,000

The funding strategy will be as follows:

Municipal Loan	\$	7,900,000
Municipal Contribution		4,343,940
Major Community Facilities Program (MCFP)		3,682,955
Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI)		17,795,105
TOTAL	\$	33,722,000

The municipal loan will be paid back through a combination of new facility revenue sources including a contribution from the Hurricanes of \$2.5 million over 15 years and a ticket surcharge which was integrated into the cost of each event ticket in 2007.

Fire and Emergency Medical Services

Fire and City Administration worked with Alberta Health Services to complete a two-year agreement to provide ambulance services to our community and district. This agreement creates a basis for our department to maintain the integration of the trained fire and ambulance personnel. New responsibilities for medical control have been regionalized within the southern zone, which creates a standardized approach to patient care and staff training. Many changes to department policies and operating guidelines have been adjusted to meet the criteria in this new relationship. Our staff continue to focus on serving our community with the quality patient care we always have.

In April, we held a ground breaking ceremony for the new Downtown #1 Station and the main Headquarters for Administration, Fire Prevention and the Public Safety Communications Centre. Our other capital project is the renovation of our north facility Station #4 & Training Centre. This project focuses on revitalization and functional design improvements to ensure that our facility's value in life cycle investments are met. Improvements to our training facilities will ensure we continue to maintain skills and knowledge. Both projects are on target for completion in 2010.



The technology design for the Mobile Command Unit was completed and installed for the communications equipment and video linking with our Emergency Operations Centre. This unit will be available for events needing to link to the emergency operations centre or other emergency agencies. The information resources this unit will bring into the field and link back to our emergency planning team will benefit the community in the response and recovery efforts for any future events.



Our Fire Prevention Division and our local Lethbridge Home Builders' Association have developed a new partnership to help teach grade 5 students home fire safety. The Fire Expo program brings the students into the fire station during Fire Prevention week and is a hands on practical learning session. We have had very positive feedback on the program and staff are preparing plans to expand it to a larger group next year.



Fire and Emergency Medical Services (continued)



The challenge to recruit new people to our organization continued in a competitive job market; the need for Paramedic/EMT's across the province is in high demand. The recruitment committee worked hard to fill fourteen Firefighter/Paramedic positions. This group brings a wide range of experience in Emergency Service delivery from across the province.

Our department introduced a group of new recruits in two separate classes this past year which, although challenging with limited training facilities, was successful through the leadership of our training staff. Our medical training for staff continues to be a collaboration with our use of the human patient simulator at the Lethbridge College. This involved scenarios in a classroom lab to simulate multiple patient conditions which builds on our team's response skills.

The first phase of more environmentally sensitive fire training has started with the introduction of the digital fire extinguisher training system. This unit uses a simulated fire on a digital screen which has sensors that react to special extinguishers that use compressed air, water, and laser emitters to realistically simulate an actual fire situation. This unit has been very successful in expanding our ability to offer training indoors throughout the year to businesses and other target community groups.



The water rescue team was busy with several major operations in Lethbridge and the southern region that involved joint deployments with RCMP and Alberta Fish and Wildlife. We have created a strong working relationship with those partners and signed a new contract for service so we can be the first team called for dive rescue and recovery operations. We completed surface water and ice rescue training for all crews who may arrive first on scene prior to a victim becoming submerged.



Total Responses: EMS 10,072

Fire and Rescue Responses 1,231

Pump Medical Assist Responses 3,195

Fire and Emergency Medical Services (continued)



We conducted a major emergency exercise to evaluate our disaster plan and social services capacity in managing the relocation of a large group of people. We used City Transit services and other local support agencies in our exercise to establish a reception centre. This was valuable in understanding the reliance on the City must provide for basic needs during an emergency. Many staff and community groups were enthusiastic to help their community during this exercise. It was also a good opportunity to evaluate the command and coordination of our emergency operations centre, which will see us moving our future training towards this incident command system.

Our fleet of response vehicles has reduced the number of larger units by combining the design functions into one unit. These new units have been designed to provide compressed air foam from multiple fire hose lines, which improves our fire attack ability. The training on the use and application are critical for the maximum benefit for life safety and property loss conservation. Training continues to be a cornerstone for success in minimizing fire losses in our community.



The Prevention Division introduced two new major initiatives in underground fuel storage tanks inventory and control and Fire Safety Information Centre installations. Staff worked on identifying high risk underground fuel storage sites, which included abandoned tanks and several unregistered tanks. We were able to mitigate the fire safety risk and work on the environmental clean-up of two abandon installations. The introduction of the Fire Safety Information Centre (FSIC) offers detailed inventory and tracking of several major occupancies, life safety hazards and site diagrams to assist emergency responders during an emergency. Response crews have access to the FSIC through a storage vault attached to the location or building. This provides valuable information that can be used to minimize further life, environmental or property risk in an emergency.



Public Safety Communications Centre

The Public Safety Communications Centre (PSCC) is the emergency communications hub for this region. The centre receives and processes emergency 911 calls and non-emergency calls for police, fire and emergency medical services (EMS). The PSCC recorded over 63,000 events in 2009. The PSCC business unit is also responsible for the City's recently expanded 800 MHz trunked radio system.

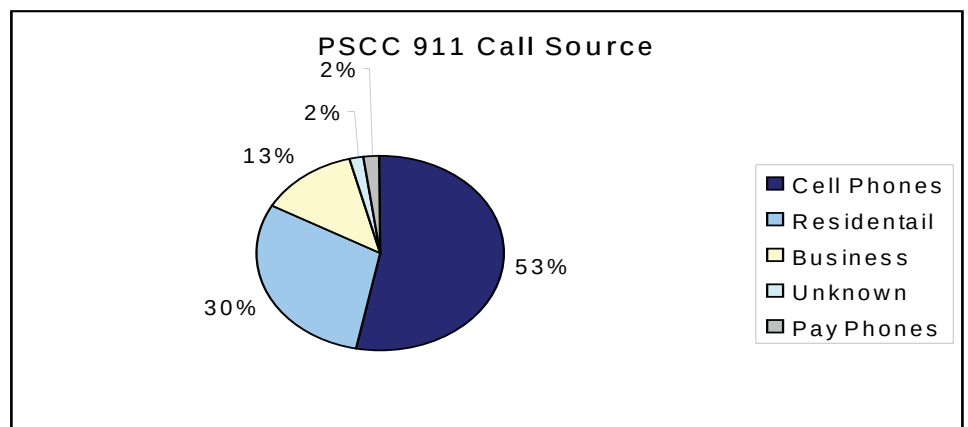


2009 saw a number of technological changes for the PSCC. Early in the year the aging digital logger recorder was replaced with a new, state of the art recorder. All telephone and radio communications in the PSCC are recorded and stored on a digital storage centre. Additionally, the police Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) software was updated and enhanced with some new features such as automatic vehicle location and incident manager. The servers for the Fire/EMS CAD were relocated closer to the PSCC. Corporate IT initiated a business continuity review for the PSCC resulting in some additional projects to reduce the risk of downtime or system malfunctions. The emergency services radio system was expanded to include Public Operations, Transit and other radio user groups within the City. The expansion included installation of new mobile radios throughout the City's fleet and portable radios for divisions that required them.

Cellular telephone providers have been making some changes to the way cellular phones call 911. A lot of testing has been conducted across the country including southern Alberta. Phase 2 Wireless, or the ability to provide location information for cell phone callers is being rolled out early in 2010. Geographical information, such as latitude and longitude, detailing the caller location information will be transmitted to the PSCC for calls originating from cell phones.

As Alberta Health Services considered transitioning all EMS dispatch to three dispatch centres in the province, they entered into an interim dispatch agreement with the City of Lethbridge to continue providing EMS dispatching. The contract required some performance measurements which the PSCC has been able to exceed a 90% compliance ratio. The recent pandemic situation also resulted in some hasty work for the PSCC as protocols and Alberta Health Services requirements concerning dispatch changed rapidly depending on the H1N1 status.

Police	44,4046
EMS	16,409
Fire Incidents	3,061
Total 911 Calls:	47,346
Cell Phones	24,797
Residential	14,190
Business	6,310
Pay Phones	1,097
Unknown	952



Lethbridge Regional Police Services

Community Policing Division



In 2009 the Community Policing Division realigned patrol areas and initiated a new deployment model to enhance police response to calls for service and address crime trends. As part of this strategy seasonal bike patrols were also expanded to provide a more visible police presence, proactively curb crime and address area concerns. Analysis of patrol call loads, pending call data and shift patterns will remain ongoing in an effort to understand demands for service and continue to create efficiencies in the service provided.

The Downtown Beat Unit advanced an anti-graffiti program which includes components to raise awareness and educate police members, youth and the public about graffiti issues. The Community and Cultural Diversity Resource Team also took steps to focus on re-building the Block Parent and Neighbourhood Watch programs in Lethbridge and Coaldale.

Regional Policing Population

- Excess of 92,435

Lethbridge Regional Police Service

- 155 sworn members
- 47 non-sworn members
- 43 volunteers

Police To Population Ratio

- 1:596

Operational Budget

- \$23,151,751

Total Police Actions Taken

- Excess of 50,905

PSCC Calls For Service

- 30,387

PSCC Total 911 Calls Received

- 47,346

Total Police Actions Taken

- 51,929



In an effort to reduce collisions, better utilize enforcement technology and enhance traffic safety a tender process was completed for the installation of three Intersection Safety Devices (red light cameras). Photo radar data was also analyzed and additional photo radar site locations were identified based on offender behaviour. In addition, the Lethbridge Regional Police Service (LRPS) conducted a minimum of two Check Stops per month, as well as two joint forces Check Stops and the month long Christmas campaign to target impaired drivers.

Criminal Investigation Division (CID)

In 2009 the Criminal Investigation Division produced and distributed crime bulletins both internally and externally to communicate crime trends to frontline officers, the media and citizens of Lethbridge and Coaldale in an effort to better target crime and disorder and promote crime prevention strategies.

Throughout 2009 CID investigators attended a number of specialized courses and workshops to enhance their investigative skills. The knowledge they have gained will also be utilized internally to provide training and mentoring for new personnel and frontline officers.

Lethbridge Regional Police Services (continued)

Criminal Investigation Division (CID)

To address specific crime trends, CID developed and implemented various operational plans to target areas such as car prowling. On a provincial level, members of the Lethbridge Integrated Intelligence Unit and Special Operations Unit continued to work with other agencies in an effort to target gang activity and drug trafficking.

Over the past decade, there has been an increase in the number of domestic violence cases investigated by the LRPS. In 1996 when one officer was assigned to manage domestic violence matters, there were 160 reports. In 2004, that number grew to over 400 and by 2008 it reached an all-time high of more than 1,500.



At the beginning of 2009 two additional constables were assigned to the newly created Domestic Crimes Unit in order to ensure proper attention is paid to increased reports of violence in the home and help prevent high-risk situations from escalating.

Administrative Services Division



In 2009 the Administrative Services Division began an in-depth project which analyzed the LRPS patrol deployment model, workload and scope of supervision pertaining to frontline policing methodology. In an effort to target crime and disorder, factors including calls for service, peak call load times, pending calls for service, shifting and deployment of personnel were studied and compared to models used by other police services throughout Canada and the United States to identify better ways of providing police services. This project will continue into the future with the assistance of a new Administrative Analyst who was hired in mid 2009.

To address demands for space within the police building as the number of both sworn and non-sworn employees continues to increase, a needs assessment was conducted to analyze current challenges, identify solutions and develop a long-term facility master plan. The results of the assessment will be released in early 2010.

In 2009 the Recruiting Unit hired a total of 7 new police recruits and 6 experienced police officers to maintain an adequate level of frontline officers and fill vacancies created by retirements.

Members of the Policy and Accreditation Unit continued to collect proofs for CALEA and Provincial Standards and participated in an OHS audit, which required the review and collection of three years worth of proofs. In addition, resources were dedicated to pandemic planning and preparation.

Support Services Division

In 2009 the Alternative Reporting Team was created to manage online crime reporting of minor property-related offences via the LRPS website www.lethbridgepolice.ca. Two support staff were hired and helped develop and implement the new system. Online reporting is intended to create efficiencies and improve the service provided to citizens by offering another option to report certain crimes.



Members of the Information Technology Section installed an identification processing unit (for fingerprinting and photographing offenders) in the short term holding facility at police headquarters as well as a Global Positioning System (GPS) in all Patrol and Traffic vehicles.

The Support Services Division also continued working with the province and other police agencies on the Alberta Police Integrated Information Initiative (API 3) which will ultimately lead to better communication, information-sharing and intelligence-gathering between law enforcement agencies in Alberta.

Community & Social Development

Working Together in Community

The Community and Social Development (CSD) Group in Community Services works to oversee the implementation of the Lethbridge Social Policy under the guidance of the Council Committee. The social well-being of Lethbridge citizens and their ability to fully participate in community life, is the priority of the Community and Social Development Committee of Council. Under the leadership of Chair Bob Campbell, CSD strived to meet the needs of people in our community by strengthening community assets and addressing identified priorities. These included: access and availability of transportation, the civic engagement of youth, building a welcoming and inclusive community, taking advantage of community and social development opportunities and building an 'age friendly' community.

In 2009 CSD built on the assets in Lethbridge and strengthened the collaborative partnerships to address social needs in Lethbridge. These included: children and families, youth, older adults, Aboriginal people, people living with disabilities and new Canadians.

Our continued involvement in provincial initiatives was also important. In 2009, these included representation for Outcome Evaluation within FCSS, Elder Abuse, Emergency Social Services, the 7 Cities on Housing and Homelessness, Inter-City Forum on Social Policy, Pandemic Planning and Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Director's Network. Alderman Jeff Carlson was appointed as the South Region Representative for the FCSS Association of Alberta Board of Directors. Barb Cunningham, former Chair of the CSD Committee of Council, was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award at the FCSSAA Conference and AGM in November.

Collaborative Community Partnerships

Community Substance Abuse Response Team (CSART)

CSART is an overarching collaborative community group focused on developing a community voice, community awareness and engagement around issues of substance use. The purpose of CSART is to coordinate initiatives and resources to reduce the harm caused by substance use and addictions in Lethbridge. The focus of the CSART Initiative is prevention, enforcement, treatment and harm reduction for people in Lethbridge.



In November 2009, CSART significantly contributed to the success of the National Addictions Awareness Week which included many positive activities including a family skate night, family movie night and the launch of the "Who's Watching Your Drink": a social marketing campaign which targeted local bars and pubs to promote awareness and responsible drinking.

Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination (CMARD)

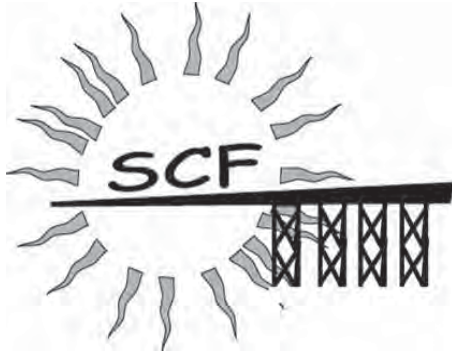
Based on a resolution by City Council and the subsequent signing of the UNESCO Declaration of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination, CMARD's role was launched with the responsibility to build a welcoming and inclusive community. This action is supported by the Common Commitments, Coalition of Canadian Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination. The CMARD team functions as the Steering Committee for our community initiative and is a Sub-Committee of the Community & Social Development (CSD) Committee of Council.

On March 21st, 2009 at City Hall, CMARD hosted the "Changing Faces Coffee House" event for approximately 150 people in celebration of the National Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The event featured a number of cultural storytelling, presentations and performances including the Roma Dancers, a presentation by students from LCI and music by Ira Provost and Blackfoot Sky. CMARD is planning a significant community forum in Spring 2010 to celebrate diversity in Lethbridge and to design a welcoming and inclusive community.

Community & Social Development (continued)

Youth Advisory Council

The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is comprised of 8 enthusiastic youth ages 15-24. This newly appointed council provides a bridge between City Council, youth and the community by functioning as an advisory body to City Council and the City of Lethbridge. In 2009, members of the Youth Advisory Council provided a voice for Lethbridge youth through advocacy, awareness and consultation. YAC strives for youth involvement in the community by encouraging diversity and inclusion. They participated in the Plan your City initiative, the Global Youth Assembly, feasibility of a Youth Centre and other planning initiatives.



Seniors Community Forum

The Seniors Community Forum continued to provide a dynamic process to improve the ability for older adults to participate in community life, maintain quality of life and stay as independent as possible. Stakeholders came together with the goal to continue to create a preferred future for the older adult population in Lethbridge.

In April 2009, the Seniors Community Forum hosted "The Heart of Caring" Community Conference for over 180 participants. The theme was based on the evidence based community priority to focus on the needs and support requirements for caregivers of older adults.

"Bringing Lethbridge Home"

The City of Lethbridge, through Social Housing in Action (SHIA) as the Community Advisory Board, continues to function as the Community Entity for the federal and provincial programs (Homelessness Partnering Strategy and the Alberta Housing and Urban Affairs for Housing and Homelessness). SHIA is a broad community based organization that includes over 100 community participants and 40 various organizations. In March 2009, SHIA sponsored a Community Strategic Planning Session which resulted in July's release of "Bringing Lethbridge Home" a revised 5 Year Community Plan to End Homelessness in Lethbridge.



Lethbridge adopted a Housing First philosophy; an approach to end homelessness that centers on providing people with complex needs with housing quickly and then providing client-centered support services as needed. What differentiates a Housing First approach is a shift from a traditional approach of managing homelessness to ending it by moving to an immediate and primary focus on helping individuals and families quickly access and sustain permanent housing. This approach has the benefit of being consistent with what most people experiencing homelessness want and seek help to achieve. A key strategy has been the effective implementation of the Pathways to Housing Community Outreach Team. This team housed over 600 individuals and 330 households since its inauguration in January 2008. 97% of these households have successfully transitioned and remain in permanent housing.



The Native Women's Transition Home was opened for occupancy in its new location in September. This new home will provide a safe learning environment for women with, or without children, to successfully transition to urban life and to permanent housing. This location will also provide space for the Head Start Program and an Aboriginal Daycare. City Council also approved the development of 102 housing units at Lethbridge College which will alleviate pressure on the vacancy rate in the larger community. The purchase of the Castle Apartments through the Affordable Housing Grant resulted in secure affordable housing for 79 residents.

Community & Social Development (continued)

"Bringing Lethbridge Home" (continued)

In November 2009 SHIA held its 4th Annual Affordable Housing Awards Luncheon in recognition of National Affordable Housing Day. The following four awards were presented: Award of Merit: Lethbridge Housing Authority, Outstanding Leadership in the Housing Sector: Aboriginal Housing Society, Innovative Partnerships: Van Haarlem Housing Corp. and Pathways to Housing Outreach Team and Excellence in Neighbourhood Building and Design: Alec Arms.



Alderman Barbara Lacey, Michael Gott, Vice Chair of Lethbridge Housing Authority, Mayor Bob Tarleck



SHIA organized and sponsored the **"Bringing Alberta Home"** Provincial Housing First Conference in November 2009. The conference, which took place in Calgary, provided an opportunity for service providers and stakeholders to connect with peers and other Alberta municipalities to share learnings. At the end of the conference, participants had engaged and connected with peers, colleagues and other professionals and built upon their current knowledge regarding the significance of community support services, learned about the possibilities within their communities and the strategies to be even more successful in their efforts to end homelessness through a Housing First approach and to **Bring Alberta Home**.

Lethbridge is an active member of the 7 Cities of Alberta on Housing and Homelessness; a group dedicated to end homelessness in Alberta in collaboration with Alberta Housing and Urban Affairs, Service Canada and CMHC.

Social Housing in Action held two successful, well attended and community supported **Project Homeless Connect (PHC)** events in 2009. PHC provides a trade show atmosphere of community agencies under one roof. People in the community who are experiencing the impacts of living with a low-income or homelessness can come and "get connected" in the community to housing options and an array of support service agencies as well as receive clinical and personal care, vaccinations, haircuts, new clothing, toiletries, income tax support, legal assistance and other services.

Pathways to Housing Outreach Team



Jen Mitchell, Josh Dyck, Stacey Hooper, Darcy Benzie, Lil Rauda, Lindsay Dartnell, Beth Glaister



Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)

City Council supported twenty four preventive social service programs through Family and Community Support Services. The funded agencies continue to evaluate their impact and clearly demonstrate they are making a positive difference in the lives of the citizens of Lethbridge.

Several exciting new projects were launched in 2009. They included Aboriginal Council of Lethbridge's Cultural Awareness and Competency Program. This initiative assisted community organizations in connecting with cultural awareness resources and enhanced services to Aboriginal (First Nations, Metis and Inuit) citizens. Opokaa'sin Early Intervention Society has been funded to provide North Star; a program that provides support, education, information and referral assistance to new Aboriginal residents and those new to parenting. Older adults gained access on site group support, counselling and education at both senior citizen centres. Another new program targets young women through the YWCA GirlSpace. This successful program was expanded to include learning practical skills which contributed to their ability to live more independently.



Lethbridge FCSS partnered to create the 2nd annual Seniors Safety Calendar. The calendar contains tips and preventive strategies for older adults to maintain safety and prevent victimization. The calendar promotes the newly formed Lethbridge Elder Abuse Response Network (LEARN); a collaboration of agencies who serve older residents and work together developing strategies for preventing and reducing elder abuse as well as supporting victims and their families.

Emergency Social Services

In the event of a disaster of mass casualty in our community, the CSD Group is responsible for the execution of the Emergency Social Services (ESS) Plan. This includes emergency preparedness planning in the community and providing agencies with information to assist with their preparation for emergency situations. Ongoing training and table top exercises are integral to our on-going ability to respond appropriately to a disaster situation as a city.

The ESS Team not only provided community education about emergency preparedness but also participated in emergency exercises, pandemic planning, business continuity development and response activities at both a provincial and local level.

Information Technology Services

The role of technology within the City has changed. Previously, technology was often seen as a tool, or another possible option to deliver services. In today's environment however, business units depend on technology to conduct business. Our citizen's expectations of the services we deliver often include functions that can only be provided effectively through the use of technology. Additionally, as technology within the industry continues to change at a rapid pace, our infrastructure must keep pace assuring we have the capacity to sustain, evolve, and improve the delivery of services. Most importantly, the technology required to deliver these services must function reliably and securely when it's needed.

In 2009, Information Technology Services met with all business units to collaboratively evaluate and improve our operations in order to effectively support their service delivery. Corporately we identified the following 5 themes that were used to collaboratively create our technology priorities for 2009. Some key activities under each theme have been highlighted.

Operational Service Improvement: ensure existing technology is managed proactively

- Created System Architecture and Continuity Plans for critical and enterprise systems such as: the Public Safety and Communications Centre – Fire/EMS Dispatch, and Corporate Geographic Information system



Technology as a Service: ensure technology investments are maintained and leveraged

- Reviewed our corporate workstation inventory and determined the appropriate time for replacement.
- Upgraded to Office 2007 with training to ensure employees were comfortable with the new software.
- Implemented changes to build the foundation necessary to support future web based technology and service delivery.



Enterprise Technology Management: integrate corporate wide technology to streamline business operations

- Information technology and the asset management team evaluated technology that interfaces assets to our financial, work order management and geographic information system to provide the information necessary to sustain and manage our assets in a proactive, and efficient manner.

Information Technology Services (continued)

Communication and Collaboration: provide more effective and efficient services by sharing/reporting information across business units through the use of technology

- Improved connectivity between the Geographic Information System and the cemetery in order to spatially display critical operational information.
- Reduced the amount of time spent and increased accuracy of keying time by interfacing the electric work order management system with our human resources system.



Role of IT: collaboratively partner with business units to prioritize and implement technology initiatives based on their business value thereby enhancing the level of services provided directly to our citizens

- Defined the Technology Strategy and Portfolio Management process which ensures project priorities are aligned with business priorities in a proactive and collaborative manner.
- Raised awareness and acknowledgement that although the business depends on technology, technology investment is more than a cost of doing business.

Strategy and Business Plan



Technology Investment Budgeted for 2009-2011: 15.5 Million Dollars

Technology Capital Investment and Reserves to be supported Annually: 22 Million Dollars

Total personal computers supported: 726

Total software applications supported: 200+

Total technology work orders completed in 2009: 8,693

Total Projects Requiring IT resources in 2009: 95

Parks

Henderson Lake Assessable Playground

Henderson Lake Accessible Playground **EVERY KIDS PARADISE** was opened in July of 2009. This playground leaves no child out and one we would consider a “main attraction” for kids. The bouncy, soft rubber surface, accessible ramps and transfer stations, and tons of neat play features gives children of all abilities an opportunity for fun. This project was funded in cooperation with RBC Dominion Securities, the Alberta Lottery Fund, the Alberta Tire Recycling Grant and the City of Lethbridge and was designed with the help of a group of local experts working in the field of disabilities.



Eight Playground Lifecycle Replacements

Eight play units were replaced in 2009. The aged equipment averaged over 31 years old and was replaced with equipment that complies with current safety standards. The eight play units lowered remaining noncompliant play units to 26 of our 117 playgrounds.

The locations for the play units are: Henderson Park East, Henderson Pool, Kiwanis Park, Labour Club Park, Laval Park, Norbridge Park, Princeton Park, and Sheridan Park.



New Playground for Fairmont Park

When the Fairmont homeowner association dissolved, funding was given to the City of Lethbridge to be used for the development of a new playground in the Fairmont Lake Park. This funding was matched with provincial grant funds and construction of the new playground was completed in 2009 to serve approximately 200 children living within walking distance of that park.



Indian battle Park Playground

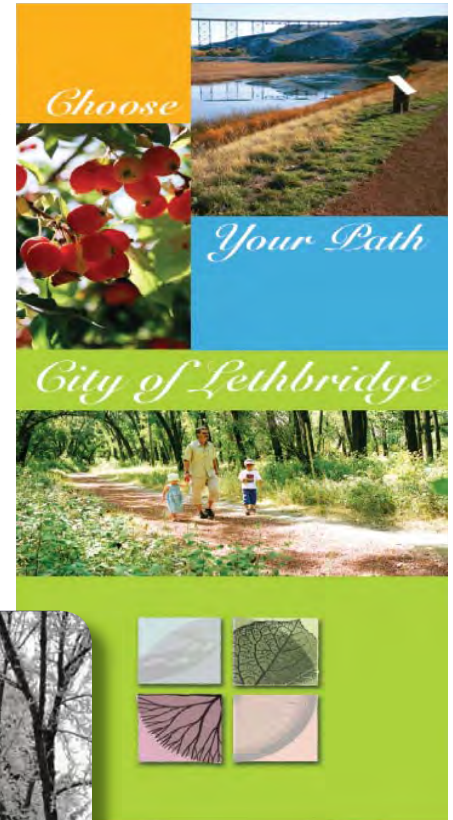
Indian Battle Park Natural Playground has been completed and is ready for action! This is not your ordinary playground. It was built to fit within the natural environment and surrounding landscape. This playground features a giant rock rattlesnake, a natural climbing wall, a massive spider web maze and beaver dam climber. This area is for social play and interactive games in nature. The snake also provides an outdoor classroom setting for the Nature Center programming.



Parks (Continued)

New Pathway Map

The City of Lethbridge, in cooperation with Alberta Health Services (formerly Chinook Health), Lethbridge Regional Police Services, and LA Transit have produced a Pathways Map titled "Choose Your Path". This map gives detailed information on the pathway system in Lethbridge as well as information on sharing the path, rules and regulations of the road, using your bike with the transit system, and healthy living.



Communities in Bloom

The City competed at a National level in the population category with 4 other cities in 2009. Hours of volunteer and staff time and effort contributed to a successful judges visit in July. The evaluation of the eight criteria yielded the highest rating of five out of five blooms to Lethbridge. In addition to the overall award Lethbridge won the national award for Urban Forestry. This award recognizes the skill and dedication of our Urban Forestry section in maintaining the urban forest.



Irrigation Radio Update

In the fall of 2007 the announcement came that the City Motorola radio communications system would be replaced. The result of this change was Parks would need to find a new communications solution to keep the irrigation in parks operating. Early in 2008 a consultant team identified solutions, investigated options, and created recommendations. In 2009 Carlyle and Company installed the stand alone 450 MHz radio communication system. The communications system is now more efficient and effective at data transfer and for accessing and controlling the irrigation equipment in the field using cell phone technology. The project was implemented \$100,000 under budget and best of all the staff are happy with the new system.



Parks Integration with the Corporate Development Process

In the past Parks has had a separate development process for working with Land Developers, which at times caused confusion and inefficiencies in the overall development process. In 2009 coordination with the mainstream urban development process was initiated. This integration has resulted in efficiencies and better working relations with our partners in the development industry.

Parks (Continued)

Crossings Park Phase 1 Completion

After three years of planning and two years of construction the first of two phases of park development was completed in 2009. This park was carefully designed to maximize storm water management requirements, meet the programming needs of two high schools and function as a Community Park in the new Crossings community. Phase two will be constructed in 2010 to complete this 7.6 million dollar project. The new park / school grounds will be opened in the fall of 2010 in conjunction with the new schools grand opening.



Street Tree Inventory Completion

The street tree inventory component of the urban forest was completed in 2009. This compliments the parks inventory completed in 2007 which included park tree numbers and condition ratings. Our urban forest consists of 18,500 park trees and 19,000 street trees. The components of the urban forest in the river valley and on private property are not part of the inventory project. This inventory will act as an essential data base in the new Urban Forestry software package being purchased and implemented in 2010. This management software will enhance the management of the urban forest in Lethbridge.



Inventory Growth in 2009

Growth in the parks system in 2009 came from six (6) new subdivision parks and one (1) roadway Enhancement project. Subdivision park development forms the foundation of the parks system. All new parks have been completed with grass, trees and shrubs, automatic underground irrigation, pathways and bench and garbage amenities. Some of the parks also have play units and are designed to be spread evenly throughout the city. Roadway Enhancement Projects have low maintenance dry land grasses with trees and shrubs complete with automatic irrigation. New Subdivision Parks are Jane Stafford Park, Elma Groves Park, Elizabeth McKillop Park, Sunridge Park, William Pierce Park and Mildred Dobbs Boulevard. The Roadway Enhancement Project is Whoop Up Drive Extension.



Completed Functional Plan for Pathway Expansion Project

As follow up to the Bikeways and Pathways Master Plan completed in 2007 a functional study looking at the details of construction for the highest priorities of pathways was completed. This study analyzes the details of the recommendations from the Master Plan in preparation for construction of approximately 25 kilometers of new pathway in Lethbridge. The new pathways represent critical links, connections and additions to the pathway system and corresponding street bikeway routes currently being planned. These two initiatives, guided by the Master Plan will advance the capabilities of the pathway system in meeting the growing demands placed on the Pathway System. Initially designed for recreation, the pathway system now faces pressures of emerging demands for alternative transportation, growing demands for organized running events as well as meeting the needs for recreational walking which has emerged as the highest recreational activity in Alberta.

Recreation & Culture

Public Art

"A Departure" is a public commissioned art display based on three types of driver train wheels that have crossed the Alberta CPR High Level Bridge over the past hundred years. The three aluminum sculptures were installed in 2009 during the Bridge's Centenary year and include a spoked driver wheel that would have crossed the bridge in 1909, a large driver wheel from the late 1930's and a modern driver engine wheel that is currently in service.

Halifax artist, Ilan Sandler, was chosen to create a legacy sculpture commemorating the 100th anniversary of the CPR High Level Bridge. The sculpture is located adjacent to the walk way running along the coulee top between the Galt Museum and 4th Avenue South.



Sport Development

Lethbridge is proud it now has its very own "Field of Dreams"! The City of Lethbridge, The University of Lethbridge, The Government of Alberta and numerous community user groups and athletes celebrated the official opening of the Community Sports Stadium.



Sandy Slavin, Executive Director of Athletics, Jeremy Girard, Student Union President, MLA Bridget Pastoor, Dr. Gary Bowie, Chairman Lethbridge Sports Bid Committee, Dr. Bill Cade, President of Lethbridge University, Pronghorn Luxie, MLA Barry McFarland, MLA Evan Berger, MLA Greg Weadick, Mayor Bob Tarleck



Showmobile

The City of Lethbridge is proud to announce the arrival of the Showmobile. This multipurpose staging unit will be seen at events and celebrations around the City in the years to come.

The Showmobile is an-all-in-one mobile performance system that creates a polished, high-profile performance environment for events of all kinds. The Showmobile features a full-scale, thrust-style stage with a cantilevered canopy and a state-of-the-art acoustical shell finished inside and outside.



CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Recreation and Culture Division added three new personalities to their team at the end of 2009. The new Community Services Director, General Manager and Program Manager are all warmly welcomed to the team!

Recreation & Culture (Continued)

Games In Lethbridge

The first ever **Alberta 55 Plus Winter Games** held in Lethbridge February 19-22, 2009 were an overwhelming success. The three days of competition and cultural celebrations saw our city play host to 1,070 participants from across Alberta who came to compete in 13 different activities.

Two years of preparation were required to host the event, at which over 800 volunteers helped feed, transport and host the participants and their spouses.



Sports Council

With the hiring of an Executive Director, the **Lethbridge Sport Council's** ability to provide services to the sport community has mushroomed. New activities include the submission of three major sport competition bids, facilitating the start up of a new Sprint Racing Canoe Club in Lethbridge, spearheading the Winter Ice-Sport Family Festival in conjunction with the Olympic Torch Relay, gathering sport input for the Plan Your City Ideas Fair, completion of over 100 Lethbridge Sport Surveys by sport organizations and designing a new website.

What's New

Planning is well underway for a new **Twin Ice Rink** facility for the City of Lethbridge. Site planning, architectural drawings and user input is all moving forward to an anticipated opening date in the fall of 2012.

Discussions on the future of a new **Performing Arts Centre** for the City of Lethbridge began in 2009. Current stages are meant to evaluate community need and functionality of a new building.

The **Southern Alberta Art Gallery** renovation is underway! We all look forward to the completion of this beautiful project.

Project Planning



WHEELS TO WILDERNESS

Offered every Friday in July and August this free bus program provides opportunity for everyone in our community to access Indian Battle Park and the Lethbridge Nature Reserve. Over 200 people took part in this summer program.

Public Operations

Snow Removal



Heavy snowfall challenged Parks Operations crews with sidewalk clearing operations. Photos show city forces responding to a request to locate and uncover a sidewalk and bus stop buried under the vast amount of snow. Parks Operations are responsible for snow clearing of approximately 160 kilometers of sidewalk and pathways, which have been categorized according to priority.



Tree Pruning

City and City-contracted crews spend the winter months pruning approximately one thousand city boulevard trees annually. Our urban forest consists of 18,500 park trees and 19,000 street trees.



Graffiti Removal

The graffiti removal program that began in 2008 continued in 2009. The small crew of three veterans removed more than 2,500 "tags" from City-owned property and provided advice to citizens who were the victims of vandalism. Parks Operations worked closely with the Regional Police to reduce graffiti vandalism and to keep our city tidy and clean.



Public Operations (continued)

Turf Maintenance

Parks Operations is responsible for the care and maintenance of approximately 500 hectares of irrigated turf. The proper maintenance of turf can conserve water requirements while still producing good plant health. Accelerated turf management practices include aeration, fertilization, over seeding, top dressing and grass recycling. A healthy lawn is part of a healthy urban environment.



The Cancer Ribbon is located at Henderson Lake Park in the Avon garden. This site is a beautiful tribute to many breast cancer survivors, those who have lost the battle, as well as all their families and friends. Having the ribbon close to the many special events held nearby is a great way to have fun, build community spirit and join the fight against cancer.



Storm Water Ponds

The City of Lethbridge is committed to maintaining a beautiful, natural appearance in man-made water features throughout the city. Parks Operations take a natural approach to create a balanced and healthy ecological environment, using only the safest and most environmentally-friendly methods possible. One of these methods is the use of lake aerators that integrate dissolved oxygen into the water, facilitating the natural breakdown of decaying vegetation while also improving the quality of your water for fish, irrigation, and many other purposes.



Infrastructure Services

In 2009, the annual rail program continued to maintain an aging system costing \$400k. Two major road/rail crossings were rebuilt as well as replacing sections of the railway system in the north industrial railway network.

The City of Lethbridge teamed up with three businesses to rebuild/repair the switch sections of the rail sidings (access for rails cars to business) in a cost sharing partnership pilot project.

New railway ties, rail ballast, and hardware were upgraded in key sections of the City of Lethbridge owned track.



The Whoop-Up Drive and McMaster Boulevard West upgrade project started construction in 2009 under the Capital Improvement Program. This project will improve the function and safety of the roadway and restore an acceptable level of service, as well as adding new lighting, pathways and landscaping to the road right of way.

The project was funded from the City of Lethbridge Capital Improvement Program totaling \$3.5 million and will be completed in 2009.



Infrastructure Services (Continued)



Mayor Magrath Drive

The 2009, Sidewalk Renewal Program began April 1st and was completed the end of November. Sidewalk renewals are picked using the Sidewalk Inventory System which rates all sidewalks within the City of Lethbridge. This inventory system allows the City of Lethbridge to maintain safe and quality sidewalks.



In 2009 the City of Lethbridge renewed 1,400 meters of separate sidewalk, 1,000 meters of curb, 1,500 meters of combined sidewalk and 800 m² of slab sidewalk and 1,500 m² of wheelchair ramps. Also included was 700 m² of paving stone maintenance in the downtown core, and sidewalk grinding covering 10,000 locations throughout the City of Lethbridge.



The City of Lethbridge overlaid 70,990 m² of arterial roadways along with 22,264 m² of local roadways and 29,336 m² of collector roadways in 2009. Locations are targeted using the Municipal Pavement Management System that relies on a database of condition assessments to determine the roadway sections to be maintained. Currently, the analysis done indicates the road network within the City of Lethbridge is in excellent condition.



Infrastructure Services (Continued)



12th Street & 2A Avenue North
Water main renewal

Renewal Projects: Each year some of the aging or poor performing underground infrastructure is replaced.

In 2009, three watermain renewal projects were delivered for \$1,000,000, two sanitary sewer replacement projects were completed for \$350,000, and four projects enhanced the stormwater system for \$350,000.



Water main repair 43rd Street South



In 2009, crews repaired
46 water main breaks.



Water main repair Scenic Drive South



5th Street & 6th Avenue South catch basin



Sanitary main renewal 2nd Avenue South

System Repairs: Water and Wastewater Operations respond to failures in the underground system all year round. These system failures include watermain breaks, sanitary sewer blockages, and collapsed gravity sewers.



Infrastructure Services (Continued)

Wastewater Treatment Plant

Wastewater Treatment Plant Outfall Twinning: This \$800,000 project provides capacity needed during peak flow events by installing a second large diameter pipe to deliver treated effluent from the wastewater treatment plant to the Oldman River.



Protective Plumbing Program

The City of Lethbridge Protective Plumbing Program is in response to property damage from sewer backup during the rainfall event on July 1, 2008. The voluntary program installs backwater valves and sump pumps into basements that have experienced sewer backup. About 50 of the 356 homes currently enrolled in the program were retrofitted with protective plumbing fixtures in 2009. The program is expected to continue into 2011.



High water table before, mainline clean-out and weeping tile trap, and the after, new sump pump and mainline backwater valve as well as a normal closed valve on the floor drain



Infrastructure Services (Continued)

Electric Operations

A new 13,800 circuit breaker arrangement installed at West Lethbridge substation. This upgrade doubled the number of distribution access points available to service customers in the growing West Lethbridge area.



A new power transformer was lowered onto a concrete pad at the West Lethbridge Substation. This addition doubles the amount of power available for delivery to existing and new customers in West Lethbridge.



All electrical protection relays were upgraded at the West Lethbridge substation in conjunction with the capacity upgrades at the site. These new electrical protections watch over the power infrastructure both at the substation and in the distribution system to ensure that faults are removed from service as quickly as possible to protect equipment and the public from harm.



Length of Open Roads
Length Wastewater Mains

784 Kilometers
467 Kilometers

Length Water Mains
Storm Drainage

550 Kilometers
446 Kilometers

Waste & Recycling Services

Automated Waste Collection Cart Deployment – Phase 2

In June of 2009, Waste & Recycling Services completed the second and final phase of the delivery and implementation of automated waste collection carts and service to all Lethbridge households. Ten thousand Lethbridge households were mailed an information pamphlet and had the opportunity to attend information sessions held throughout the city to ensure a smooth transition from the manual waste collection service to the new automated service.

The automated waste collection system benefits City residents and employees in a number of ways. Residents' collection day remains on the same day every week and residents are no longer required to do heavy lifting with their bags or garbage cans. The carts are easy to manoeuvre and keep animals out of garbage, reducing litter. Clutter in alleyways and streets has been greatly reduced. For City waste collection staff, one of the most important benefits has been that the exposure to injury from fatigue and lifting or from handling dangerous and infectious waste has been reduced, if not eliminated. Only 1 day of lost time was claimed in 2009 due to waste collection activities in contrast to the hundreds of days of lost time claims made in previous years.



The automated waste collection system has proven a success in supporting Waste & Recycling Services' purpose to maintain a clean and healthy urban environment for the Lethbridge community.



Residential Fall Leaf Collection Program

In the fall of 2009, the City of Lethbridge introduced a new Residential Fall Leaf Collection Program during the months of October and November. The annual program provides for two passes through residential neighborhoods to collect leaves in paper yard waste bags during the months of October and November. The program offers residents an opportunity to divert leaves from the waste stream as well as offers residents another choice for managing their leaves.

The leaves and the paper bags they are collected in are composted through the program. Four thousand households utilized the Fall Leaf Collection Program, diverting 125 tonnes of leaves from the landfill at the Waste & Recycling Centre.

An unlimited number of paper bags may be set out for collection under the Residential Fall Leaf Collection Program in October and November.



A sample paper bag with information about the program was delivered to every household in Lethbridge prior to the implementation of the program.

Waste & Recycling Services (Continued)

Yard Waste Recycling Site

On June 27, 2009, Waste & Recycling Services opened a new centralized Yard Waste Recycling Site located at the 700 block of 3rd Ave North. The site was constructed to manage increasing demand on the yard waste recycling program and to offer residential customers a higher level of service. The new site allows the City to expand its yard waste recycling program to include branches up to eight inches in diameter in addition to grass, leaves and garden waste. With the Yard Waste Recycling Site, high volumes of yard waste and branches may be managed in an efficient and cost effective manner.



Branches up to 8 inches in diameter are collected and chipped at the Yard Waste Recycling Site.



Garden waste, grass and leaves are accepted for composting at the Yard Waste Recycling Site.



Free wood chips and firewood are available as supply allows at the Yard Waste Recycling Site.

Yard waste collected at the site, including grass, leaves, garden waste and branches are recycled into beneficial compost and wood fiber mulch. These products are reused in city parks and facilities and are available to residents for use in their yards and flower beds.

Residents diverted 240 tonnes of grass, leaves and garden waste and 110 tonnes of branches from the landfill through the new Yard Waste Recycling Site. A total of 520 tonnes of grass, leaves and garden waste was diverted from the landfill through the 3 distributed sites and the new Yard Waste Recycling Site combined, in 2009.

Lethbridge Home & Garden Show

The Oldman Watershed Council's Urban Team and Prairie Urban Garden participated in the Home and Garden Show in 2009. Large displays featured water conservation tips and information on xeriscaping. Many great prizes were enjoyed including rain barrels, backyard composters and vermicomposting kits.



Waste & Recycling Services (Continued)

Waste & Recycling Centre



In October of 2009 the City of Lethbridge officially renamed the landfill, formerly known as the Lethbridge Regional Landfill, the Waste & Recycling Centre. The rebranding of the landfill was to mark enhancements made at the site to improve safety, convenience, tidiness and accessibility.

Enhancements at the centre included a new indoor tipping area so that the site may stay open during windy weather, the addition of another weigh scale to reduce lineups, new baling equipment used during windy operations to wrap waste and reduce blowing litter in and around the site and a new compost pad for processing yard waste from the Yard Waste Recycling Site and Residential Fall Leaf Collection Program.

Enhancements at the Waste & Recycling Centre improve safety, convenience, tidiness and accessibility. Pictured in the background is the building with the new indoor tipping area.

The layout of the Recycling Area at the centre was improved to provide residents with a more convenient, tidy and safe environment to drop off their household hazardous waste (HHW), electronic waste (e-waste) and paint for safe disposal and recycling. In 2009, 84 tonnes of HHW, 268 tonnes of e-waste and 120 drums of paint were safely disposed of or recycled through the programs at the Waste & Recycling Centre.



The Waste & Recycling Centre enhancements are in support of the desired outcome of City Council's Environmental Policy and Plan: to contain or reduce the community's total impact on the environment. The enhancements support City Council's vision to be a healthy, attractive and economically viable city.

When you bring in your used oil it is put in the barrel pictured below and your oil container is recycled.



Electronic waste (E-waste) collection tent in the Recycling Area



New baling equipment wraps waste in plastic before it is put in the landfill to reduce blowing litter in and around the site.



Used paint collection in Recycling Area



Dual scales at the Waste & Recycling Centre help reduce lineups.

Environmental Services

Pitch-In



The City of Lethbridge and Communities in Bloom partnered up once again in 2009. The Pitch-In program focuses on collecting litter in the community at school grounds, parks, businesses and commercial and residential areas. Over 1200 people from the Lethbridge community helped collect litter through the Pitch-In program in 2009.



A wind up barbeque was held in Galt Gardens at the end of Pitch-In week to thank volunteers for their participation in the program. It was a beautiful sunny day and over 200 people, young and old, came out to enjoy the band, "Who's Yer Daddy", and to help pick up litter in and around Galt Gardens park.



Earth Day was once again celebrated in conjunction with Pitch-In by having a day where residents were encouraged to BYOC (Bring Your Own Cup) to local, participating businesses in return for a reduced price for beverages. Over 50 businesses participated in the 2009 BYOC campaign, demonstrating that Lethbridge businesses do their part to reduce waste in their community. This was integrated well with the Pitch-In program as the BYOC initiative reduced the amount of plastic, styrofoam and paper cups in use that have the potential to end up as litter in Lethbridge.

Environment Week

Environment Week promotes the work Albertans do year-round to protect and sustain the environment and provides opportunities to learn more about environmental stewardship.

The Environment Week 2009 overall theme was to connect, protect and conserve land. Residents were invited to attend an Information, Film and Snack night at City Hall. Environmental displays for viewing throughout the evening highlighted the work that local stewardship groups do in Lethbridge.

Environmental Services (Continued)

Alberta Environment, the Alberta Conservation Team (ACT), the Helen Schuler Nature Centre, Prairie Urban Garden, the Prairie Conservation Forum, the Canadian Cancer Society, Alberta Health Services (formerly Chinook Health), Yellow Fish Road™ and the City of Lethbridge all had booths set up for a mini trade show featuring information on wildlife, health, resource conservation, water quality, xeriscaping and much more. The event was catered with snacks from locally produced food sources where possible and was zero waste.



During Environment Week 2009, May 31st to June 6, Lethbridge citizens biked for clean air, learned about the biological control of weeds, watched inspiring films about gardening, feeding and strengthening communities, geocached (searched for hidden treasures using GPS units) and learned about aquaculture.



Yellow Fish Road™

Once again, the City of Lethbridge partnered with Trout Unlimited Canada and the Oldman Watershed Council in 2009 to raise awareness about stormwater pollution through the Yellow Fish Road™ program.

Over 600 youth from the Lethbridge community painted over 200 storm drains. The youth use stencils to paint yellow fish by storm drains and then distribute door hangers that let residents know about the new yellow fish symbols in their neighborhood and what they stand for. The program educates and raises awareness about the fact that stormwater; the water washed down the curb on our streets from our yard, is not treated and runs straight in to the Oldman River. Stormwater can carry the soaps, detergents, oil and antifreeze that we use in or on our vehicles and the pesticides and fertilizers that we use on our lawn and gardens.



Lakeview School, the Lethbridge 15th Girl Guides and Pathfinders, Nicholas Sheran School, YWCA's Girl's Club, Lethbridge Immigrant Services and the Helen Schuler Nature Centre's Extreme by Nature - Teen Group enthusiastically participated in the program, helping raise awareness about stormwater pollution in Lethbridge.

12 Green Days of Christmas

The City of Lethbridge, again in 2009, invited residents to help celebrate the 12 Green Days of Christmas by thinking outside the gift box during the holiday season. The program, held from December 1 – 12, encourages Lethbridge residents to reduce waste and their impact on the environment while enjoying the holidays. Environmental Services shared 12 different fun and festive gift ideas that promote the 3R's (reduce, reuse, recycle), save energy, reduce emissions and support the local economy.

Residents were invited to submit their ideas for making the season greener in order to win a Green Gift Basket filled with some of the green gift ideas promoted in the program. The program was a great success with over 100 people submitting their green gift ideas on how they planned to reduce their impact on the environment during the Christmas season.



Mayor Bob Tarleck presented the lucky winner of over 100 entries, Suzanne Petryshyn, with a gift basket filled with green gift ideas.

Real Estate & Land Development

RESIDENTIAL

RiverStone continues to be Lethbridge's most popular residential subdivision development. In 2009 the City released 43 lots in Phase 15; to date 40 of the 43 lots have been sold. This brings the total number of developed lots to 725 since the subdivision started in 2000.



In 2010, RiverStone will see Phase 13 (64 lots) released for sale in the spring to early summer. Phase 13 will be a continuation of lot product that the public has seen in previous phases.



The starter home market is presently a big draw in Lethbridge and SunRidge has been well positioned to respond to this demand in 2009. To date 309 lots have been developed which includes both single family and duplex lots. The subdivision has also seen the construction of two multi-family sites that are nearing completion.

The Living Home project which was a partnership between the City of Lethbridge, Lethbridge College and Cedar Ridge Quality Homes was completed in 2009. The project focused on evaluating products and building practices that demonstrated a high level of energy efficiency for a single family house in Lethbridge's climate. The project won three awards: the Partnership Award presented by Alberta Municipal Affairs; the Award of Merit presented by the Alberta Home Builders Association and the Award of Recognition for Excellence in Innovation presented by SouthGrow Regional Initiative.



Steven Dyck, Executive Director of Advancement Lethbridge College; Lonny Hoy, President Cedar Ridge Quality Homes; Mark Bohnert, Instructor Engineering Technologies Lethbridge College; Michael Kelly, Real Estate and Land Manager City of Lethbridge



The Crossings continues to prepare for the opening of the two high schools and the Westside Public Library. The sports fields have been irrigated and sod has been installed along with baseball diamonds, tennis courts and basketball courts. The City will continue detailed planning for the residential and commercial components of the subdivision.

BUSINESS & INDUSTRIAL



All servicing is complete in Sherring Business and Industrial park. Sales have been slow this past year with only one transaction for 0.63 acres totaling \$102,000. The City of Lethbridge will continue to work with other entities such as Economic Development Lethbridge to promote industrial growth in Lethbridge.

Economic Development



County of Lethbridge and City of Lethbridge Partner to Create New Airport Enhancement and Marketing Initiative



In September 2009 the City of Lethbridge and County of Lethbridge Councils held a special joint meeting where a Memorandum of Understanding was signed to initiate a joint effort to proactively promote and market Lethbridge County Airport to increase aviation services and airside business development.

The new Airport Enhancement and Marketing Initiative (AEMI) will be led by a joint Steering Committee of the two councils and will focus on activities to promote the airport. The Councils are working together to achieve the airport vision of a modern, thriving air service centre providing the southern Alberta community with a gateway to the world.

The overall goals of the Initiative are to:

- Enhance air services to and from the Lethbridge County Airport to ensure the provision of relevant air service that meets the needs of the communities and citizens of the region
- Diversify and increase the Airport's revenue base in support of air service and airside enhancement
- Maintain the community role of the Airport

Councils are investing \$250,000 per year, over the next three years, (80% City/20% County) to achieve the airport vision.

Triple M Housing Builds State of the Art Innovation Centre In Sherring Business & Industrial Park

In 2009 Triple M Housing completed a State of the Art Innovation Centre that doubles the production capacity of their previous plant, gives them the ability to build a wider range of product to meet the design and budget needs of all home buyers, and increases their capability to construct buildings to meet the needs of commercial developers.

It replaces the manufactured home builder's previous facility in the Lethbridge County Airport that was destroyed by fire in the fall of 2007. Construction on the new 120,000-square-foot building began early in 2008 after the company bought a 26-acre parcel of land from the City of Lethbridge in Sherring Business & Industrial Park.

At the time of the fire, the company had 450 employees and was producing about 15 homes per week with one daily shift of workers. The efficient, updated design and equipment in the new facility will allow the company to maintain its current staffing level and produce up to 25 homes a week with one shift. It will have room to add up to 200 more employees if demand for its products increases.

Triple M Housing's mission is to contribute towards the wellbeing of North American Society through the endless pursuit of excellence in designing and building the most comfortable and highest value new housing for home buyers.



City of Lethbridge supports Alberta International Air Show hosted at Lethbridge County Airport

Since 1991 the City of Lethbridge has financially supported the Alberta International Airshow providing a variety of City services from tables to generators to fire protection. Each year this show attracts more than 30,000 visitors and residents, adding approximately \$4 million to the local economy.

Special for 2009 was the landing of the first 747 at Lethbridge County Airport and the return of the Canadian Forces Snowbirds. As well, 2009 was the 100 Anniversary of Powered Flight in Canada. To salute this milestone, the show included a variety of different era planes from a pre-World War II open cockpit Stearman biplane to modern day fighters and water bombers. As in the past, it was another fantastic Airshow weekend in Lethbridge. The weather cooperated, the pilots all performed and landed safely, the spectators were thrilled.



Audit Committee

Lethbridge City Council is responsible for ensuring that City Administration fulfils its responsibilities for financial reporting, internal control and risk management. To assist City Council with these responsibilities, a City Council appointed Audit Committee has been established, primarily to:

- Monitor the Internal Controls over Financial Reporting (ICFR) including the policies, procedures and internal control mechanisms in place to ensure the accuracy, completeness and timely preparation of the City's financial reports and financial statements
- Monitor the independence and performance of the Auditors
- Provide an avenue of communication among City Council, Administration and the Auditors
- Identify and monitor the principal risks that could impact financial reporting of the City
- Oversee risk management including risk identification, analysis and management's procedures to minimize the City's exposure to loss

The City's Audit Committee oversees the activities of the external auditors to help ensure Administration's accountability to Council. The Audit Committee reviews the audit plan, year-end audit results, summary of audit differences, the Auditors' report and the management letter. To fulfill the City's provincially legislated audit requirements, the Committee engaged the external auditor, KPMG LLP who carried out the audit of the City of Lethbridge's financial statements, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. The external auditors have full and unrestricted access to the Audit Committee to discuss their audit and related findings, as to the integrity of the City's financial statements and related processes.

Other key activities completed by the Audit Committee during the year included:

- Considered internal controls and financial risks facing the City, including information technology systems
- Reviewed annual financial statements, discussed these with Administration and Auditors and recommended approval to City Council
- Discussed the appropriateness of accounting principles, critical accounting policies and management judgments and estimates
- Reviewed legal matters with the City Solicitor
- Reviewed financial personnel succession planning
- Reviewed Year End Unaudited Financial Information and Schedules
- Reviewed significant financial policies, including the Investment Policy
- Reviewed evaluations of proposals for audit services and made recommendation to City Council to award audit services for a three year period
- Discussed upcoming accounting regulation changes, including the new financial reporting model and tangible capital assets, and their impact on 2009 financial reporting

The Audit Committee membership consists of the Mayor and four Council members, one of whom acts as an alternate.

Audit Committee maintains formal and comprehensive Terms of Reference which it reviews, at a minimum, in April in the year of a municipal election to ensure they reflect best governance practices.

Rajko Dodic
Alderman
Chairman, Audit Committee
April 30, 2010

Report from the Chief Financial Officer

For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

**His Worship, Mayor R. D. Tarleck
And Members of Council of the
City of Lethbridge**

The City of Lethbridge's 2009 Annual Report provides information to taxpayers and other members of the public about the City's 2009 financial performance. In addition, this report describes some of the City's major financial policies, provides an assessment of the City's general economic condition and highlights some of our accomplishments.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The financial statements of the City of Lethbridge and all other information contained in the annual report are prepared and presented by management, which is responsible for their accuracy, objectivity and completeness. The responsibility includes presenting the statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for local governments and in conformance to the requirements of the Municipal Government Act of the Province of Alberta. The preparation of the statements necessarily involves the use of estimates, which are made using careful judgment.

Management is responsible for maintaining a system of internal controls designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the reliability of financial information and the safeguarding of assets.

City Council has the ultimate responsibility for these financial statements. City Council oversees management's responsibilities for financial reporting through an Audit Committee, which is composed of the Mayor, and four aldermen, one of whom acts as an alternate. The Audit Committee reviews the financial statements and recommends them to City Council for approval.

To carry out its duties, the Audit Committee reviews the annual financial statements, as well as issues related to them. The Audit Committee also assesses the effectiveness of internal controls over the accounting and financial reporting systems. The Audit Committee's review of financial reports includes an assessment of key management estimates and judgments material to the financial results.

KPMG_{LLP}, the external auditor appointed by City Council has audited our financial statements. They have full unrestricted access to the Audit Committee to discuss their findings, including the fairness of financial reporting and the adequacy of internal controls.

Report from the Chief Financial Officer (Continued)

OPERATING RESULTS

December 31, 2009, marks the end of the first year of the City of Lethbridge's three year budget cycle (for the years 2009 to 2011). Under the three year budget cycle, Business Units are expected to operate within their approved 36 month budget. As reflected in the Summary of Fiscal Principles, Practices and Policies, if there is a shortfall in the first year, Business Units are expected to overcome the deficit by adjusting expenditures in the following years (2010-2011); and if the first year of operations result in a net surplus, the Business Units have the ability to carry over the surplus to assist their operations in the next 24 months. As part of this model, any corporate surplus from 2009 is transferred to the Municipal Revenue Stabilization Reserve (MRSR).

General operations generated a 2009 Corporate surplus of \$1.2 million (2008 – \$2.1 million). The largest contributions to this surplus were higher than budgeted property tax growth, lower than budgeted fuel costs, and lower than anticipated costs for employee benefits. This surplus will be transferred to the MRSR.

For 2009, the Utility operations experienced a surplus of \$0.6 million (2008 – \$2.6 million). This surplus was primarily attributable to favourable variances in residential waste collection and in Electric Utility Distribution Tariff.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

The 2008-2017 Capital Improvement Program is the largest ever for the City of Lethbridge with projects totalling over \$260 million for 2008 through 2010. During 2009, \$64 million (2008, \$80.8 million) was expended on capital. A summary of the most significant expenditures during 2009 is as follows:

ENMAX Facility Enhancement	\$7,331,400
Fire & EMS Headquarter Facility	6,914,700
Subdivision development *	
Residential Subdivisions (SunRidge, RiverStone. The Crossings)	\$5,492,500
Sherring Business and Industrial Park	<u>570,300</u>
	6,062,800
Downtown IGA Site	4,532,700
Public Operations Facility Project	3,705,700
West Lethbridge Centre-Library	3,395,400
City Spatial Requirements Project	2,944,900
West Lethbridge Center – integrated storm management / sports fields	2,400,700
Landfill Approval Compliance	2,037,400
Traffic & Pedestrian Signals	1,653,300
Playgrounds	1,584,900
111S2 Rebuilt New Electric Feeder	1,407,500
FIRE/EMS Radio Infrastructure Renewal	1,210,600
2009 Arterials	1,126,700
2009 Water Main Renewals	1,091,900
28 St N (Mayor Magrath Drive to 26 Avenue)	1,039,800
SAAG Building Rehabilitation and Upgrade	978,000
West Lethbridge Electric Substation -additional capacity & upgrade	793,500
Copperwood Park	774,900
674S Electric Transformer Protection Upgrade	603,800
Wastewater Treatment Plant Outfall Twinning	599,000

Report from the Chief Financial Officer (Continued)

FINANCIAL POLICIES

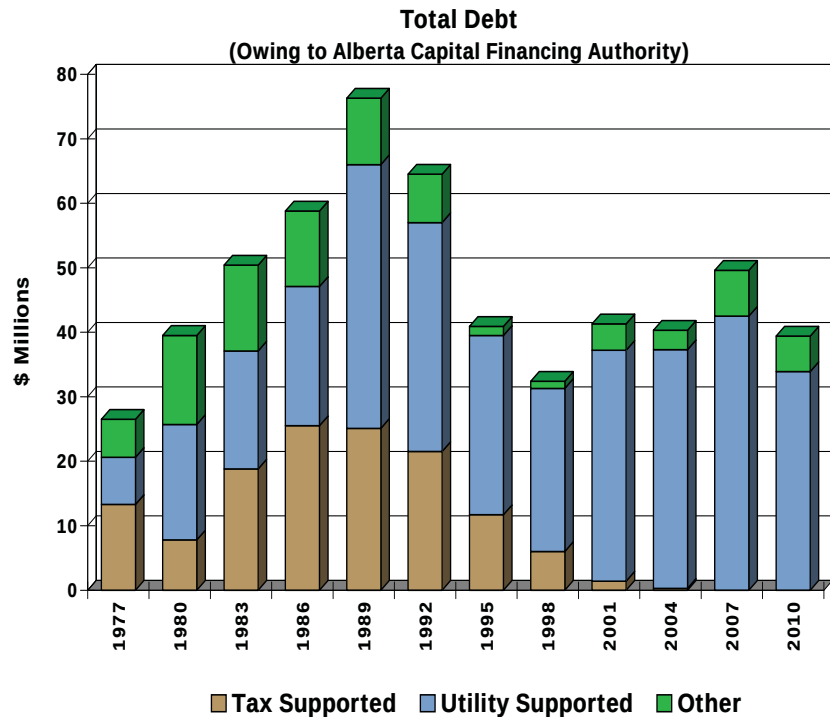
Lethbridge has a proven track record of prudent, yet innovative financial management. Over the past several years Council has adopted several long-term financial policies necessary to ensure that the City of Lethbridge continues to offer an attractive tax and utility rate environment to businesses and our citizens. These policies have been included in a compendium document called "Summary of Fiscal Principles, Practices, and Policies".

Debt Management / Pay-As-You-Go

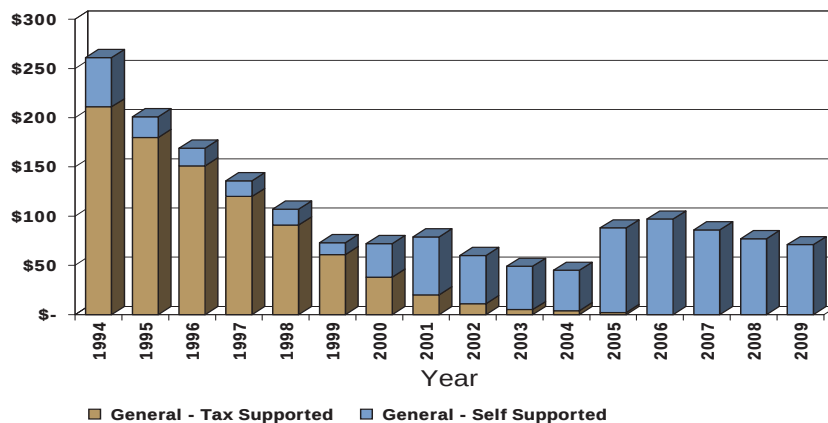
During the period of high growth/investment in the late 1970's and 1980's, the City borrowed extensively to fund these capital costs. Our debt peaked in 1989 at a level of \$76.9 million. In 1989, City Council adopted a policy of Pay-As-You-Go financing for general municipal (non-utility) capital expenditures. A complementary policy was that of utilizing City reserves to internally finance larger capital works. Since these policies were introduced, no additional tax supported debentures have been issued, and Lethbridge became free of its tax supported debt in May 2006.

The general fund continues to require external borrowing for "self supported" activities such as Local Improvements, Land Development, and Developer Offsite Levy projects. These activities are termed self supported because the debt repayments are made directly from the revenues of these activities and are not paid from property taxes.

Under this program, the level of capital expenditure is controlled; however, because maintenance is recognized as a high priority, the City's existing infrastructure and facilities are not being compromised. During this time frame, the City has also completed a number of significant capital projects including a new City Hall, a new Police Station, Indoor Soccer Complex, Museum Expansion Cogeneration facility at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, replacement of the river valley Electrical Substation, and several significant roadway improvements, including Mayor Magrath Drive and University Drive widening.



Debt per Capita General Fund

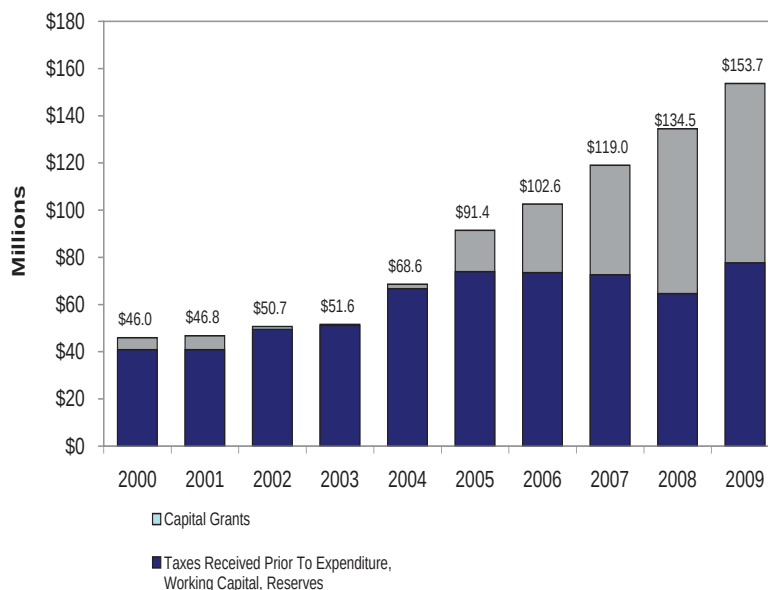


Report from the Chief Financial Officer (Continued)

INVESTMENT POLICY

The City of Lethbridge uses investments to provide a return on public funds while they are held by the City. The investment portfolio consists of reserves, capital funds, Provincial and Federal grants, and operating funds. These funds are invested between the time of their receipt and their use to maximize the opportunity of investment returns to the City of Lethbridge. The timing of these transactions, as well as the size of reserves and the amount of internal financing approved are the main factors influencing the size of the investment portfolio. The increase in the average portfolio in recent years is due to the receipt of various capital grants.

Average Portfolio Size



Canadian Award for Financial Reporting

Presented to
City of Lethbridge
Alberta

For its Annual
Financial Report
for the Year Ended
December 31, 2008

A Canadian Award for Financial Reporting is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada to government units whose annual financial reports achieve the highest program standards for Canadian Government accounting and financial reporting.



[Signature]
President
[Signature]
Jeffrey L. Esser
Executive Director

CANADIAN AWARD FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

For the thirteenth consecutive year, the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada presented the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting to the City of Lethbridge for its annual financial report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008. The Canadian Award for Financial Reporting program was established to encourage municipal governments throughout Canada to publish high quality financial reports and to provide peer recognition and technical guidance for officials preparing these reports.

In order to be awarded a Canadian Award for Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized annual financial report, whose contents conform to program standards. Such reports should go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles and demonstrate an effort to clearly communicate the municipal government's financial picture, enhance an understanding of financial reporting by municipal governments, and address user needs.

The Canadian Award for Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting program requirements. As part of our continuing effort to achieve reporting excellence, we will submit this 2009 annual financial report to the GFOA for review.

Report from the Chief Financial Officer (Continued)

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

2009 showed that once again the Lethbridge economy was relatively stable compared to other Alberta and Canadian communities. While Lethbridge is not free from the economic downturn impacting North America, the local economic situation has remained stronger than many parts of Canada and the world.

In relative terms Lethbridge has good employment levels with unemployment rates for the region at 5.4% for December 2009 (2008 4.2%) which compares very favourably to the national average of 8.5% (2008 6.6%).

New housing starts in Lethbridge totalled 907 for 2009. While this was a decrease of 7.5% from 2008, it was still the third highest annual measure in the decade and represents a return to more sustainable levels of development.

Business bankruptcies in Lethbridge have been declining steadily since 2002 and in 2009 there was not a single business bankruptcy in Lethbridge! In fact, the number of licensed businesses increased by 5.8% during 2009 to a total of 5,284 (2008 4,993). Lethbridge continues to be a great place to do business.

Lethbridge is known as a community that experiences sustainable, steady growth over the long term. While the economic situation buffeting many parts of Canada and the world is also felt here, Lethbridge continues to experience relatively low unemployment and overall growth which bodes well for the economic future of our community and those who call it home.

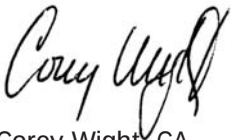
CONCLUSION

2009 is the first year of our 2009-2011 operating budget. The operating results achieved by our business units both in terms of financial responsibility and services provided are outstanding. Lethbridge residents continue to enjoy a very high level of service provided at a reasonable cost due to the efforts of staff at all levels in over fifty business units.

The financial position of the City of Lethbridge is very strong, with consolidated net financial assets of \$30 million (2008 \$25 million). This enviable position is a direct result of City Council continuing to follow long standing and sound financial policies.

The combination of sound financial policies and prudent planning place the City of Lethbridge in an excellent position to face any challenges and take advantage of opportunities that will arise. In short, the City of Lethbridge will continue to be an outstanding place to live, work, and play!

Respectfully submitted,



Corey Wight, CA
Director of Corporate Services/City Treasurer
April 30, 2010



Audited Financial Statements



Management Report

The 2009 Annual Report of the City of Lethbridge, including the financial statements, is the responsibility of management.

The financial statements are prepared by management, using the accounting principles disclosed in the notes to these statements. They include some amounts that are based on the best estimates and judgements of management. Financial data elsewhere in the report is consistent with that in the financial statements.

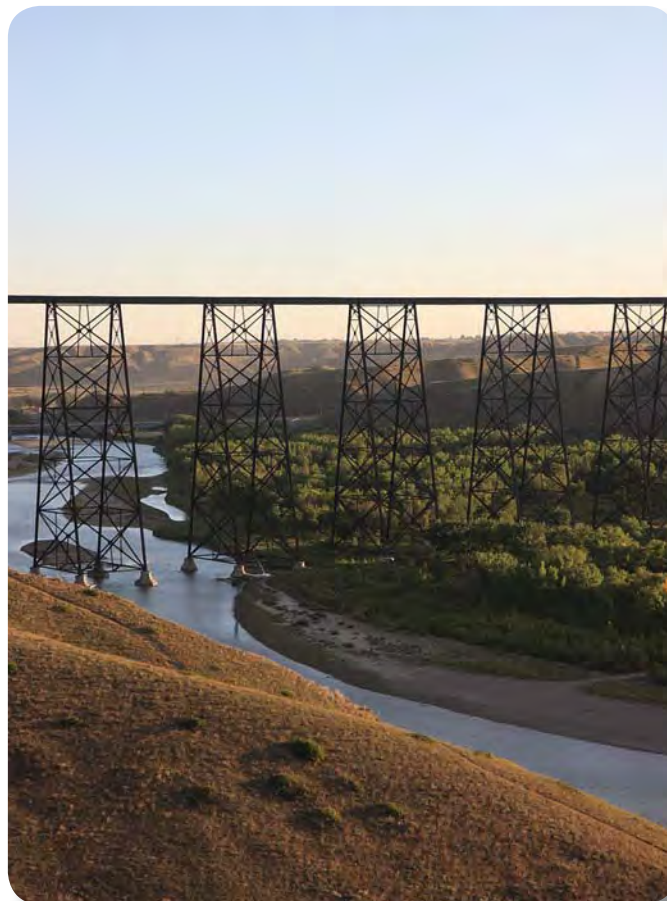
To assist in its responsibility, management maintains accounting, budget and other controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are appropriately authorized, that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded, and that financial records are reliable for preparation of financial statements.

City Council fulfils its responsibility for financial reporting through its Audit Committee. The Audit Committee consists of the Mayor and four Aldermen, one of whom acts as an alternate, who meet to review financial controls and reporting matters.

KPMG_{LLP} has been appointed by City Council to express an opinion on the City's consolidated financial statements. Their report follows.



Corey Wight, CA
Director of Corporate Services/City Treasurer
April 30, 2010



Auditors' Report

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council of
The City of Lethbridge

We have audited the consolidated statement of financial position of the City of Lethbridge as at December 31, 2009 and the consolidated statements of operations, change in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the municipality's management. 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 the City of Lethbridge as at December 31, 2009 and the results of its financial activities and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

KPMG LP

Chartered Accountants
Lethbridge, Canada
April 30, 2010



Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

		2009	2008 (Restated Note 2)
FINANCIAL ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	Note 3	\$ 49,481	\$ 35,473
Investments	Note 4	148,497	149,858
Receivables	Note 5	24,567	26,794
Loans and advances		273	331
Deposits		1,675	1,037
Land held for resale		63	257
		224,556	213,750
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	Note 6	30,004	29,334
Employee benefit obligations	Note 7	11,032	11,943
Deferred revenue	Note 8	97,580	89,819
Deposits and other liabilities		9,303	7,763
Agreements payable	Note 9	-	273
Debenture debt	Note 10	46,137	49,886
		194,056	189,018
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS		30,500	24,732
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS			
Inventory held for consumption		6,945	6,590
Prepaid expenses		1,066	581
Land held for resale		26,550	29,547
Tangible capital assets	Note 12, Schedule 3	766,312	719,389
		800,873	756,107
MUNICIPAL EQUITY		\$ 831,373	\$ 780,839

Commitments note 21.

Contingent liabilities note 25.

Consolidated Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

		2009	Budget (Unaudited)	2008 (Restated Note 2)
REVENUE				
Sales and user charges		\$ 122,497	\$ 121,516	\$ 121,628
Net taxes	Schedule 2	79,393	79,080	73,586
Government transfers	Note 19	43,695	43,128	27,850
Sale of land		8,506	-	23,268
Fines		4,631	4,970	4,727
Gas company franchise fee		3,454	2,693	3,037
Licenses and permits		3,286	3,794	3,550
Special municipal levies		3,262	3,281	2,944
Return on investments		2,266	3,825	3,807
Contributed assets		1,313	-	12,609
Other		8,749	6,914	10,340
Total revenue		281,052	269,201	287,346
EXPENSES				
Protective Services		49,548	50,061	46,818
Transportation Services		44,974	28,204	34,747
Electric		41,814	35,648	41,607
Leisure and Human Services		32,448	29,125	35,117
General Government Services		16,212	18,019	17,500
Water		13,170	12,827	13,132
Wastewater		11,209	9,503	9,983
Waste Services		10,326	10,944	9,237
Development Services		7,390	4,549	15,054
Family Support and Social Services		3,427	3,450	3,229
Total expenses	Note 20	230,518	202,330	226,424
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES		50,534	66,871	60,922
MUNICIPAL EQUITY - BEGINNING OF YEAR		780,839	-	719,917
MUNICIPAL EQUITY - END OF YEAR		\$ 831,373	\$ 66,871	\$ 780,839

Consolidated Statement of Net Financial Assets

For the year ended December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

	2009	Budget (Unaudited)	2008 (Restated Note 2)
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 50,534	\$ 66,871	\$ 60,922
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(73,939)	(42,958)	(62,292)
Contributed assets	(1,313)	-	(12,609)
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	714	-	150
Amortization of tangible capital assets	26,757	-	24,087
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	858	-	127
Change related to tangible capital assets	(46,923)	(42,958)	(50,537)
Acquisition of supplies inventory	(12,527)	-	(10,398)
Acquisition of prepaid expenses	(2,956)	-	(548)
Use of land held for resale	2,997	-	(7,179)
Use of supplies inventories	12,172	-	10,146
Use of prepaid assets	2,471	-	477
Change related to other non-financial assets	2,157	-	(7,502)
INCREASE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	5,768	23,913	2,883
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	24,732	24,732	21,849
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 30,500	\$ 48,645	\$ 24,732



The accompanying notes and schedules form an integral part of these Financial Statements

Consolidated Statement of Cashflows

For the year ended December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

	2009	2008 (Restated Note 2)
NET INFLOWS (OUTFLOW) OF CASH RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES		
OPERATING		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 50,534	\$ 60,922
Non-cash items included in excess of revenues over expenses		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	26,757	24,087
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	858	127
Changes to financial assets (net change):		
Decrease (increase) in receivables	2,227	7,435
Decrease (increase) in other financial assets	(386)	(656)
Changes to non-financial assets (net change):		
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	(486)	(30)
Decrease (increase) in inventory held for consumption	(355)	(250)
Decrease (increase) in land held for resale	2,997	(7,179)
Changes to liabilities (net change):		
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	670	2,357
Increase (decrease) in employee benefit obligation	(911)	1,722
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	7,761	25,289
Increase (decrease) in deposits and other liabilities	1,540	1,232
	91,206	115,056
CAPITAL		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(73,939)	(62,292)
Tangible capital assets received as a contribution	(1,313)	(12,609)
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	714	150
	(74,538)	(74,751)
INVESTING		
Decrease (increase) in investments	1,362	(25,438)
	1,362	(25,438)
FINANCING		
Debenture debt issued	3,460	5,900
Debenture debt principal redeemed	(7,209)	(5,543)
Agreements payable	(273)	(435)
Net cash used by financing activities	(4,022)	(78)
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS DURING THE YEAR	14,008	14,789
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	35,473	20,684
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ 49,481	\$ 35,473

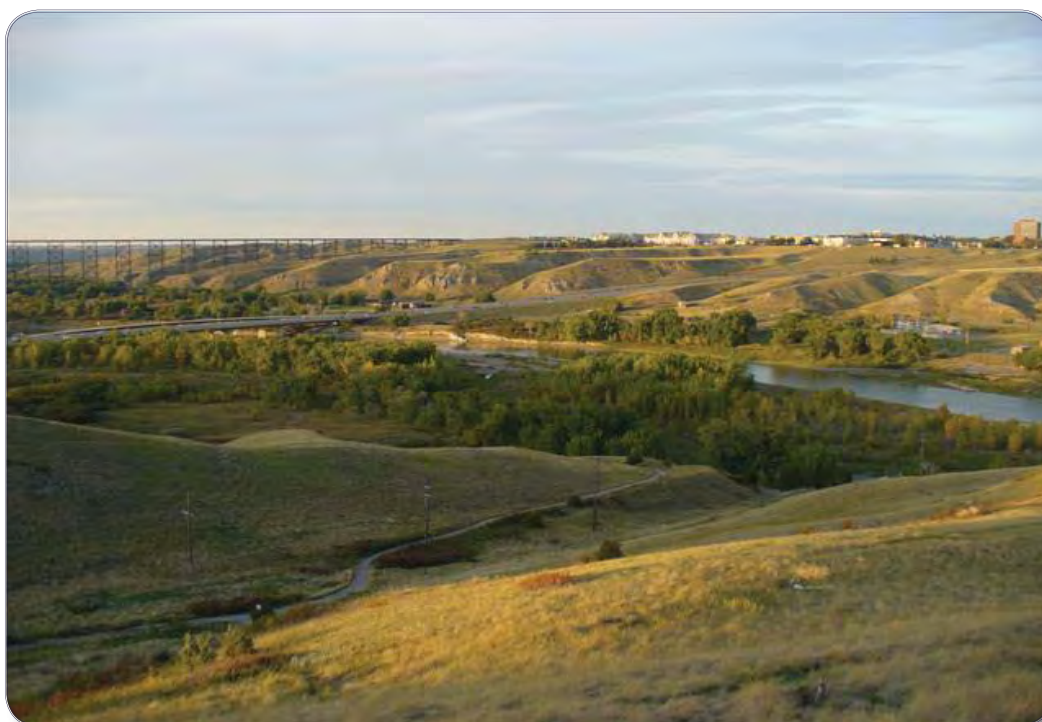
The accompanying notes and schedules form an integral part of these Financial Statements

Consolidated Schedule of Unrestricted Surplus

For the year ended December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

Schedule 1

	2009	Budget (Unaudited)	2008
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 50,534	\$ 66,871	\$ 60,922
Unrestricted balances			
Transfer from prior year unrestricted surplus	722	-	58
Transfer from prior year surplus to reserves	2,894	-	2,961
Unfunded			
Change in unfunded vacation pay	(1,377)	-	673
Transfer to equity in inventory held for consumption	(355)	-	(250)
Transfer to equity in prepaid expenses	(485)	-	(30)
Restricted balances			
Transfer to reserves from operations	(13,165)	(7,974)	(9,999)
Change in capital fund	10,278	(9,896)	8,112
Equity in non-financial assets			
Change in land held for resale	2,581	-	(7,871)
Change in tangible capital assets	(50,671)	(49,581)	(50,180)
Change in inventory held for consumption	355	-	250
Change in prepaid expenses	485	-	30
CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL UNRESTRICTED SURPLUS	\$ 1,796	\$ (580)	\$ 4,676



Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The consolidated financial statements of the City of Lethbridge (the "City") are the representations of management prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for local governments established by the Public Sector Accounting Board ("PSAB") of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. Significant aspects of the accounting policies adopted by the City are as follows:

a. Reporting Entity

The consolidated financial statements reflect the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses of the reporting entity which comprises all the organizations and committees that are accountable to City Council for the administration of their financial affairs and resources and are owned or controlled by the City.

Interdepartmental and inter-entity accounts and transactions are eliminated on consolidation.

The statement of taxes levied also includes requisitions collected on behalf of and transferred to educational and other external organizations that are not part of the municipal reporting entity.

Interests in joint ventures and other government enterprises are accounted for using the proportionate consolidation method.

b. Basis of Accounting

The City follows the accrual method of accounting for revenues and expenses. Revenues are recognized in the year in which they are earned and measurable. Expenses are recognized as they are incurred and measurable as a result of goods or services and/or the creation of a legal obligation to pay.

Funds from external parties and earnings thereon restricted by agreement or legislation are accounted for as deferred revenue until used for the purpose specified

c. Government Transfers

Government transfers are the transfer of assets from senior levels of government that are not the result of an exchange transaction, are not expected to be repaid in the future, or the result of a direct financial return.

Government transfers are recognized in the financial statements as revenue in the period in which events given rise to the transfer occur, providing the transfers are authorized, any eligibility criteria have been met and reasonable estimates of the amounts can be determined.

d. Investments

Investments are comprised of investments in qualifying institutions as defined in the City's investment policy and consist primarily of money market instruments such as bankers' acceptances, government bonds and term receipts.

All investments held are purchased with the intention to hold to maturity, or until market

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

conditions render alternative investments more attractive. Investments are recorded at amortized cost. Discounts and premiums arising on the purchase of these investments are amortized over the term of the investments. Where impairment in value is other than a temporary decline, the investment is written down to recognize the loss.

e. Non-financial Assets

Non-financial assets are not available to discharge existing liabilities and are held for use in the provision of services. They have useful lives extending beyond the current year and are not intended for sale in the ordinary course of operations.

(i) Inventories held for consumption

Inventories of materials and supplies are valued at the lower of cost or net realizable value with cost determined by the average cost method.

(ii) Land held for resale

Land held for resale is recorded at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost includes cost for land acquisition and improvements required to prepare the land for servicing such as clearing, stripping and leveling charges. Related development costs incurred to provide infrastructure such as water and wastewater services, roads and street lighting are recorded as tangible capital assets under their respective function. Land held for resale is classified as a financial asset when the land is in a condition to be sold, is marketed for sale and is reasonably anticipated that the land will be sold within one year.

(iii) Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost which includes amounts that are directly attributable to acquisition, construction, development or betterment of the asset. The cost, less residual value of the tangible capital assets, excluding land and landfill sites, are amortized on a straight line basis over the estimated useful lives as follows:

Asset	years
Land improvements	15 - 40
Buildings	25 - 75
Infrastructure	
Roadways	20 - 75
Water system	45 - 75
Wastewater system	45 - 75
Storm system	45 - 75
Electricity system	20 - 35
Equipment and furnishings	5 - 40
Vehicles	5 - 25

Annual amortization is charged in the year of acquisition and in the year of disposal. Tangible capital assets under construction or development are reported as assets under construction with no amortization recorded until the asset is available for productive use.

(iv) Equity in tangible capital assets

Equity in tangible capital assets represents the City's net investment in its total capital

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

assets, after deducting the portion financed by debentures.

(v) Contributed assets

Tangible capital assets received as contributions are recorded at their fair value at the date of receipt and also are recorded as revenue.

(vi) Works of art and cultural and historic assets

Works of art and cultural and historic assets are not recorded as assets in these financial statements

f. Employee Future Benefits

The City is a member of defined benefit multi-employer pension plans covering substantially all of its employees. Pension contributions are accounted for using defined contribution accounting, wherein contributions for current and past service pension benefits are recorded as expenditures in the year in which they become due.

g. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the dates of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period.

In addition, the City's implementation of Public Sector Accounting Handbook PS3150 has required management to make estimates of the historical cost and useful lives of tangible capital assets in instances where supporting documentation was not otherwise available.

Actual results could differ from those estimates.

h. Requisition Over-levies and Under-levies

Over-levies and under-levies arise from the difference between the actual property tax levy made to cover each requisition and the amount requisitioned.

If the actual levy exceeds the requisition, the over-levy is accrued as a liability and property tax revenue is reduced. Where the actual levy is less than the requisition amount, the under-levy is accrued as a receivable and as property tax revenue.

Requisition tax rates in the subsequent year are adjusted for any over-levies or under-levies of the prior year.

i. Landfill Closure and Post-closure Care

The Alberta Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act sets out the regulatory requirements to properly close and maintain all active and inactive landfill sites. Under environmental law, there is a requirement for closure and post-closure care of solid waste landfill sites. This requirement is being provided for over the estimated remaining life of the landfill site based on usage (see note 6.)

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

2. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The City has implemented Public Sector Accounting Board ("PSAB") sections 1200 Financial Statement Presentation and 3150 Tangible Capital Assets. Section 1200 establishes general reporting requirements for the disclosure of information in government financial statements. Section 3150 requires municipalities to record and amortize their tangible capital assets in their financial statements. In prior years, tangible capital assets additions were expensed in the year of acquisition or construction.

Methods used for determining the cost of each major category of tangible capital assets

The financial information recorded includes the actual or estimated historical cost of the tangible capital assets. When historical cost records were not available, other methods were used to estimate the costs and accumulated amortization of the assets. The City applied a consistent method of estimating the replacement or reproduction cost of the tangible capital assets for which it did not have historical cost records, except in circumstances where it could be demonstrated that a different method would provide a more accurate estimate of the cost of a particular type of tangible capital asset. After defining replacement or reproduction cost, inflationary indices were used as a resource for determining appropriate indexes in order to deflate the replacement or reproduction cost to an estimated historical cost at the year of acquisition.

Restatement in financial statements

The City has restated its financial statements to comply with the provisions of section 3150 of the Public Sector Accounting Board, which requires governments to record and amortize their tangible capital assets on their financial statements. In addition, revenue from contributed assets and government transfers relating to capital acquisitions as been included in income. These adjustments are as follows:

	2008
Adjustments to opening municipal equity	
As reported at December 31, 2008	\$ 1,018,844
Adjustment to net book value of tangible capital assets	(247,599)
Adjustment to accounts payable	(906)
Adjustment to land held for resale (financial asset)	257
Adjustment to land held for resale (non-financial asset)	7,929
Adjustment to accounts receivable	2,314
As restated	\$ 780,839
Adjustments to tangible capital assets	
As reported at December 31, 2008	\$ 959,874
Adjustments to historical cost	136,840
Accumulated amortization recorded	(377,325)
As restated	\$ 719,389

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Adjustments to excess of revenues over expenses	
As reported at December 31, 2008	\$ 8,346
Tangible capital assets recorded but previously expensed	67,227
Contributed asset revenue not previously reported	12,609
Change in land held for resale expenses previously reported as expense	1,306
Change in inventory previously reported in expense	250
CentreSite investment previously reported in revenue	(7)
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	(127)
Proceeds of disposal of tangible capital assets reported as revenue	(150)
Change in Copperwood joint venture previously reported in revenue	(1,812)
Subdivision cost of goods sold not previously recorded	(2,633)
Amortization expense not previously recorded	(24,087)
As restated	\$ 60,922

3. CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2009	2008
Cash	\$ 15,897	\$ 14,473
Investments with original maturities less than 3 months	33,584	21,000
	\$ 49,481	\$ 35,473

Investments mature at various dates between January 4, 2010 and February 24, 2010 and have an average effective annual yield of 0.54% (2008 1.86%)

4. INVESTMENTS

	2009		2008	
	Cost	Market	Cost	Market
Short -term investments	\$ 58,373	\$ 58,346	\$ 34,872	\$ 34,930
Long-term investments	90,124	91,967	114,986	114,500
	\$ 148,497	\$ 150,313	\$ 149,858	\$ 149,430

Investments mature at various dates between January 12, 2010 and December 1, 2019 and have an average effective annual yield of 1.77% (2008 2.88%)

Investments include \$76,048 (2008 \$69,791) in externally restricted amounts which must be used for specified capital protects.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2008 (in thousands of dollars)

INVESTMENTS (continued)

Asset-backed commercial paper (ABCP) exchanged for floating-rate notes

Prior to August 2007, the City of Lethbridge invested in short term third-party structured asset-backed commercial paper ("ABCP") with a face value of \$30,257. When these ABCP investments were purchased, they were rated R1H by an independent rating agency, which is the highest possible rating. These investments, purchased between May and July 2007, had original maturity dates ranging from September 2007 to March 2008. In August 2007, the Canadian market for ABCP suffered a liquidity disruption and as a result the City's ABCP investments did not settle on maturity.

Subsequent to this disruption, a group of market participants representing banks, asset providers and major investors, agreed, pursuant to the Montreal Accord, to work collectively to a standstill period. Participants to the Accord also agreed in principle to conversion of the ABCP notes into longer-term floating-rate notes with maturities corresponding to those of the underlying assets. A Pan-Canadian Investors Committee was established to oversee the orderly restructuring of these instruments during this standstill period.

On January 21, 2009, the ABCP restructuring plan was implemented. Pursuant to the terms of the plan, the City's short term ABCP was exchanged for longer term floating-rate notes (notes) with the face value approximating the original ABCP investments in the amount of \$30,257. These investments mature no earlier than the scheduled termination dates of the underlying assets.

Of these new notes, \$8,395 Class A-1 notes are currently rated "A" by the DBRS Limited and \$13,893 Class A-2 notes are currently rated BBB-. The Class A-1 and A-2 notes bear interest, floating at the Bankers Acceptance rate less 0.5% and generally have an expected repayment date of January 22, 2017.

The remaining \$7,959 are unrated and have yields and repayment dates which are subject to the performance of underlying assets. In December, 2009 the City reached an agreement with National Bank that provides the City of Lethbridge an option, through a financing solution, to receive 75% of the January 21, 2009 face value of the unrated notes in two years (maturity date) subject to certain conditions. This option results in the return to the City of about \$5,975 of the \$7,959 in restructured notes, if exercised and establishes the minimum value for these restructured notes.

In the absence of an active market for the third-party structured ABCP, the City has estimated the carrying value of these investments as at December 31, 2009 using a probability-weighted discounted cash flow valuation model and under the assumption that the option will be exercised. The resulting net carrying value of \$24,557 is included in the long term investments and is calculated as follows:

	2009
Face Value	\$ 30,257
Valuation Allowance	5,700
	<u>\$ 24,557</u>

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

5. RECEIVABLES

	2009	2008 (Restated)
Trade accounts receivable	\$ 21,691	\$ 24,324
Taxes receivable	2,184	1,668
Other government receivables	2,979	2,844
	26,854	28,836
Allowance for doubtful amounts	(2,287)	(2,042)
	\$ 24,567	\$ 26,794

6. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	2009	2008 (Restated)
Trade accounts payable	\$ 21,993	\$ 22,025
Accrued liabilities	3,471	3,011
Environmental liabilities ⁽¹⁾	2,146	1,942
Other government	2,394	2,356
	\$ 30,004	\$ 29,334

(1) Environmental liabilities

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities is \$2,146 (2008 - \$1,942) of estimated total landfill closure and post-closure care costs. This environmental liability is fully funded.

The estimated total liability is based on the sum of discounted future cash flows for closure and post-closure costs discounted at the City's average long-term borrowing rate and assuming annual inflation of 3%.

The accrued environmental liability is based on the cumulative capacity used at year end compared to the estimated total capacity of the landfill site. The remaining capacity of the approved phases is estimated at 2.9 (2008 - 3.1) million cubic meters which will be reached in approximately 11-12 years.

Closure will involve covering the site with topsoil and vegetation, drainage control, and installing ground water monitoring wells. Post-closure care activities for phases currently under operation is expected to occur for 25 years after closure and will involve surface and ground water monitoring, maintenance of drainage structures, monitoring leachate and landfill gas, and landfill cover maintenance.

The remaining closure costs and post-closure costs to be recognized have been estimated at \$1,662 (2008 - \$1,686). The following summarizes the total net present value of the estimated

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & ACCRUED LIABILITIES (continued)

costs of closure and post-closure care:

	2009	2008
Estimated closure costs	\$ 1,992	\$ 1,944
Estimated post-closure costs	1,816	1,684
Total estimated costs	3,808	3,628
Amount accrued to December 31	(2,146)	(1,942)
Balance of estimated costs to accrue over the remaining life of the landfill	\$ 1,662	\$ 1,686

7. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

	2009	2008
Vacation and overtime	\$ 8,131	\$ 9,467
Sick pay	710	623
Post employment benefits	2,191	1,853
	\$ 11,032	\$ 11,943

Vacation and Overtime

The vacation and overtime liability is comprised of vacation and overtime that employees are deferring to future years. Employees have either earned the benefits (and are vested) or are entitled to these benefits within the next budgetary year.

Sick Pay

The sick pay liability is comprised of sick pay that police employees are deferring to future years. Employees have either earned the benefits or are entitled to them within the next budgetary year.

Post-employment Benefits

In December 2002, City Council approved the participation of the City of Lethbridge in the MuniSERP program, a plan available through the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA). This plan is a supplemental employee retirement plan (SERP) that provides supplementary benefits to a prescribed class of employees in excess of the limits of the Income Tax Act (Canada). The total current and past service liability to the City to December 31, 2009 are estimated at \$2,191 (2008 - \$1,853). This amount changes as a result of interest on the liability, changes in membership, aging of the employees within the prescribed class, and other demographic experience.

The cost of post retirement benefits earned by employees is actuarially determined using the projected benefit method prorated on service and management's best estimate of salary and benefit escalation and retirement ages of employees. The City makes provision for its accrued SERP obligation by earmarking a portion of its assets.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

8. DEFERRED REVENUE

	2009	2008
Deferred revenue	\$ 2,041	\$ 2,051
Provincial contributions ⁽¹⁾	76,048	69,791
Prepaid taxes	19,491	17,977
	<u>\$ 97,580</u>	<u>\$ 89,819</u>

⁽¹⁾ Provincial contributions consist of \$46,869 (2008 - \$40,402) Alberta Municipal Infrastructure Program grant, \$4,775 (2008 - \$11,362) Municipal Sustainability Initiative grant and \$9,963 (2008 - \$8,667) Basic Capital grant and other amounts aggregating \$14,441 (2008 - \$9,360)

9. AGREEMENTS PAYABLE

The City of Lethbridge had entered into an agreement to purchase a parcel of land for future residential and industrial park development. The land has been recorded in Land Held for Resale.

	2009	2008
Agreement – West Lethbridge residential	\$ -	\$ 173

On April 26, 2004 the City of Lethbridge purchased 81.13 acres of land held for future residential subdivision in West Lethbridge. Under the terms of the agreement, payments are made in five annual installments ending in 2009. The final payment was \$284 (principal of \$273 plus interest of \$11).

10. DEBENTURE DEBT

	2009	2008
General - self supported	\$ 6,104	\$ 6,477
Utilities	40,033	43,409
	<u>\$ 46,137</u>	<u>\$ 49,886</u>

Principal and interest repayments are as follows:

	Principal	Interest	Total
2010	\$ 6,735	\$ 2,236	\$ 8,971
2011	6,351	1,945	8,296
2012	5,246	1,660	6,906
2013	4,971	1,387	6,358
2014	4,163	1,117	5,280
2015 to maturity	18,671	3,981	22,652
	<u>\$ 46,137</u>	<u>\$ 12,326</u>	<u>\$ 58,463</u>

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

DEBENTURE DEBT (continued)

Debenture debt is repayable to the Alberta Capital Finance Authority. Existing debentures mature in annual amounts to the year 2023. Other than a \$99 interest free loan, interest rates on these debentures range from 2.50% to 6.75% per annum. Debenture debt is issued on the credit and security of the City of Lethbridge at large.

Interest on long-term debt amounted to \$ 2,527 (2008 - \$2,476).

The City's total cash payments for interest were \$2,398 (2008 - \$2,448)

11. DEBT LIMITS

Section 271 (1) of the Municipal Government Act requires that debt and debt limits as defined by Alberta Regulation 255/2000 for the City be disclosed as follows:

	2009	2008 (Restated)
Total debt limit	\$ 369,457	\$ 400,718
Debenture debt	46,137	49,886
Debt limit unused	323,320	350,832
Percentage of debt to debt limit	12.49%	12.45%
Service on debt limit	61,576	66,786
Service debt (principle and interest payment)	(8,971)	8,951
Service on debt limit unused	70,547	57,835
Percentage of debt to debt limit	14.57%	13.40%

The debt limit is calculated at 1.5 times the revenue of the City as defined in Alberta Regulations 255/2000 (Consolidated revenues less capital grant revenues less loans to non-profit organizations and controlled corporations) and the debt service limit is calculated at 0.25 times such revenue. Incurring debt beyond these limitations requires approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs.



Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

12. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

	2009	2008 (Restated)
Net book value		
Land	\$ 78,666	\$ 72,756
Land improvements	15,192	10,687
Buildings	99,291	98,545
Infrastructure		
Roadways	214,692	211,715
Water system	88,576	89,182
Wastewater system	60,059	60,350
Waste Services system	531	-
Electrical system	52,249	50,784
Equipment and furnishings	41,521	40,341
Vehicles	28,031	24,875
Assets under construction	87,504	60,154
	\$ 766,312	\$ 719,389

13. ANNUAL UNRESTRICTED SURPLUS

As is common for municipal governments, the General Operations budget is prepared on a balanced basis; however the budgets for the individual Utility Operations in any year may be prepared to reflect a budgeted surplus or deficit. Details of surpluses, deficits and corresponding budgets are disclosed as follows:

	2009 Actual Surplus (Deficit)	2009 Budgeted Surplus (Deficit) Unaudited	2008 Actual Surplus (Deficit)
General	\$ 1,181	\$ -	\$ 2,056
Water	-	-	113
Wastewater	-	-	288
Waste Services	1,076	302	1,380
Electric	(461)	(882)	839
	\$ 1,796	\$ (580)	\$ 4,676

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2008 (in thousands of dollars)

14. MUNICIPAL EQUITY

Municipal equity consists of unrestricted and restricted balances and equity in non-financial assets as follows:

	2009	2008 (Restated)
Unrestricted balances		
Unrestricted surplus (Note 15)	\$ 5,615	\$ 7,436
Unfunded		
Vacation pay	(6,213)	(7,590)
Inventory held for consumption	(6,945)	(6,590)
Prepaid expenses	(1,066)	(581)
Restricted balances		
Reserves (Note 16)	66,130	52,966
Capital fund	21,377	31,654
Equity in non-financial assets		
Land held for resale	24,289	26,870
Inventory held for consumption	6,945	6,590
Prepaid expenses	1,066	581
Tangible capital assets (Note 18)	720,175	669,503
	\$ 831,373	\$ 780,839

15. ACCUMULATED UNRESTRICTED SURPLUS

General Operations and Electric Utility surpluses and deficits of the prior year are transferred to the Municipal Revenue Stabilization Reserve in the current year. The 2009 General Operations accumulated surplus of \$1,181 and Electric Utility accumulated deficit of \$461 will be transferred to/absorbed by the Municipal Revenue Stabilization Reserve in 2010.

	Balance 2008	Appropriations and Adjustments	2009 Surplus (Deficit)	Balance 2009
General	\$ 2,056	\$ (2,056)	\$ 1,181	\$ 1,181
Water	1,676	-	-	1,676
Wastewater	762	-	-	762
Waste Services	2,103	(722)	1,076	2,457
Electric	839	(839)	(461)	(461)
	\$ 7,436	\$ (3,617)	\$ 1,796	\$ 5,615

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2008 (in thousands of dollars)

16. RESERVES

Reserves are established at the discretion of City Council to set aside funds for future operating and capital expenditures.

	2009	2008
Operating		
Budget Appropriations	\$ 19,236	\$ 16,801
Municipal Revenue Stabilization (Note 18)	16,817	6,503
Insurance	2,428	1,916
Urban Parks	2,203	1,191
Cemeteries	739	672
Mayor Magrath Drive Beautification	105	103
	41,528	27,186
Capital		
Fleet Services	11,204	12,257
Major Capital Projects	3,235	4,826
Community Lighting	2,472	2,145
Real Estate Holdings	2,290	1,640
Community Reserve Fund	2,237	2,197
Acquire Off Street Parking	1,722	1,506
Transit Bus	1,037	930
Central Business District Land Acquisition	279	279
School Bus	126	-
	24,602	25,780
	\$ 66,130	\$ 52,966



Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

17. MUNICIPAL REVENUE STABILIZATION RESERVE

The purpose of this reserve is to stabilize the effects of fluctuating interest revenues and General Operations surpluses and deficits on annual taxation requirements. All General Operations and Electric Utility surpluses of prior years, return on investments, municipal consent and access fee/franchise fee and by-law enforcement revenue surpluses, CentreSite equity refunds, internal financing recoveries and other allocations from General Operations are added to the reserve. Any General Operations and Electric Utility deficits of prior years, municipal consent and access fee/franchise fee and by-law enforcement revenue shortfalls, budgeted allocations to General Operations, one time expenditures and internal financing advances are charged to the reserve. The transactions affecting the reserve for the year ended December 31, 2009 are as follows:

	2009	2008
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 6,503	\$ 1,157
Add: Recovery of internal financing	11,633	6,927
Municipal consent and access fee (electric)	6,895	6,281
Allocation from electric capital (depreciation)	5,311	5,482
Return on investment (electric)	4,367	3,665
Investment and interest income (net of trust allocations)	1,405	2,774
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Transition	3,783	-
2008 Electric Utility operating surplus	839	1,520
Transfer of electric vehicles from fleet services to electric	755	-
2008 general operating surplus	2,056	1,441
ATCO franchise fee revenues (net of allocation to operations)	1,044	627
CentreSite distribution allocation	465	245
By-law enforcement revenue (net of allocation to operations)	7	230
Other	-	30
	45,063	30,379
Less: Electric Utility - allocation to general operations	8,200	8,200
Allocation to electric distribution capital projects	11,077	6,560
Allocation to general operations	4,200	4,121
Allocation to snow and ice control program	3,202	958
Allocation for Tax Installment Payment Plan discounts	571	522
Other	158	412
One time allocations	651	383
Internal financing advances:		
Residential subdivisions	-	1,918
Police technology	187	410
Local improvements - lane paving	-	188
Local improvements - 17th Street & 3rd Avenue	-	112
Cemetery gravesite restoration	-	62
Mountview Cemetery office	-	30
	28,246	23,876
Balance, end of year	\$ 16,817	\$ 6,503

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

18. EQUITY IN TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

	2009	2008 (Restated)
Tangible capital assets	\$ 1,166,507	\$ 1,096,714
Accumulated amortization	(400,195)	(377,325)
Debenture debt	(46,137)	(49,886)
	\$ 720,175	\$ 669,503

19. GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS

	2009	2008
Operating		
Provincial unconditional	\$ 1,119	\$ 2,447
Provincial conditional	5,824	5,158
Federal	2,278	375
Capital		
Provincial	30,480	17,991
Federal	3,994	1,879
	\$ 43,695	\$ 27,850

20. EXPENSES BY OBJECT

	2009	2008 (Restated)
Salaries, wages and benefits	\$ 104,966	\$ 98,365
Materials, supplies and utilities	51,881	55,334
Contracted and general services	44,762	34,970
Amortization of tangible capital assets	26,757	24,087
Debenture debt interest	2,527	2,476
Transfers to individuals and organizations	4,176	7,656
Financial charges	927	875
Other ⁽¹⁾	(5,478)	2,661
	\$ 230,518	\$ 226,424

⁽¹⁾ The majority of other expenses relate to the recovery of costs charged to capital projects.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

As at December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

21. COMMITMENTS

a. Contracts

As at December 31, 2009 the City has committed funds on various capital projects in progress. The funds committed by contract and the estimated costs to complete those projects are as follows:

	Funds Committed	Estimated Costs to Complete
Enmax Facility Enhancement	\$ 23,330	\$ 25,930
Fire and EMS Headquarters Facility	6,300	9,473
City Spatial Project	2,771	2,828
Southern Alberta Art Gallery	1,989	2,218
Public Operations building	1,966	31,704
The Crossings	1,613	22,213
WLC Library Construction	1,575	3,209
University Drive Landscape & Irrigation	1,431	1,466
Riverstone	1,362	21,483
Twin Ice Centre	1,361	1,361
SunRidge	1,237	8,011
Whoop-Up Drive McMaster Upgrade	882	1,483
Sherring Industrial Park	644	25,182
	\$ 46,461	\$ 156,561

Total estimated costs to complete includes funds committed as at December 31, 2009 plus estimated costs to complete the project which are not yet committed by contract.

In addition to the above, the City has projects planned in its Capital Improvement Program for which no funds have been committed by contract as at December 31, 2009.

b. Regional Water Agreement

As approved by City Council on June 14, 1999, the City has entered into an agreement to supply water to the Lethbridge Regional Water Services Commission. Under the terms of the agreement in effect, as amended, until January 31, 2030 the City has agreed, subject to specified events deemed to be beyond the control of the City, to supply a maximum of 18.5 million litres per day at a pressure of 55 pounds per square inch at the point of delivery to the water feedermain.

c. Fee for Service Contracts

The City has entered into various contracts whereby third party agencies provide services to the community on behalf of the City of Lethbridge. This fee for service contracts vary in their length, terms and conditions.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

For the year ended December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

22. PENSION PLANS

Employees of the City qualify to belong to one or more of the following defined-benefit pension plans:

a. Local Authorities Pension Plan

Employees of the City, with the exception of police officers, participate in the Local Authorities Pension Plan ("LAPP"), a multi-employer plan covered by the Alberta Public Sector Pension Plans Act. The Plan serves about 190,000 people and 411 employers in Alberta. The plan is financed by employer and employee contributions and investment earnings of the LAPP funds.

The City is required to make current service contributions to the LAPP of 8.46% of pensionable earnings up to the Canada Pension Plan Year's Maximum Pensionable Earnings ("YMPE") and 11.66% for the excess. Employees are required to make current service contributions of 7.46% to the YMPE and 10.66% for any portion of pensionable salary over the YMPE.

Total current and past service contributions by the City to the LAPP in 2009 were \$6,017 (2008 - \$5,283). Total current and past service contributions by the employees of the City were \$4,166 (2008 - \$3,395).

At December 31, 2008 the LAPP disclosed an actuarial deficit of \$4,413,971 (2007 - \$1,183,334).

b. Special Forces Pension Plan

Police officers employed by the City participate in the Special Forces Pension Plan ("SFPP"), a multi-employer plan covered by the Alberta Public Sector Pension Plans Act. The plan serves about 5,800 people and 7 employers in Alberta. The plan is financed by employer and employee contributions and investment earnings of the SFPP funds.

The contribution rates for 2009 were 11.11% (2008 - 11.11%) of pensionable earnings for the City and 10.01% (2008 - 10.01%) of pensionable salaries for police officers.

Total current and past service contributions by the City to the SFPP in 2009 were \$1,347 (2008 - \$1,257). Total current and past service contributions by the police officers to the SFPP were \$972 (2008 - \$857).

At December 31, 2008 the SFPP disclosed an actuarial deficit of \$429,966 (2007 - \$78,651).

c. APEX Supplementary Pension Plan

The APEX supplementary pension plan, an Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) sponsored defined benefit pension plan covered under the provisions of the Alberta Employment Pension Plans Act, commenced on January 1, 2003 and provides supplementary pension benefits to a prescribed class of employees. The plan supplements the Local Authorities Pension Plan.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

For the year ended December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

PENSION PLANS (continued)

Contributions are made by the prescribed class of employees and the City. Employees and the City are required to make current service contributions to APEX of 2.5% (2008 - 2.5%) and 3.0% (2008 - 3.0%) respectively of pensionable earnings up to \$122 (2008 - \$117).

Total current service contributions by the City to APEX in 2009 were \$367 (2008 - \$338). Total current service contributions by the employees of the City were \$245 (2008 - \$233).

23. SALARY & BENEFITS

Disclosure of salaries and benefits for elected officials, the chief administrative officer and designated officers as required by provincial regulation is as follows:

	Number of persons	Salary	Benefits and Allowances	2009	2008
Mayor:					
R. Tarleck		\$ 65	\$ 35	\$ 100	\$ 96
Aldermen:					
J. Carlson	1	20	13	33	36
R. Dodic	1	19	14	33	34
B. Lacey	1	19	12	31	33
R. Parker	1	18	14	32	32
M. Simmons	1	18	13	31	31
K. Tratch	1	23	14	37	34
S. Ward	1	20	14	34	32
T. Wickersham	1	20	14	34	33
	9	\$ 157	\$ 108	\$ 265	\$ 265
City Manager	1	\$ 240	\$ 25	\$ 265	\$ 246
Designated Officers ⁽¹⁾	4	\$ 558	\$ 98	\$ 656	\$ 593

⁽¹⁾ Designated Officers include the City Assessor, City Clerk, City Solicitor, and the City Treasurer.

Aldermen who perform the duties of Deputy Mayor on a rotational basis have their salaries adjusted accordingly. Salary includes regular base pay, per diem amounts and any other direct cash remuneration. Benefits and allowances include the employer's share of all employee benefits, contributions or payments made on behalf of employees, and the employer's share of the costs of any additional taxable benefits.

24. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Unless otherwise noted, the fair value of financial instruments approximates their carrying value and it is management's opinion that the City is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risk arising from financial instruments.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements *(Continued)*

For the year ended December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

25. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

- a. At December 31, 2009 the City of Lethbridge has guaranteed loans in the amount of \$940 outstanding with ATB Financial and \$802 outstanding with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC). The guaranteed loans bear interest at 5.80% and 7.46% per annum respectively and are secured by a general security agreement, land and buildings with a carrying value of \$3,879 and a general assignment of leases and rents. The terms of the loans are due to mature on December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2012 respectively.
- b. The City of Lethbridge owns properties that may contain environmental contamination and require site reclamation. The amounts of any such obligations are not practically estimable.

26. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the financial statement presentation adopted in the current year.

27. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These financial statements were approved by City Council.



Schedule of Taxes Levied

For the year ended December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

Schedule 2

	2009	2008
NET TAXES		
Real property taxes	\$ 104,106	\$ 97,831
Special assessments and local improvements	3,257	2,939
Business taxes (BRZ)	174	158
Grants in lieu of taxes		
Federal	180	170
Provincial	1,669	1,372
	109,386	102,470
Less Special requisition transfers:		
Alberta School Foundation Fund	21,377	20,806
Holy spirit RCSRD 4	4,011	4,046
Green Acres Foundation	1,170	925
Downtown Lethbridge Business Revitalization Zone	178	168
	26,736	25,945
TAXATION FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES	82,650	76,525
Less Special levies:		
Local improvements	422	419
Street maintenance frontage taxes	2,835	2,520
	3,257	2,939
NET TAXES	\$ 79,393	\$ 73,586



Schedule of Tangible Capital Assets

For the year ended December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

Schedule 3

	Land	Land Improvements	Buildings	Infrastructure	Equipment and Furnishings	Vehicles	Assets Under Construction	2009	2008
COST:									
BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 72,756	\$ 25,626	\$ 166,936	\$ 658,965	\$ 68,523	\$ 43,756	\$ 60,152	\$ 1,096,714	\$ 1,026,860
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	6,056	5,861	4,037	18,744	6,784	6,418	27,352	75,252	74,902
Disposal of tangible capital assets	(146)	(227)	(15)	(1,872)	(2,054)	(1,145)	-	(5,459)	(5,048)
BALANCE, END OF YEAR	78,666	31,260	170,958	675,837	73,253	49,029	87,504	1,166,507	1,096,714
ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION:									
BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	-	(14,939)	(68,390)	(246,933)	(28,182)	(18,881)	-	(377,325)	(358,010)
Annual Amortization	-	(1,335)	(3,292)	(14,100)	(5,026)	(3,004)	-	(26,757)	(24,087)
Accumulated amortization on disposals	-	206	15	1,303	1,476	887	-	3,887	4,772
BALANCE, END OF YEAR	-	(16,068)	(71,667)	(259,730)	(31,732)	(20,998)	-	(400,195)	(377,325)
NET BOOK VALUE FOR YEAR ENDED									
DECEMBER 31, 2009	\$ 78,666	\$ 15,192	\$ 99,291	\$ 416,107	\$ 41,521	\$ 28,031	\$ 87,504	\$ 766,312	
NET BOOK VALUE FOR THE YEAR ENDED									
DECEMBER 31, 2008	\$ 72,756	\$ 10,687	\$ 98,546	\$ 412,032	\$ 40,341	\$ 24,875	\$ 60,152	\$ 719,389	

Schedule of Segmented Reporting

For the year ended December 31, 2009 (in thousands of dollars)

Schedule 4

	General Municipal Revenues	Protective Services	Transportation Services	Leisure and Human Services	General Government Services	Development Services	Family Support and Social Services	Utility	Total	2008 (Restated)
REVENUE										
Net taxes	\$ 79,393 \$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 79,393 \$	73,586
Special municipal levies	-	-	2,933	323	6	-	-	-	3,262	2,944
Return on investments	1,492	-	-	-	505	257	12	-	2,266	3,807
Government transfers	1,119	9,057	6,686	11,321	11,931	1,633	1,883	65	43,695	27,850
Gas company franchise fee	3,454	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,454	3,037
Fines	-	64	-	-	4,567	-	-	-	4,631	4,727
Licenses and permits	-	3,148	18	119	-	-	-	-	3,286	3,550
Sale of land	-	-	-	-	-	8,506	-	-	8,506	23,268
Contributed assets	-	-	5,113	1,841	-	(5,890)	-	249	1,313	12,609
Sales and user charges	-	9,174	7,174	6,411	446	483	598	98,211	122,497	121,628
Other	633	1,405	3,786	1,242	2,132	266	18	(733)	8,749	10,340
	86,091	22,848	25,710	21,257	19,587	5,255	2,511	97,792	281,052	287,346
EXPENSES										
Salaries, wages and benefits	-	32,359	14,820	12,260	29,037	1,672	661	14,157	104,966	98,365
Materials, supplies and utilities	-	1,967	10,280	3,662	3,732	68	67	32,105	51,881	55,334
Contracted and general services	-	3,478	11,895	6,821	9,360	2,148	1,882	9,178	44,762	34,970
Debt interest	-	-	201	-	49	354	-	1,923	2,527	2,476
Financial charges	-	137	199	127	577	-	8	(121)	927	875
Transfers to individuals and organizations	-	31	-	1,780	401	1,960	4	-	4,176	7,656
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	1,046	11,036	2,180	1,504	14	14	10,963	26,757	24,087
Interdepartmental transfers (net)	-	10,793	(390)	5,737	(28,541)	163	791	11,447	-	-
Expenses recovered from capital	-	(266)	(4,153)	(163)	(273)	(329)	-	(3,261)	(8,445)	(8,670)
Other	-	3	1,086	44	366	1,340	-	128	2,967	11,331
	-	49,548	44,974	32,448	16,212	7,390	3,427	76,519	230,518	226,424
EXCESS (SHORTFALL) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 86,091 \$	(26,700) \$	(19,264) \$	(11,191) \$	3,375 \$	(2,135) \$	(916) \$	21,273 \$	50,534 \$	60,922

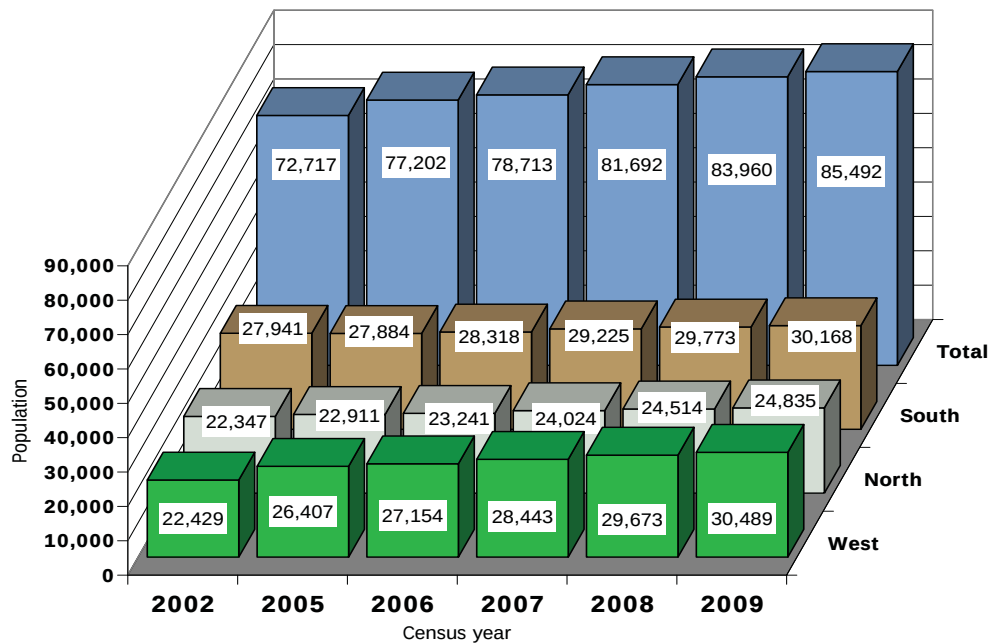
Statistics

(unaudited)

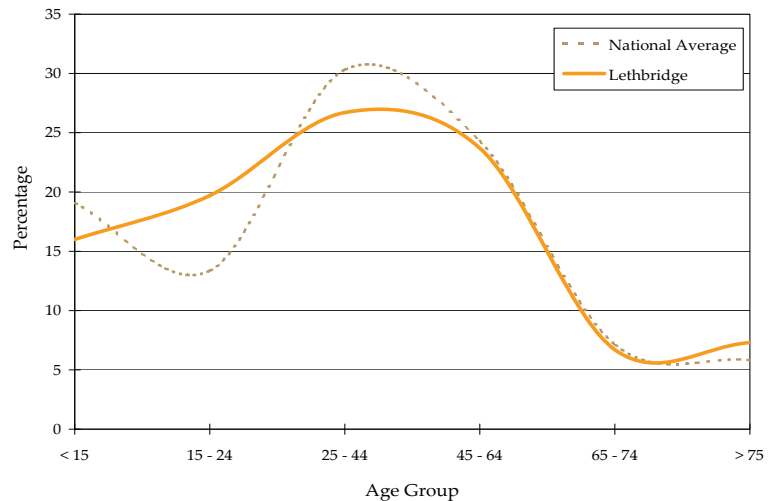


Population and Building Permits

Population By Location



Age Group	Population	Percentage	
		Lethbridge	National Average
< 15	13,656	16.0	19.1
15 - 24	16,815	19.7	13.4
25 - 44	22,828	26.7	30.3
45 - 64	20,270	23.7	24.3
65 - 74	5,715	6.7	7.1
> 75	6,208	7.3	5.8
	85,492	100.1	100.0



Building Permits Issued

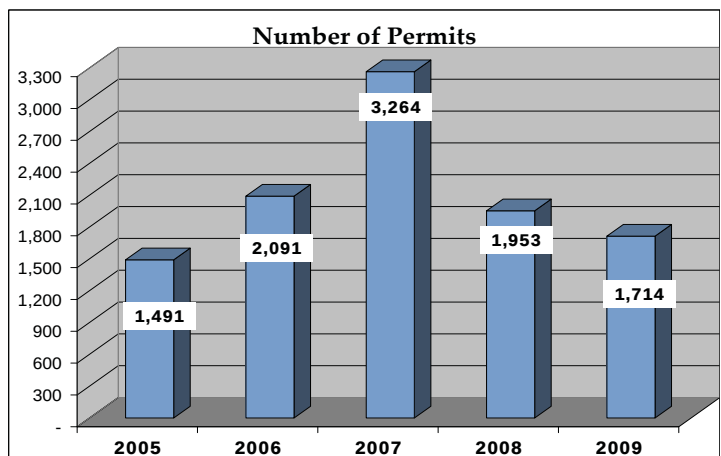
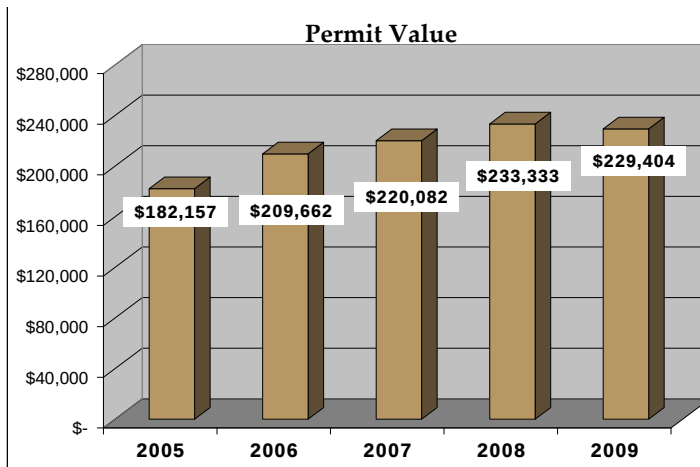


Exhibit of Consolidated Revenues

For the years ended December 31, 2008 - 2009
(in thousands of dollars)

	2009	2008
REVENUES		
Sales and user charges	\$ 122,497	\$ 121,628
Net taxes	79,393	73,586
Government transfers	43,695	27,850
Sale of land	8,506	4,727
Fines	4,631	23,268
Gas company franchise fee	3,454	3,037
Licenses and permits	3,286	3,550
Special municipal levies	3,262	2,944
Return on investments	2,266	3,807
Contributed assets	1,313	12,609
Other	8,749	10,340
	\$ 281,052	\$ 287,346

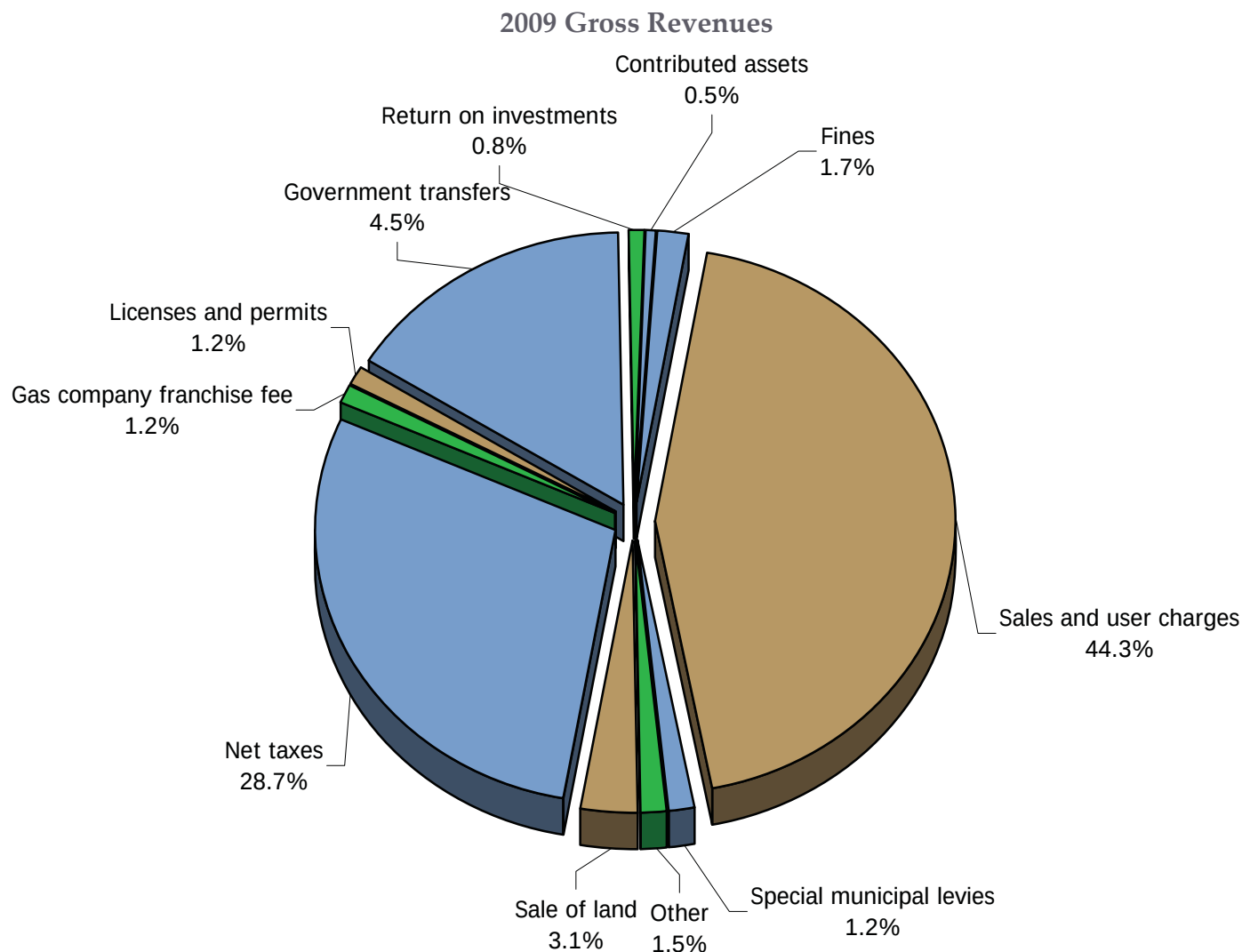
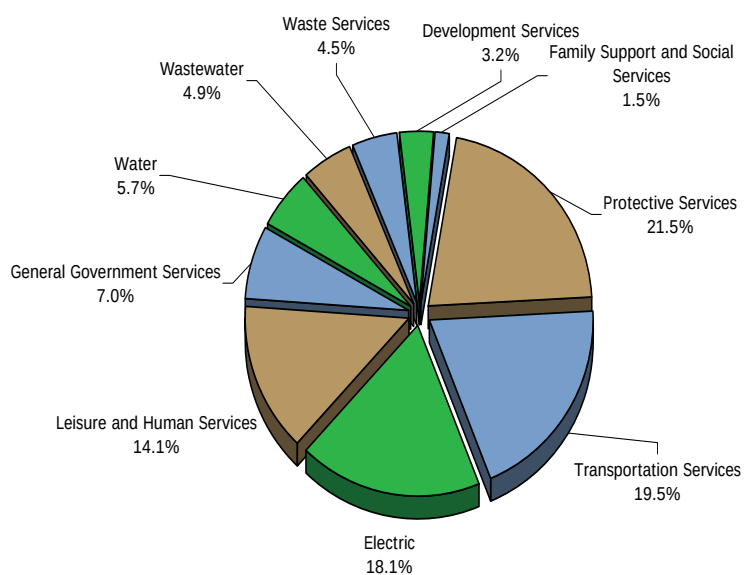


Exhibit of Consolidated Expenses

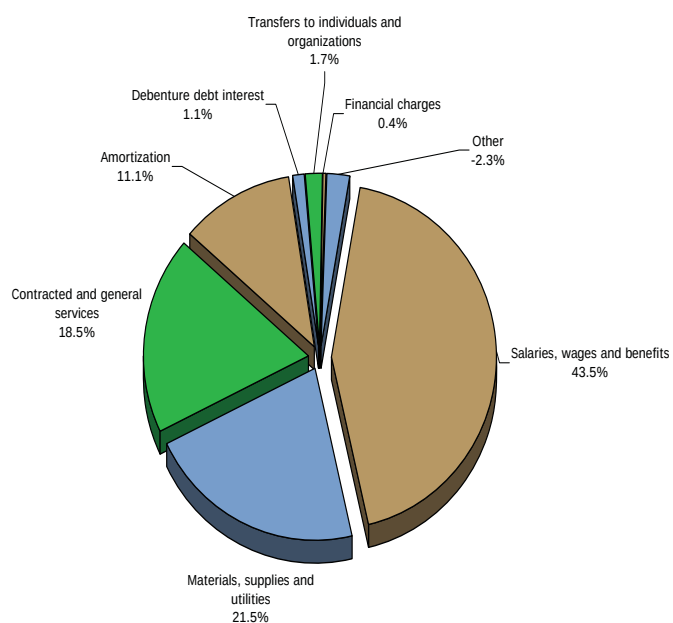
For the years ended December 31, 2005 - 2009
(in thousands of dollars)

	2009	2008
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION		
Protective Services	\$ 49,548	\$ 46,818
Transportation Services	44,974	34,747
Electric	41,814	41,607
Leisure and Human Services	32,448	35,117
General Government Services	16,212	17,500
Water	13,170	13,132
Wastewater	11,209	9,983
Waste Services	10,326	9,237
Development Services	7,390	15,054
Family Support and Social Services	3,427	3,229
TOTAL EXPENSES BY FUNCTION	\$ 230,518	\$ 226,424

2009 Gross Expenses by Function



2009 Gross Expenses by Object



	2009	2008
EXPENSES BY OBJECT		
Salaries, wages and benefits	\$ 104,966	\$ 98,365
Materials, supplies and utilities	51,881	55,334
Contracted and general services	44,762	34,970
Amortization of tangible capital assets	26,757	24,087
Debt interest	2,527	2,476
Transfers to individuals and organizations	4,176	7,656
Financial charges	927	875
Other	(5,478)	2,661
TOTAL EXPENSES BY OBJECT	\$ 230,518	\$ 226,424

Taxation and Assessment

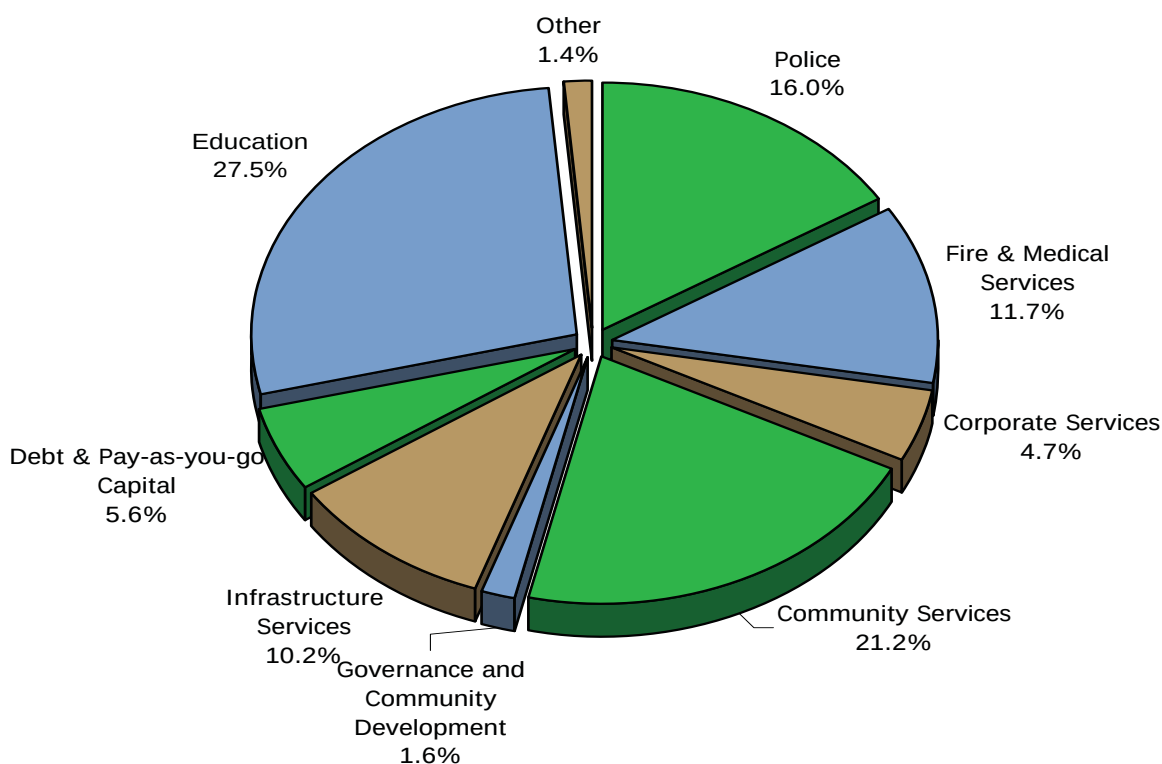
For the years ended December 31, 2005 - 2009
(in thousands of dollars)

Property Tax Levy

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Real Property					
Municipal	\$ 77,919	\$ 72,495	\$ 66,024	\$ 59,917	\$ 53,904
Education	24,996	24,622	24,084	23,611	23,094
Other	1,191	714	862	647	642
Total Real Property	104,106	97,831	90,970	84,175	77,640
Special Assessments	3,257	2,939	2,729	2,420	2,438
Business Taxes (BRZ)	174	158	160	166	161
TOTAL CURRENT YEAR LEVY	\$ 107,537	\$ 100,928	\$ 93,859	\$ 86,761	\$ 80,239
Current Taxes Collected	\$ 106,209	\$ 100,022	\$ 92,953	\$ 85,855	\$ 79,333
% of Current Taxes Collected	98.8%	99.1%	99.0%	99.0%	98.9%

The ten largest corporate taxpayers account for \$6,499 (6.7%) of the 2009 total property tax levy.

Allocation of Residential Property Tax Dollars



Taxable Assessment (in thousands of dollars)

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Residential	\$ 8,441,849	\$ 7,611,226	\$ 5,184,767	\$ 4,332,118	\$ 3,718,770
Apartment	410,481	295,618	288,600	250,273	243,930
Commercial and Industrial	1,854,496	1,661,316	1,437,710	1,211,518	1,069,983
TOTAL TAXABLE ASSESSMENT	\$ 10,706,826	\$ 9,568,160	\$ 6,911,077	\$ 5,793,909	\$ 5,032,683

Exhibit of Debenture Debt

As At December 31, 2005 - 2009
(in thousands of dollars, except for per capita)

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
GENERAL					
Tax supported					
Highways	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75
Land	-	-	-	-	96
	-	-	-	-	171
Self supported					
Industrial park servicing	4,816	5,143	5,456	5,755	4,200
Lethbridge and District Exhibition	624	726	822	911	995
Lethbridge Softball Valley complex	21	61	99	137	172
Local improvements	643	547	689	823	1,241
	6,104	6,477	7,066	7,626	6,608
	6,104	6,477	7,066	7,626	6,779
UTILITIES					
Water	9,096	10,774	12,374	13,901	11,132
Wastewater	6,242	7,930	7,978	8,622	6,807
Waste Services	21,241	20,576	17,335	18,428	17,265
Offsites	3,454	4,129	4,776	4,350	-
	40,033	43,409	42,463	45,301	35,204
TOTAL GENERAL AND UTILITIES DEBT	\$ 46,137	\$ 49,886	\$ 49,529	\$ 52,927	\$ 41,983
POPULATION	85,492	83,960	81,692	78,713	77,202
DEBENTURE DEBT PER CAPITA					
General - mill rate supported	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2
General - self supported	71	77	86	97	86
Utilities	468	517	520	576	456
	\$ 539	\$ 594	\$ 606	\$ 673	\$ 544
MILL RATE SUPPORTED DEBENTURE DEBT:					
Annual Debt Charges	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 190	\$ 121
% of Gross General Revenue	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.15%	0.11%
% of Gross General Expenditures	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.15%	0.11%
DEBT LIMIT (as per Municipal Government Act):					
Total debt limit	\$ 369,457	\$ 400,718	\$ 363,723	\$ 316,365	\$ 272,837
Total debt (above)	46,137	49,886	49,529	52,927	41,983
DEBT LIMIT UNUSED	\$ 323,320	\$ 350,832	\$ 314,194	\$ 263,438	\$ 230,854
Percentage of debt limit used	12.5%	12.4%	13.6%	16.7%	15.4%

Exhibit of Capital Spending

For the years ended December 31, 2008 - 2009
(in thousands of dollars)

	2009	2008
CAPITAL SPENDING		
Land	\$ 6,056	\$ 1,986
Land improvements	5,861	2,315
Buildings	4,037	897
Infrastructure	18,744	52,075
Equipment and furnishings	6,784	6,134
Vehicles	6,418	3,823
Assets under construction	27,352	7,672
TOTAL CAPITAL SPENDING	\$ 75,252	\$ 74,902



Exhibit of Reserves

For the years ended December 31, 2005 - 2009
(in thousands of dollars)

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
OPERATING					
Budget Appropriations	\$ 19,236	\$ 16,801	\$ 16,392	\$ 17,384	\$ 17,815
Insurance	2,428	1,916	1,372	847	607
Urban Parks	2,203	1,191	1,359	795	884
Municipal Revenue Stabilization	16,817	6,503	1,158	7,752	6,584
Cemeteries	739	673	589	497	386
Mayor Magrath Drive Beautification	105	103	97	90	83
Snow Removal ⁽¹⁾	-	-	30	577	545
Acquisition of Local Art Work	-	-	-	8	8
	41,528	27,187	20,997	27,950	26,912
CAPITAL					
Fleet Services	11,204	12,257	11,352	6,646	3,698
Major Capital Projects	3,235	4,826	3,845	2,475	2,407
Community Lighting	2,472	2,145	1,939	1,569	1,482
Real Estate Holdings	2,290	1,640	1,635	1,512	1,367
Acquire Off Street Parking	1,722	1,506	1,221	1,160	968
Transit Bus	1,037	930	948	936	344
Community Reserve Fund	2,237	2,197	688	657	631
Central Business District Land Acquisition	279	279	278	728	734
School Bus	126	-	64	41	13
	24,602	25,780	21,970	15,724	11,644
TOTAL RESERVES	\$ 66,130	\$ 52,967	\$ 42,967	\$ 43,674	\$ 38,556

⁽¹⁾ Effective January 1, 2008, the Snow Removal Reserve was merged with the Municipal Revenue Stabilization Reserve



Exhibit of Government Transfers

For the years ended December 31, 2005 - 2009
(in thousands of dollars)

	2009			2008	2007	2006	2005
	Provincial	Federal	Total				
UNCONDITIONAL TRANSFERS							
Municipal assistance	\$ 430	\$ -	\$ 430	\$ 430	\$ 430	\$ 430	\$ 430
Transit	202	-	202	202	202	202	202
Urban parks	487	-	487	487	487	487	487
Ambulance	-	-	-	1,328	1,328	1,328	1,328
	1,119	-	1,119	2,447	2,447	2,447	2,447
Payments in lieu of taxes	1,669	180	1,849	1,542	1,673	1,565	1,602
	2,788	180	2,968	3,989	4,120	4,012	4,049
CONDITIONAL OPERATING							
GENERAL							
Family and community support services	2,091	-	2,091	1,815	1,704	1,602	1,540
Police	1,918	-	1,918	1,307	1,314	1,181	1,163
Alberta Municipal Infrastructure	-	-	-	-	1,519	1,017	-
Lethbridge public library	353	-	353	463	331	400	312
Community facility enhancement program	-	-	-	-	2	125	19
Basic capital transportation - operations	123	-	123	98	88	100	112
Victim / witness services unit	150	-	150	150	100	100	100
Disaster recovery (2002 flood)	-	-	-	-	-	86	180
Police - miscellaneous	275	-	275	16	36	91	55
Fetal alcohol syndrome program	102	-	102	100	98	84	82
Other	108	8	116	33	44	160	219
Municipal Sustainability Initiative	443	-	443	875	-	-	-
Alberta mainstreet program	99	-	99	127	81	66	90
Adult literacy program	79	-	79	74	69	59	59
Library - miscellaneous	26	-	26	53	61	21	13
ALERT program	24	-	24	27	22	18	22
STEP program	14	-	14	25	24	18	19
Federal gas tax sharing (NDCC)	-	2,268	2,268	360	129	257	-
Canada Day celebrations	-	2	2	10	4	3	4
Municipal heritage program	19	-	19	-	40	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
	5,824	2,278	8,102	5,533	5,666	5,388	4,022
CONDITIONAL CAPITAL							
GENERAL							
Alberta Municipal Infrastructure	9,238	-	9,238	9,355	3,462	2,933	-
Basic capital transportation	3,388	-	3,388	2,478	2,535	2,257	2,362
Disaster recovery	161	-	161	182	-	-	-
Special basic capital	146	-	146	(233)	-	-	-
Municipal Sustainability Housing	1,149	-	1,149	2,000	-	-	-
Municipal Sustainability Initiative	12,959	-	12,959	1,745	-	-	-
City special transportation (MM Dr. S.)	-	-	-	-	(19)	775	990
Galt museum expansion	-	-	-	-	-	293	1,966
CAMRIF	1,257	1,257	2,514	2,242	1,214	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	37	143	-
Community Facility Enhancement	60	-	60	274	250	119	70
SHIA - homeless shelter, resource centre	1,104	562	1,666	1,254	698	400	804
Federal gas tax sharing (NDCC)	-	2,175	2,175	332	0	5,875	-
Galt gardens	620	-	620	241	-	-	-
Major community facilities project	398	-	398	-	-	-	-
	30,480	3,994	34,474	19,870	8,177	12,795	6,192
TOTAL GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS	\$ 39,092	\$ 6,452	\$ 45,544	\$ 29,392	\$ 17,963	\$ 22,195	\$ 14,263

Government transfers are recognized in the financial statements as revenues in the period that the events giving rise to the transfer occurred, providing the transfers are authorized, the municipality has met any eligibility criteria, and reasonable estimates of the amounts can be made.

The High Level Bridge Celebrates 100 Years in 2009



Cam Woo



Larry Sjonnesen



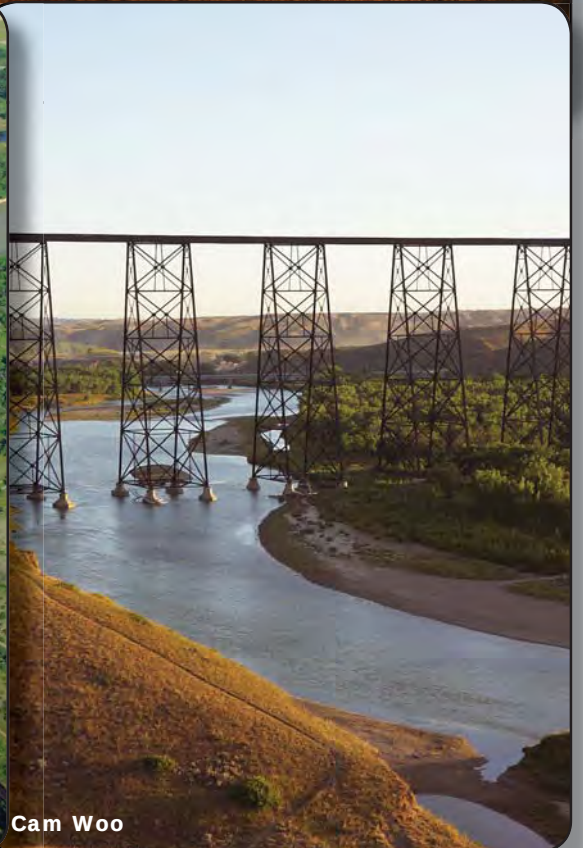
Tony Meli



John Dubbelboer



Hans-Henning Muendel



Cam Woo