

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.1

MEETING DATE: November 7, 2023

STAFF REPORT – COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: Departmental Third Quarter Reports: 2023 DATE: October 27, 2023

DEPARTMENT: Communications PREPARED BY: Liana Wiebe

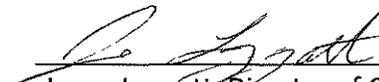
1. SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Quarterly reports from individual departments are grouped together into one quarterly report, covering most aspects of City operations for the previous quarter.

The 2023 Third Quarter Reports from City departments are presented for Council's review.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

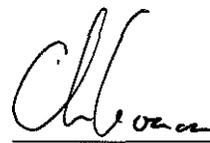
Recommendation that the Third Quarter Reports for City departments for the period of July to September 2023 be received for information.



Jamie Leggatt, Director of Communications and
Legislative Services

**3. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S
RECOMMENDATION/COMMENTS:**

Supports recommendation.



Chris Crosman, CAO

THIRD QUARTER REPORTS: 2023



CITY OF
CHILLIWACK

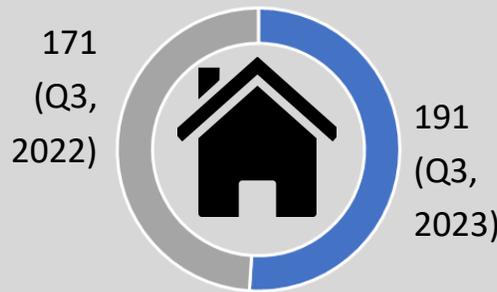
THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY JULY - SEPTEMBER, 2023



New Business Licenses



Building Permits



Bylaw Complaints



 **1,329** Fire Department calls for service

22 Events supported through the Celebration & Activity Grant



450

Kilograms of garbage removed from Chilliwack/Vedder River



47,000

Linear metres of open channel drainage maintenance



109

Residences participated in the City-Wide Garage Sale

3

New off-leash dog parks open



56 media inquiries



33 new e-newsletter subscribers



17 print ads placed in the local paper



8 press releases issued



ENGINEERING
UTILITIES
TRANSPORTATION
DRAINAGE
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

THIRD QUARTER REPORT, 2023

ENGINEERING UTILITIES



2023 LINEAR UTILITIES UPGRADE PROJECT

This multi-discipline project combines several independent water and sewer upgrade and replacement projects into a single design-build project that includes seven watermain upgrade project areas and two sanitary sewer main upgrade areas. The work includes:

- Ashwell Road / Wellington Avenue water main upgrades
- Reece Avenue water main upgrades
- Nowell Street water main upgrades
- Candow Street / Henley Avenue / George Street
- Andrews Avenue water main upgrades
- Wells Road water main upgrades
- Chilliwack Mountain Road water main upgrades
- Schweyey Road sewer force main upgrades
- Knight Road sewer main upgrades

Sandpiper Contracting LLP/Welder Engineering LLP was selected as the contractor and designer to perform this design-build project. Construction begins at Ashwell Road and Wellington Avenue on October 30.

2023 UTILITIES NONLINEAR UPGRADE PREDESIGN PROJECT

The City of Chilliwack is planning to construct a new concrete reservoir at Chilliwack Mountain Zone 1, demolish the abandoned concrete reservoir at Marble Hill Zone 2 and replace it with a new bolted steel reservoir, and replace the existing pressure-reducing valve at Sunrise Drive. This project will provide the engineering service and determine requirements to evaluate

2023 UTILITIES NONLINEAR UPGRADE PREDESIGN PROJECT CONTINUED

different design options and cost estimates, as well as recommend the most feasible solution that will provide adequate water demand flexibility, redundancy, and reliability within the water distribution system.

WATER CONSERVATION

The City implemented Stage 3 and Stage 4 water restrictions in the third quarter due to drought conditions. This was the first time that the City of Chilliwack had to increase the water restriction stage from the annual stage 2. The end date of water restrictions was adjusted from September 30 to October 15 to ensure restrictions are still in place when the aquifer is typically at its lowest, before autumn rains are able to recharge it.

For the first time the City ran the “Ugliest Lawn Contest” to promote water conservation by allowing your lawn to go dormant for the summer. Residents submitted photos to the Utilities Department to be entered into a draw for prizes.



ENGINEERING TRANSPORTATION & DRAINAGE

VEDDER ROAD AT SOUTH SUMAS ROAD INTERSECTION

This project has reached substantial completion. The key goal was road widening and signal upgrades to provide designated northbound and southbound left turn lanes. Other work completed in the third quarter included:

- New streetlight installation
- Curb, gutter, and 3m wide sidewalks
- Paving, line markings and signage
- Storm sewer system upgrades
- Continued third party utility relocations and ducting (Hydro/communications)
- 260m of road widening
- Traffic signal infrastructure and controller upgrades



ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION DESIGN WORKS

This project will provide design solutions to improve cycling facilities and road safety in a cost-effective manner. Works will include traffic signal, streetlighting, street parking and roadway designs as well as a vehicular movement analysis.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION DESIGN WORKS CONTINUED

This quarter the following status of design was achieved:

- Luckakuck Way (Vedder to the Valley Rail Trail): safety improvements and signalization – 50% design drawings completed
- Knight Road (Topaz to Evans): protected cycling facilities - 90% detailed design completed
- Downtown Cycling Network: 50% detailed design completed
- Mary Street (Hodgins to Princess): conversion of angled parking to install on-street bike lanes and curb bulges – 90% detailed design completed
- Knight Road at Southern Railway crossing: upgrade to flashing lights, bells and gates system and civil works connecting to the Valley Rail Trail – design commenced with contractor and Southern Railway

TYSON - KEITH WILSON DESIGN-BUILD PROJECT

The design-build contract was awarded to B&B Contracting / Aplin & Martin Consultants at the September 6 Council meeting. Tyson Road works include one traffic signal intersection upgrade/widening, storm main, drainage, streetlights and a multi-use pathway. Keith Wilson Road works include the realignment of the Tyson-Keith Wilson roundabout, road widening, drainage, streetlights, and curb installation. A sidewalk, bike lane and a multi-use pathway will be constructed.

ENGINEERING TRANSPORTATION & DRAINAGE

WILLIAMS STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

The Request for Expressions of Interest was issued October 4 with a closing date of November 15. This pre-selection process will be used to identify three qualified proponents to submit comprehensive engineering proposals for the project. The objective of this project is to provide engineering design solutions to provide a bridge for pedestrian and cyclist facilities across Hope Slough at Williams Street, while considering cost effectiveness and the performance of the designs. The schedule intends that Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued by December 6, 2023 with a closing date of January 17, 2024.

ASPHALT REHABILITATION

Roads completed through the asphalt rehabilitation program in the third quarter include:

- Bailey Landfill bypass lane
- Elk View Road - Payne to Ryder Lake
- Karson Road
- Kitchen Road - Ballam to Fairfield
- Prest Road - Trans-Canada Highway to Chilliwack Central
- Sylvan Drive - Lutz to Promontory
- Vedder and Luckakuck intersection
- Yarrow Central Road - No. 3 to Eckart



VICTORIA AVENUE PARKING LOT

The new parking lot located east of Young Road will create 58 new parking stalls. Four stalls will have level 2 electric vehicle chargers. Completed works include:

- Converting Victoria Avenue from Young to Nowell to a one-way to allow for additional parking spaces
- Streetlight bases and underground wiring



ENGINEERING TRANSPORTATION & DRAINAGE

ELECTRICAL CHARGING STATIONS, STREET LIGHTING AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Downtown Street Lighting

The installation of ornamental and decorative LED streetlights are now completed in the downtown area. In the third quarter, lights were installed at the following locations:

- College - Wellington to Young
- Mary - Spadina to Wellington
- Cook - Wellington to Henderson
- Spadina - Mary to Yale
- First - Spadina to Young
- Wellington - Cook to College



Traffic Signals

A Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon was installed at the intersection of Mary Street and Kipp Avenue. All 2023 traffic signal upgrades are now complete.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Fraser City Installations was awarded the contract for the installations of electric vehicle charging stations. All installations are now complete.

Level 2 chargers are now operational at:

- Tourism Centre
- City Hall
- Sardis Sport Complex
- Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre
- Victoria Avenue parking lot
- Chilliwack Courthouse parking lot

There are two level 3 port chargers located in the Victoria Avenue parking lot.

ROADWAY MARKINGS

During the month of July, staff inventoried the line markings that needed painting throughout the City. In September, the City's contractor completed any necessary works, including stop bars and crosswalks.



CULVERT PROJECTS

Two culverts were replaced in the third quarter. A road crossing culvert was replaced on Bailey Road which will improve farm drainage and fish passage. On Sinclair Road, a failing culvert from the 1950s was replaced. The larger culvert will allow higher water flows to reduce lowland flooding.

A sierra slope green face retaining wall was installed at Rogers-Ford Ditch on Ford Road. This will help road stability and habitat improvement.



ENGINEERING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



HABITAT RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT



City staff partnered with volunteers from Friends of Hope Slough to carry out habitat restoration along the slough at Hope River Park.

Invasive species such as reed canary grass and

morning glory were removed and the trees that were planted last fall were watered.

The City also supported riparian area enhancement and waterway protection by facilitating the donation of tree seedlings and woody debris to Northshore Streamkeepers and Fraser Valley Watershed Coalition.

The City collaborated with the Fraser Valley Conservancy to enhance Oregon spotted frog habitat along Elk Brook by creating more breeding habitat and performed riparian planting in order to enhance the overall biodiversity of the area.

WILDLIFE & WASTE INFORMATION SESSION

The City of Chilliwack collaborated with WildSafe BC and BC's Conservation Officer Service to provide an information session on ways to reduce wildlife conflicts by responsibly managing waste and other attractants in Wildlife Areas. Residents who live in Wildlife Areas attended, provided feedback, and had an open-floor discussion with the Conservation Officers, a WildsafeBC representative, and staff from the Environmental Services Department.

BOOK DONATION BIN

Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver and the City of Chilliwack introduced the Book Bin Recycling Program located at the Bailey Landfill Recycling Depot on September 6. Books are one of the highest sources of contamination in the City's curbside recycling program. The book recycling process is very labor-intensive and this program provides local residents with a way to reuse books or recycle books that cannot be reused. Unwanted books can also be donated to the Rotary Club and some thrift shops.

ADOPT-A-RIVER

The City of Chilliwack partners with the Chilliwack/Vedder River Cleanup Society (CVRCS) and the Fraser Valley Regional District for the biannual Adopt-A-River Program. The fall's river cleanup had over 175 volunteers from the community who helped pick up litter and illegally dumped items left behind. Volunteers collected 450 kg of garbage and 2,550 kg of scrap metal to be recycled. The City supported the event by providing free disposal at the Bailey Landfill.



ENGINEERING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



GARAGE SALE

The fall City-Wide Garage sale took place on September 23. There were 109 residences that participated in this event. This event promotes waste reduction through reuse and continues to be a community favourite. Garage sale hosts with leftover items were encouraged to donate them to local charities or thrift stores.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAM

The Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) provides local governments and Modern Treaty Nations with annual funding to support local climate action that reduces emissions and prepares communities for the impacts of a changing climate. The City completed the 2023 LGCAP Survey that summarized corporate emissions and climate actions completed in 2022, and was awarded \$312,000 in September 2023. The annual LGCAP funds are used to implement the initiatives outlined in the Corporate and Community Climate Action Plans, such as home energy rebate top-ups, active transportation projects, a City Energy Manager, and facility retrofits.



ENERGY MANAGER FUNDING

In August, the City was approved for funding up to \$60,000 to hire an Energy Manager through BC Hydro's Energy Manager Program. Creation of this position was a recommendation of the Corporate Climate Action Plan, and the remaining costs will be covered by provincial Local Government Climate Action Program funding. Recruitment is underway and the Energy Manager will plan and implement energy-saving projects to meet the City's energy and greenhouse gas reduction objectives.

CARBON ACCOUNTING TOOL

The City collaborated with Pinna Sustainability to produce an updated corporate operations energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory for 2021 and 2022, and this carbon accounting tool was completed in August 2023. As a signatory of the provincial Climate Action Charter, the City has been tracking and reporting GHG emissions from City operations on an annual basis since 2010. This is a necessary tool for the City to track progress on the Corporate Climate Action Plan that outlines targets and actions for reducing emissions over time.

ENGINEERING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



BAILEY LANDFILL NE WEDGE LINER EXTENSION

The Bailey Sanitary Landfill site has been a permitted landfill since 1974 with numerous expansion phases occurring over the years. This design-build expansion project is the NE Wedge Liner Extension. The need for the NE Wedge Liner Extension is prescribed in the 2020 Design, Operations and Closure Plan (DOCP) for the site, prepared by GHD Limited. The purpose of that document is to fulfill the requirements specified in the Operational Certificate and the Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste (Landfill Criteria), both issued by the BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.

The City of Chilliwack invited proposals from proponents to design and construct the NE Wedge Liner Extension. Two compliant proposals were received.

On June 20, Council accepted the proposal for the design and construction from the lead proponent, Metric Civil Contractors Ltd./Sperling Hansen Associates, in the amount of \$2,609,870. The expansion will increase the filling area by approximately 6,200 m², allowing for thousands of additional tonnes of waste to be landfilled. Construction work is in progress, with expected completion in November 2023.

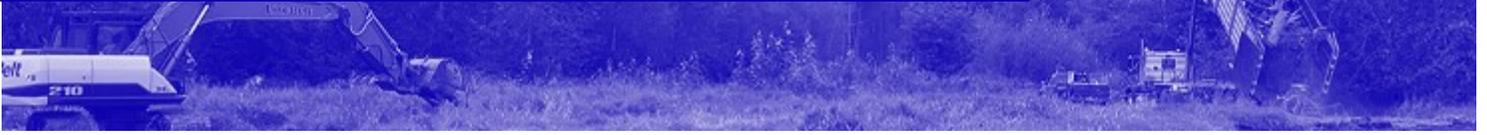


An aerial photograph of a park area, showing a parking lot on the left, a playground with various equipment in the lower-left, and winding walking paths through grassy areas with trees. The entire image has a blue color cast.

PUBLIC WORKS, PARKS, & UTILITY OPERATIONS

THIRD QUARTER REPORT, 2023

PUBLIC WORKS



OPEN CHANNEL DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

The City of Chilliwack's 2023 open channel drainage maintenance program within fish-bearing channels has been completed. As has been the case for the past several years, working with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and provincial agencies allowed the City to conduct instream channel maintenance in an expanded work window, extending from May to mid-October.

Approximately 47,000 linear metres of open channels were maintained within the City's municipal boundaries.

Operations staff worked carefully to mitigate potential environmental impacts while providing adequate drainage to farm and residential areas. Environmental impact mitigation involved fish salvage and the preservation of streamside shrubs and trees.

The City's 2023 open channel drainage maintenance program will help ensure that aggraded fine sediment and excess instream vegetation will not impair channel capacity. As a result, residents can expect a reduced threat of flooding, and the potential for improved production of agricultural land.

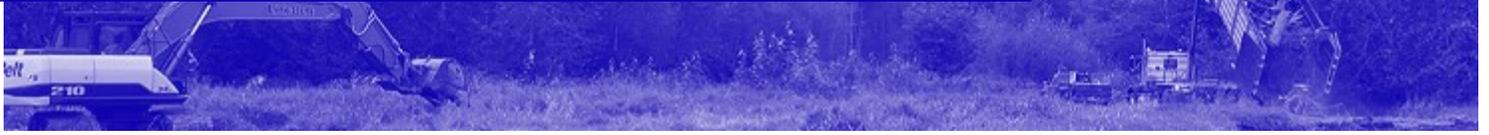


Pre-work fish salvage - Atchelitz Creek, 2023



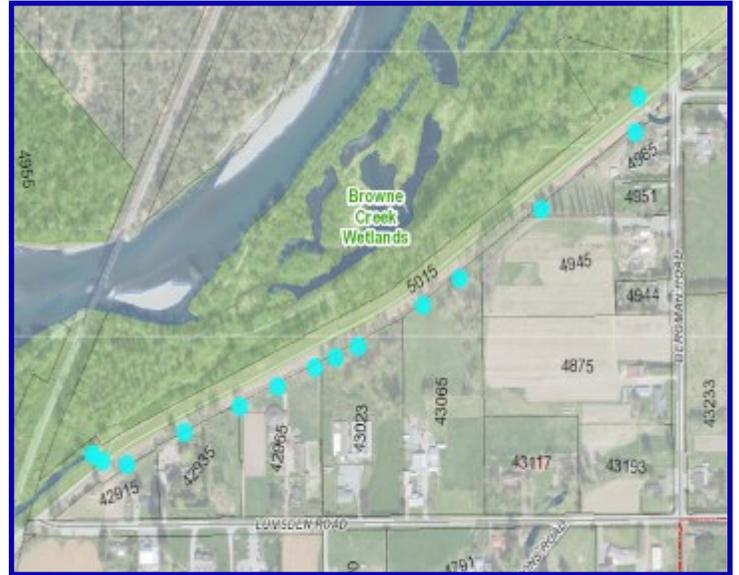
Channel cleaning underway in Greendale - July, 2023

PUBLIC WORKS



FLOOD BOX MAINTENANCE

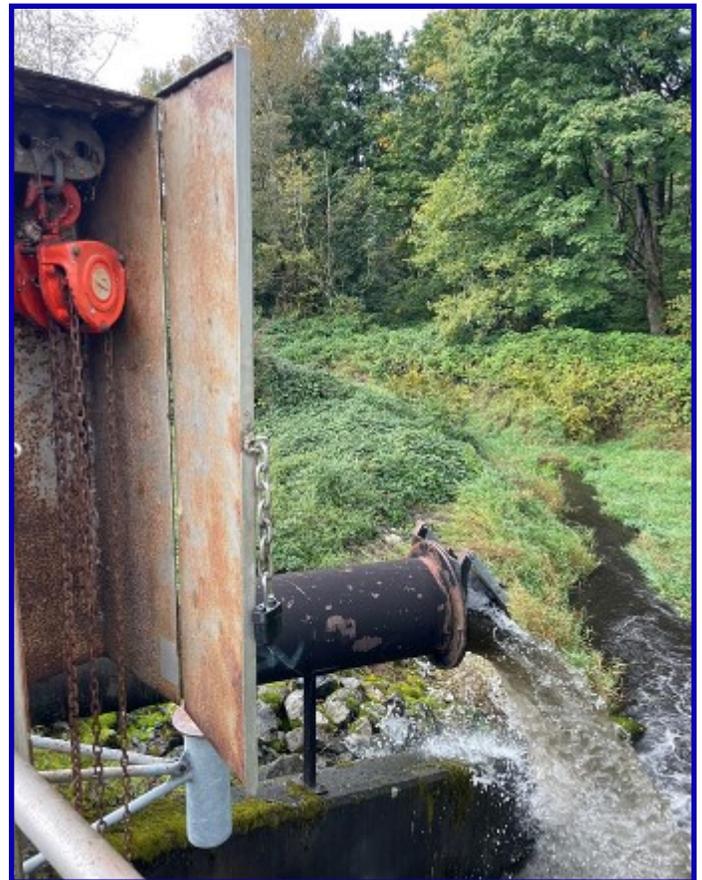
Every fall, Public Works completes flood box inspections and maintenance along the Vedder River. This consists of exercising, greasing, and repairs of all the control gates, flap gates, slide gates, and pumping stations. Staff completed refresher training, and newer staff trained on the installation of the electric pumps at the Street Creek pump station off of Bergman Road. This is a coordinated installation between Public Works and the Electrical/Mechanical team to ensure that during high river levels staff will respond quickly and efficiently to prevent localized flooding of Street Creek.



Some locations of flood boxes along the Vedder River dyke



Street Creek Pump Station



Pumps installed and activated



Pumps being lowered into the water

PARKS



WEEDEN DRIVE METAL STAIRCASE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

In August 2023, Operations replaced the aging, wooden staircase at Weeden Drive with a metal staircase. This staircase connects Weeden Drive to the Weeden Park trails, enhances safety and ensures a longer-lasting and more sustainable solution for park visitors.



Weeden Drive Metal Staircase

CRIMSON RIDGE PARK AND DOG OFF-LEASH AREA

Crimson Ridge Park and Dog Off-Leash Area is a recent addition to Promontory, offering a range of amenities to enhance outdoor recreation. With a stunning viewpoint overlooking Sardis, this park features a dedicated dog off-leash area suitable for all dog sizes, disposal stations, a water fountain with a dog bowl, and informative trail maps.



Crimson Ridge Park and Dog Off-Leash Area

FAIRFIELD PARK AND JINKERSON PARK DOG OFF-LEASH AREAS

The Fairfield Park and Jinkerson Park Dog Off-Leash Areas, completed in July 2023, are a recent addition to community park infrastructure, and were made possible through provincial grants. The transformation of each park space included the repurposing and clearing of existing spaces within the park and the installation of secure fencing. Amenities within the Dog Off-Leash Areas include waste disposal stations and bench seating.



Fairfield Park Dog Off-Leash Area

UTILITY OPERATIONS



GROUND PENETRATING RADAR

Utility locating has become an integral part of the department. As more infrastructure is installed in municipal roadways, the complexity of utility locating has increased. To assist with the complexity of utility locating, the Underground Utilities team recently purchased a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR). A GPR locator is a utility locating device which works by emitting an electromagnetic pulse into the ground. Once the information is received by the GPR, the system has software that translates these signals into images. Staff are then able to assess and determine various information about the sub-surface. This information helps to identify and locate objects such as pipes, structures, cables, voids and other sub-surface anomalies. Most locating devices can only locate metallic materials but GPR locators can detect both metallic and non-metallic objects, allowing them to be used in a wide range of applications. Another key feature of a GPR locator is they can be used to detect variations in ground composition. This is beneficial information for staff when trying to determine ground conditions such as ground material, surface thickness and water table data. The Underground Utilities Department uses this locating device as an additional tool to help ensure crews are safe and know as much as possible about their jobsite prior to excavation.



MARBLE HILL ZONE 3 RESERVOIR CATHODIC PROTECTION

In 2022, during regular maintenance and inspection of one of the City's steel reservoirs on Marble Hill, excessive corrosion was observed. An external contractor was hired to install cathodic protection, which will reduce the amount of corrosion in the future. The second reservoir at the site also required cathodic protection. The work was completed by the City's Electrical/Mechanical staff.

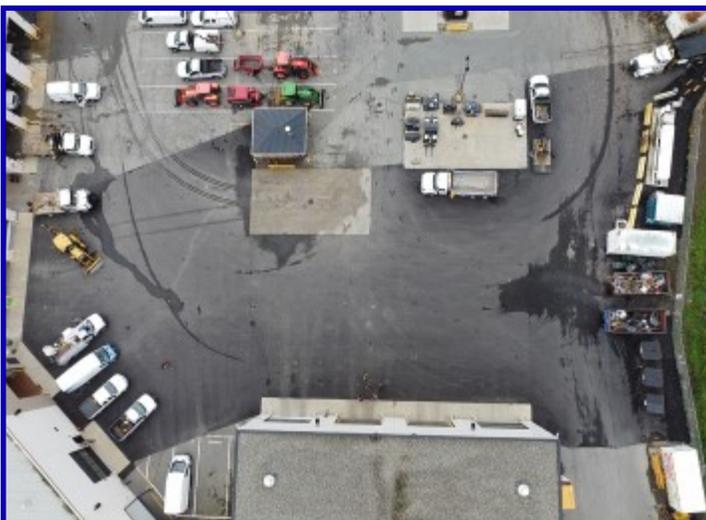


UTILITY OPERATIONS



YARD PAVING

The Operations Centre had initially only received its first lift of asphalt throughout the yard. After six years of extreme use, approximately 1/3 of the asphalt degraded to the point that it required repair. City staff completed the necessary base repairs and a local contractor completed the paving. The total project was completed under budget and extended the life of the original asphalt remaining.



UNIT 247

The City's 2008 Rosenbauer/RK Aerial 100' Platform Fire Truck was returned to service after awaiting a replacement ladder section. Extensive corrosion that led to an approximately 30% degradation to the structural integrity of the ladder was found during operations. City staff were able to repair and replace the compromised ladder section and return the truck to Fire Hall 1.



UNIT 1120

The City replaced a 2006 gasoline and propane powered scissor lift with an electric scissor lift. The new unit is located at Heritage Park to assist staff in various tasks throughout the facility.





**RECREATION &
CULTURE**
COMMUNITY EVENTS
FACILITIES
PROGRAMS

THIRD QUARTER REPORT, 2023

RECREATION & CULTURE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CELEBRATION AND ACTIVITY GRANT

- 22 events supported
- 2,625 residents impacted
- \$2,458 in funding provided

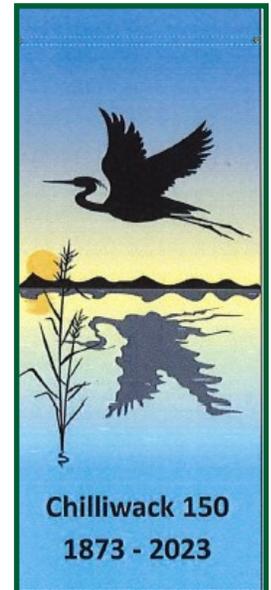
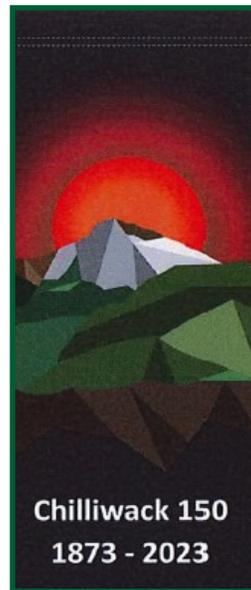
COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 39 special events supported
- \$29,500 in funding provided



CHILLIWACK 150

- The City of Chilliwack offered free swims at the Rotary Outdoor Pool through out the summer with 300 participants in total.
- 200 *Chilliwack 150* banners were created through a public art call-out process.



CANADA DAY 2023

The Canada Day event saw over 8,000 people enjoy the festivities hosted at Townsend Park. It was a family friendly event with a kids zone, two entertainment stages and plenty of food trucks!

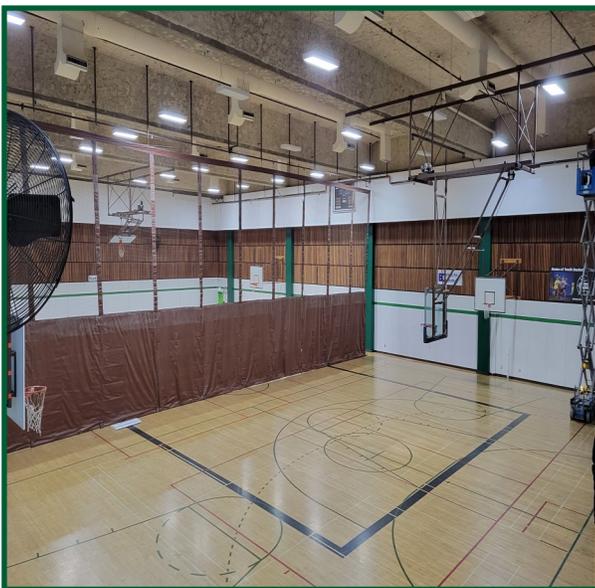
ANNA RATZLAFF
PHOTOGRAPHY



RECREATION & CULTURE FACILITIES & PROGRAMS

RECREATION FACILITIES

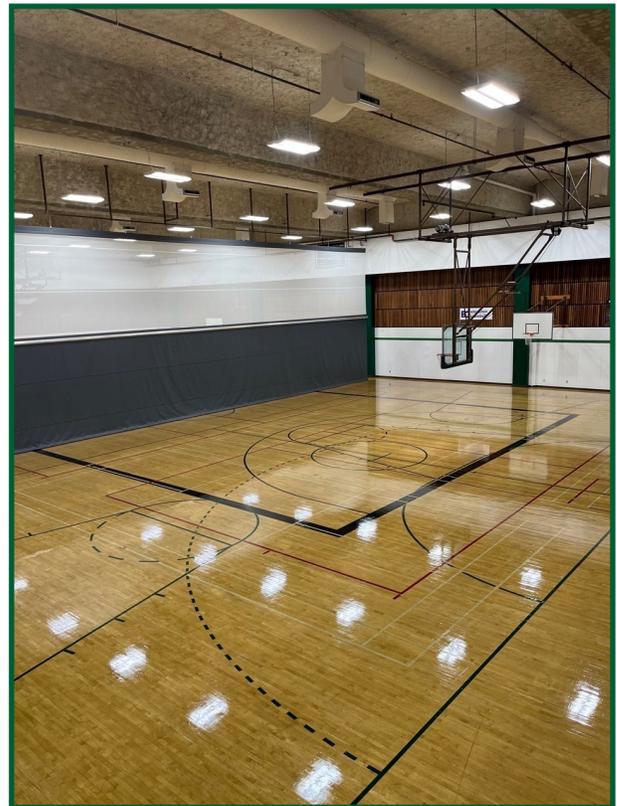
- The waste heat recovery project between the Coliseum and the Landing Leisure Centre was completed and is now operational.
- The City of Chilliwack received the BC Hydro Clean Energy Champion Award for the heat recovery project noted above.
- Major repairs/upgrades completed on the Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre pool's pipework, decking, sauna, change rooms, lighting and heating systems.
- Completed upgrades to the Cheam Centre weight room, bathroom, and gym.



Cheam Leisure Centre Gymnasium Before

CHEAM & LANDING LEISURE CENTRES

- Both the Leisure Centres increased the number of swimming lessons offered. Cheam had 348 spaces available, 328 were filled. The Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre had 183 spaces available, 160 were filled.
- A new accessible change room was built at the Cheam Leisure Centre, including a lift and bed.
- A "Water Safety" social media campaign as well as a video were created and featured the aquatic staff at both centres demonstrating ways to be "water safe" during the summer.



Cheam Leisure Centre Gymnasium After

RECREATION & CULTURE FACILITIES & PROGRAMS

HERITAGE PARK

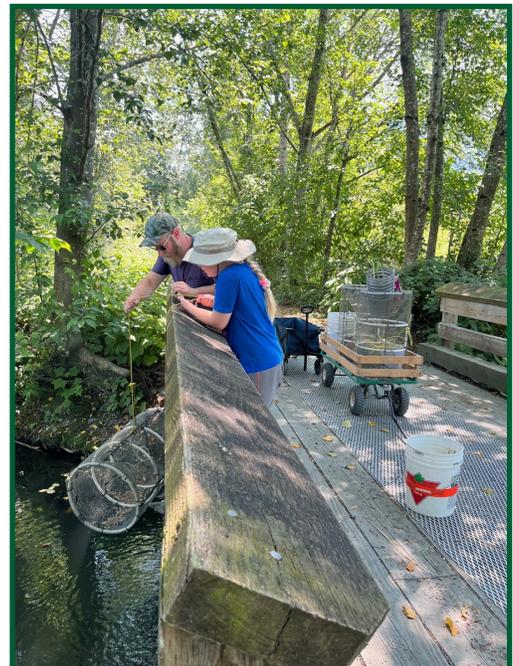
Programs held included:

- Chilliwack Fair
- Tour de Cure
- Barrel Racing
- Dog Shows
- Vaulting
- Mud Drag Racing



GREAT BLUE HERON NATURE RESERVE

- The GBHNR was identified as a potential key biodiversity area, and work began during the third quarter to formalize this designation.
- Two heron colony walks, a stargazing event, 11 half day summer camps, two art workshops and seven school programs were held.
- Work parties were created to control/remove a number of invasive species.
- A new pollinator garden was completed.
- Hosted twilight walks with Deb Soutar and a local brewery to help fundraise for a proposed new picnic pavilion.



RECREATION & CULTURE FACILITIES & PROGRAMS



FRASER VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARIES

Chilliwack Library

- The summer reading kickoff party brought out crowds to enjoy a bouncy castle, face painting, outdoor games, and a magic show.
- Participated in the Chilliwack Mural and Chilliwack Pride Festivals, offering fun contests such as “Spin the Wheel,” book draws, and “Gaga or Gatsby?”

Sardis Library

- 2023 Summer Reading Club saw a significant increase in participants.
- Summer Reading Club Medal Awards held August 29. Members from the Fire and Police Departments gave congratulatory speeches, a back to school safety talk and handed out medals to the participants.



FRASER VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARIES

Yarrow Library

- Summer Reading Club Wild Moccasin Dancers program gave insight into cultural practices.
- Parent Child Mother Goose program, in partnership with Fraser Valley Child Development Centre, continues to be very popular with registration filling up almost immediately.



RECREATION & CULTURE COMMUNITY EVENTS



CHILLIWACK MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

- As 2023 marks 150 years since the incorporation of the Township of Chilliwack, the Chilliwack Museum launched the exhibition, *Sparked: Moved to Action*, which runs until January 27, 2024. This exhibit reflects on the impacts of settler-colonialism in S'ólh Téméxw, and community responses 'sparked' by shifts in the community landscape, including political, economic, cultural, and environmental issues that have ongoing impacts today.
- Sweet Summer Fun, a family friendly event ran over two weeks this summer and hosted:
 - 77 Adults
 - 98 Children
 - 9 Teens
 - 19 Seniors
- A multi-year project of storage re-organization is ongoing. The benefits will be:
 - Online accessibility
 - Identification of potential hazards
 - Improved storage
 - Emergency risk mitigation
 - Longevity of various collections stored and recorded at the museum

- Online and searchable content now includes:
 - 5,441 archival descriptions
 - 19,678 digitized photos with descriptions
 - 10,531 object descriptions (with images)
 - 1,179 library descriptions

Total: 36,829 archival, photographic, object, and library descriptions searchable online.



RECREATION & CULTURE FACILITIES & PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Yarrow Community School Society (YCSS)

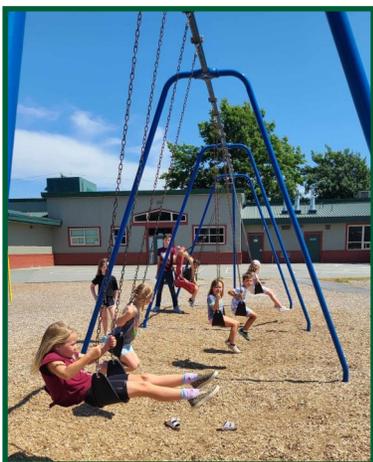
Programs delivered include:

- Four weeks of summer fun, crafts and outdoor adventures for children 3-5.
- Fall Tykes Soccer
- Cleo's Crafts, a free program for preschool children.
- Numerous bike rides with Cycling Without Age, including meteorite watching.



Greendale Elementary Community School Society (GECSS)

- Unique summer camps for kids 5-13 years old:
 - Science and Movement
 - Building and STEM
 - Art, Art and More Art!
- Waitlists for many of the September programs such as golf, Creative Kids, Library Centre, Free Play, Lego and floor hockey.



Rosedale Traditional Community School Society

- The Celebrate Summer Camp, a seven week program with kids ages 6-11 was hosted in the third quarter.
- The camp leaders and high school volunteers provided crafts, games, physical exercise and cooking.
- In addition to the Celebrate Summer Camp, multiple weeklong activity programs took place with over 120 children participating in science programs, cupcake decorating and gymnastics.



Promontory Heights Elementary Community School Association (PHECSA)

Programs delivered include:

- Popular "Sun 'n Fun" day camps were at full capacity for the entire seven weeks of summer
- Tween Night - Friday evenings for grades 4-6
- Busy Bees caregiver/parent & tot program
- Prime-Timers – seniors' Friday morning get-together with coffee
- Lego Club - free afterschool drop in
- Pickleball on Tuesdays and Thursdays

RECREATION & CULTURE FACILITIES & PROGRAMS



CHILLIWACK ARTS & CULTURAL CENTRE

EVENTS

- Bria Skonberg—September 9
- Qairo—September 15
- Vancouver Cello Quartet—September 17
- As We See It—July 18 to August 19
- Transformation—August 23 to September 23

ARTS & CRAFTS CLASSES OFFERED

- Crafts
- Crochet
- Henna
- Summer Art Camps for kids
- World Dance

CHILLIWACK AND DISTRICT SENIORS RESOURCES SOCIETY

- 50 heat kits and 70 fans were distributed to seniors during the summer high heat.
- Free hot dog drive-thru was a success with over 150 hot dogs being served.
- 90 older adults are receiving food hampers every two weeks as a result of a partnership with The Salvation Army and the Chilliwack and District Seniors Resource Society.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

**ADMINISTRATION & COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

FIRE OPERATIONS

FIRE PREVENTION

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

CHILLIWACK

1906

DEPT.



THIRD QUARTER REPORT, 2023

FIRE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



PERSONNEL

Career Staff:



New Appointment:

Krista Minar
Assistant Fire Chief
Fire Prevention
September 2023

Career Staff Retirements:



Assistant Chief Michael Bourdon September 2023:

Assistant Chief Bourdon started his fire service career with Surrey Fire Rescue in 1998, and was hired as Assistant Chief, Fire Prevention for the Chilliwack Fire Department in September 2013. We thank Michael for his 20 years of service, including 10 years of dedicated service to our department and community.



Fire Department Annual Meeting

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The department continues its involvement in community events and fundraisers. During this quarter, Chilliwack firefighters and the Chilliwack Firefighters Charitable Society volunteered at the following events:

- ◆ Canada Day Pancake Breakfast
- ◆ "Wash the Car for a Cause" fundraiser with SpeedWash Chilliwack



**Canada Day Pancake Breakfast
Fire Hall 1**



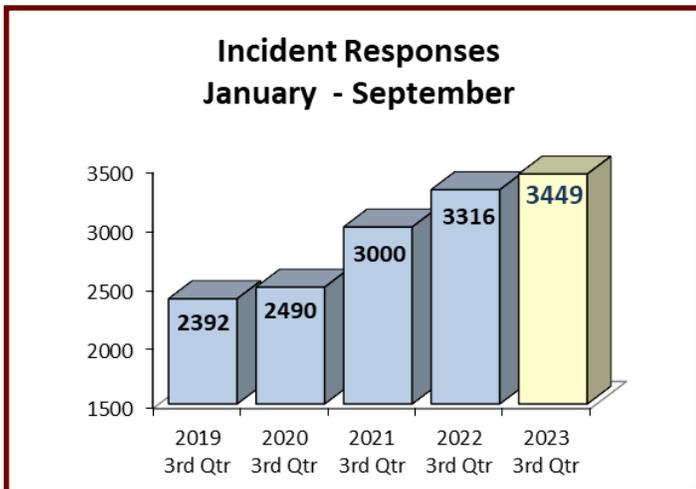
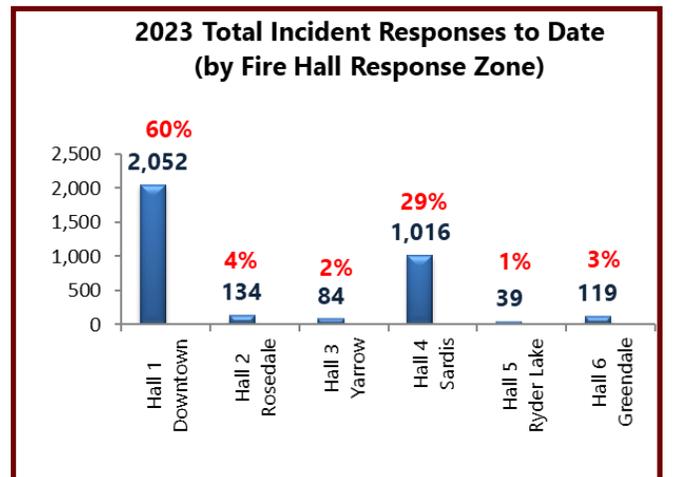
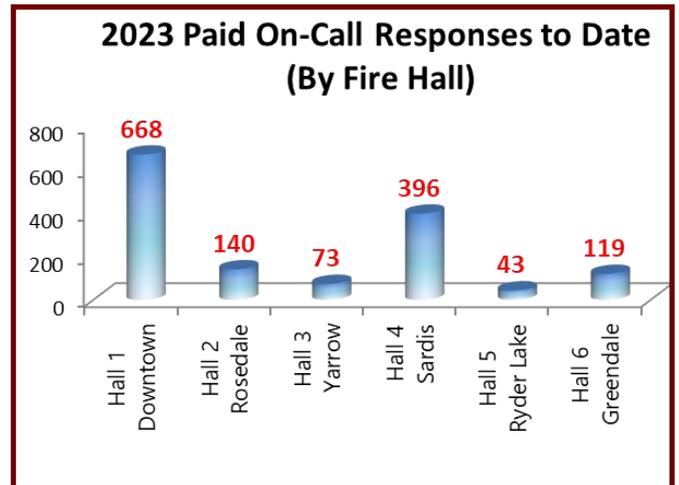
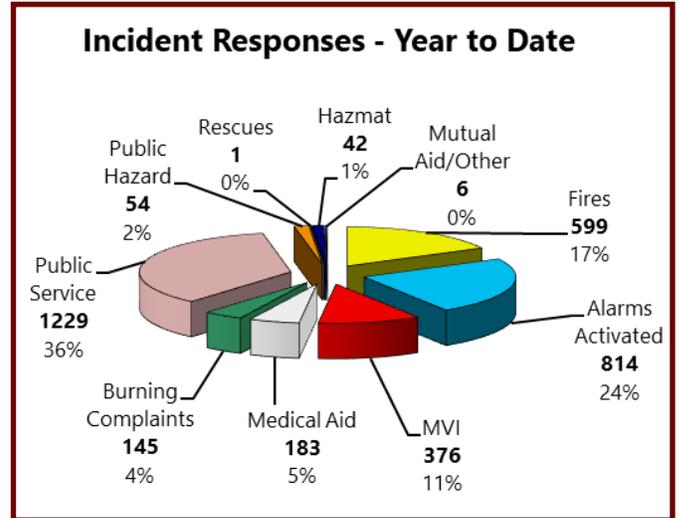
**Chilliwack Firefighters Charitable Society
"Wash the Car for a Cause" Fundraiser**

FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE OPERATIONS



INCIDENT RESPONSES

The department responded to 1,329 calls for service in the third quarter (3,449 year to date). This is an increase of 133 calls compared to this time in 2022. The increase in calls is attributed to an increase in minor non dollar loss fires, alarms activated, and public service incidents. Incidents for this quarter included 124 motor vehicle incidents, 249 fires, 63 emergency medical aid calls, and 57 burning complaints. Thus far in 2023, the three leading calls for service were public service, alarms activated, and fire incident responses. These three incident response types accounted for 2,642 incidents or 77% of the total calls responded to date. To date, 3,068 (89%) of total incidents occurred in the Fire Hall 1 (Downtown) and Fire Hall 4 (Sardis) response zones.



FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE OPERATIONS



INCIDENT RESPONSES

	Monthly Summary			3rd Quarter	2nd Quarter	1st Quarter	Year to Date
	July	Aug.	Sept.				
FIRES	105	78	66	249	200	150	599
Structures	15	11	7	33	28	26	87
Vehicle	3	5	7	15	10	8	33
Outdoor / Other	87	62	52	201	162	116	479
ALARMS ACTIVATED	95	105	89	289	272	253	814
Single family residential	38	50	41	129	116	122	367
Multi-family residential	19	24	19	62	75	62	199
Non-residential	38	31	29	98	81	69	248
MVI (NO FIRE)	40	45	39	124	137	115	376
Auto Extrication	0	1	1	2	1	4	7
Provide Medical Care	23	24	22	69	78	43	190
Routine Cleanup / No injuries	14	18	16	48	48	57	153
Cancelled/Fire not required	3	2	0	5	10	11	26
EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID	17	28	18	63	44	76	183
BURNING COMPLAINTS	30	21	6	57	53	35	145
Illegal	30	18	5	53	48	29	130
Legal	0	3	1	4	5	6	15
PUBLIC SERVICE	145	226	147	518	381	330	1,229
Investigate safety complaints and hazards	48	73	35	156	80	50	286
Assist other agencies (BCAS, RCMP etc.)	77	128	99	304	269	234	807
Home smoke alarm / Carbon monoxide alarm	4	10	3	17	9	15	41
Post Fire Recheck/ Post Fire Investigation	3	3	2	8	3	4	15
Trapped in Elevator	4	4	3	11	9	8	28
Assist with lift or entry (non-medical/private)	5	5	2	12	9	16	37
Assist with water issue	2	1	0	3	0	2	5
Other	2	2	3	7	2	1	10
PUBLIC HAZARD	8	6	0	14	21	19	54
RESCUES	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	5	5	4	14	13	15	42
MUTUAL AID (Out of Area Assist)	0	0	0	0	2	4	6
Totals	446	514	369	1,329	1,123	997	3,449

Previous Years:	3 rd Qtr	2nd Qtr	1 st Qtr	YTD
2022	1,155	1,031	1,130	3,316
2021	1,135	1,038	827	3,000
2020	976	728	786	2,490
2019	833	834	725	2,392

FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PREVENTION



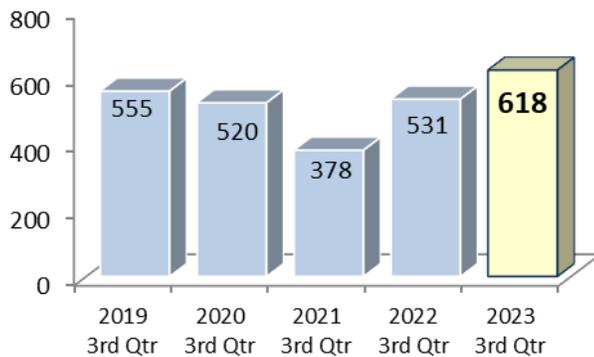
CODE ENFORCEMENT

The department completed 234 fire and life safety inspections in this quarter, for a total of 618 inspections completed to date.

ENGINEERING

The department completed 42 plan and sprinkler reviews this quarter. Fire Department personnel also conducted numerous on-site inspections to ensure Fire Code compliance.

**Fire & Life Safety Inspections
January - September**



**Emergency Preparedness
Presentation**

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION

A total of 61 fire and life safety education sessions were delivered to the community thus far in 2023. To date, 1,956 residents have been educated or trained in fire and life safety, and emergency preparedness. Sessions during this quarter included extinguisher training, fire safety classes, and emergency preparedness presentations.

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS/LOSSES

Third quarter fire losses were \$4,463,100. Approximately \$3 million is attributed to the church fire on Williams Street in September. There were two civilian fire related injuries, and two firefighter injuries during this quarter. To date a total of seven civilians, and two firefighters have been injured, with two fatalities. A total of 28 dollar loss structure fires occurred this quarter with 25 (or 89%) occurring in residential occupancies. To date, 53 (82%) of structure fires occurred in single and multi-family residential structures. To date in 2023, there have been a total of 65 dollar loss structure fires, with 58 (89%) occurring in the Halls 1 and 4 response areas. Fire origin and cause investigations were completed to identify fire loss trends and focus our inspection and education efforts to prevent future losses.



FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING AND EDUCATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



TRAINING AND EDUCATION

In addition to our regular training, the summer months provides great opportunities for firefighters to take their training out into the community.

Technical Training

- ◆ **Pre-Hospital Care** is a large component of our training curriculum, and includes regularly scheduled CPR, AED, Spinal, and First Responder (FR 3) courses.
- ◆ **Apparatus Operations** – Eight firefighters completed driver training and pumps training, in accordance with NFPA 1002 Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator.
- ◆ **Vehicle Rescue** – Joint Vehicle Rescue training with JIBC Paramedic Academy was completed.
- ◆ **Aerial Operator Training** – Six firefighters completed Aerial Operator Training in accordance with NFPA 1002.
- ◆ **Interior / Exterior Firefighter Operations** – Firefighters continued to familiarize themselves and train with the new SCBA equipment.
- ◆ **Class 3 Driver Training** – Four firefighters completed their Class 3 driver training.
- ◆ **Fire Behaviour** – Eighty firefighters conducted in-house fire behaviour training, gaining knowledge in fire development, fire growth, thermal layering, thermal imbalance, flow paths, fire travel, ventilation, and fire control. Fire behaviour training was also delivered to 24 Chilliwack River Valley firefighters.
- ◆ **Paid on-Call (POC) Firefighter Recruitment** – The selection process for 2023/2024 POC firefighter recruits started in September. Twenty-one members were selected to participate in this year's firefighter recruit camp.

Educational Training

- ◆ **Fire Officer Level I and II** – Fire officers continue working on the requirements outlined in NFPA 1021 accreditation for Fire Officer Level I and II.
- ◆ **Team Leader** – Four firefighters completed Team Leader training in accordance with the B.C. Structural Firefighting Minimum Training Standards.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

In the third quarter, staff continued to focus on reviewing the new BC Emergency and Disaster Management Act. The new Act was tabled by the Province on October 3, and the accompanying regulations are currently being developed. The Province of BC has opened a comment period for the anticipated regulations and staff will be participating in this engagement process.

In this quarter, staff began to re-occupy the primary Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) building. Over the course of the winter, this building will receive technology upgrades funded by an EOC grant from the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund.

During the peak of the wildfire season, the City of Chilliwack was asked by the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness to provide group lodging surge capacity for the Kookipi Creek Wildfire in Electoral Area "A" of the Fraser Valley Regional District. Thankfully, this additional capacity was not needed due to effective fire suppression efforts and favorable weather. In support of the BC wildfire response, the department sent water tenders to the Boston Bar and Kelowna wildfires.

The Chilliwack Emergency Support Services (ESS) team met monthly in the quarter, and focused on planning for equipment and technology upgrades funded by an ESS grant from the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund. These improvements will make a positive impact on the volunteer and evacuee experience during ESS team activations for small to large scale events. The ESS team is also in the process of onboarding seven new ESS team members, and delivering foundational training to these new members.



**Chilliwack Fire Department in Kelowna
August 2023**



**CORPORATE
SERVICES**
VANDALISM TO
CITY FACILITIES

THIRD QUARTER REPORT, 2023

CORPORATE SERVICES

VANDALISM TO CITY FACILITIES



VANDALISM REPORT SUMMARY TABLE

CITY OF CHILLIWACK

2023 Third Quarter - Vandalism Report Summary
July, August, September 2023

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to Date
Public Works and Parks	\$ 12,747	\$ 12,400	\$ 19,585	\$ 10,276	\$ 10,638	\$ 9,248	\$ 16,118	\$ 6,673	\$ 13,450				\$ 111,135
Recreation Facilities	\$ 1,010	\$ 100	\$ 190	\$ 75	\$ 230	\$ 1,293	\$ 296	\$ 393	\$ 640				\$ 4,227
Civic Facilities	\$ 625	\$ 575	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,375	\$ 675	\$ 550	\$ 500	\$ 150	\$ 400				\$ 6,200
Engineering - Wire Theft	\$ 242	-	-	\$ 1,045	-	\$ 727	\$ 507	\$ 860	-				\$ 3,381
Fire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
2023 TOTALS	\$ 14,624	\$ 13,075	\$ 21,125	\$ 12,771	\$ 11,543	\$ 11,818	\$ 17,421	\$ 8,076	\$ 14,490	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 124,943
2022 TOTALS	\$ 12,044	\$ 11,803	\$ 13,109	\$ 10,713	\$ 7,259	\$ 22,857	\$ 11,967	\$ 9,599	\$ 14,621	\$ 20,521	\$ 8,687	\$ 17,963	\$ 161,143



CORPORATE SERVICES

VANDALISM TO CITY FACILITIES



PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS

Month	Item	Cost
July	Graffiti	\$7,330.00
	Vandalism	\$8,788.00
August	Graffiti	\$3,825.00
	Vandalism	\$2,848.00
September	Graffiti	\$4,074.00
	Vandalism	\$9,376.00
	Total:	\$36,241.00

RECREATION FACILITIES

Month	Item	Cost
July	Graffiti	\$170.00
	Vandalism	\$126.00
August	Graffiti	\$280.00
	Vandalism	\$113.00
September	Graffiti	\$200.00
	Vandalism	\$440.00
	Total:	\$1,329.00

CIVIC FACILITIES

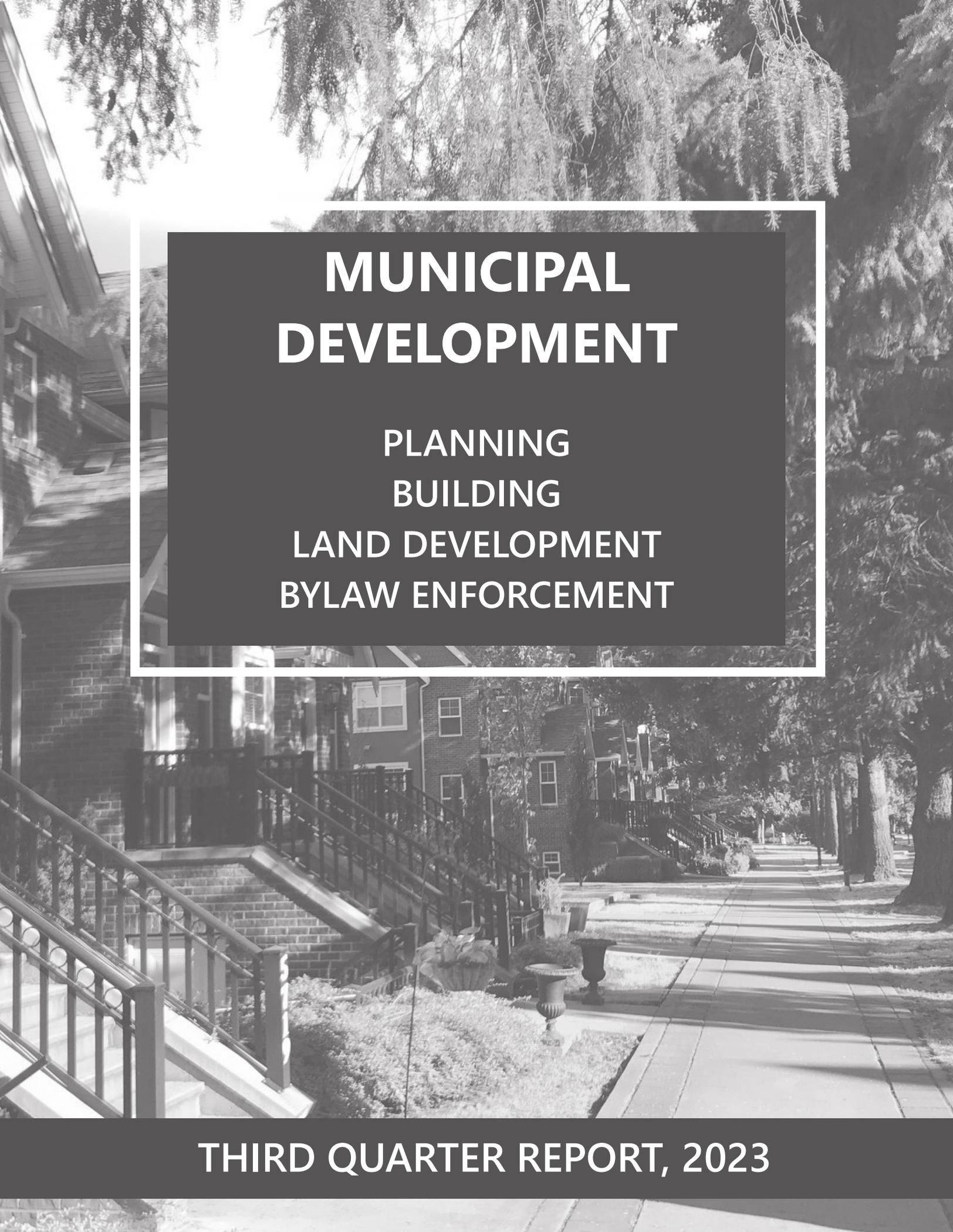
Month	Item	Cost
July	Graffiti	\$350.00
	Vandalism	\$150.00
August	Graffiti	\$150.00
	Vandalism	\$0.00
September	Graffiti	\$0.00
	Vandalism	\$400.00
	Total:	\$1,050.00

STREETLIGHTING—WIRE THEFT

Month	Item	Cost
July	Vandalism / Wire Theft	\$507.00
August	Vandalism / Wire Theft	\$860.00
September	Vandalism / Wire Theft	\$0.00
	Total:	\$1,367.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT

There were no significant acts of vandalism to the Fire Department this quarter.



MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT

**PLANNING
BUILDING
LAND DEVELOPMENT
BYLAW ENFORCEMENT**

THIRD QUARTER REPORT, 2023

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT

ECONOMY AND HOUSING MARKET STARTS

Over this quarter, the Bank of Canada held its benchmark interest rate steady at 5% as the economy is showing signs of cooling. According to Central 1 Credit Union, Canada's housing market activity declined again in September as high interest rates, slowing economic conditions, and buyer uncertainty continued. High mortgage rates will continue to limit any momentum at a national level and, specifically, in higher priced markets such as BC and Ontario. In BC, overall home sales continued to decline in September, with prices remaining largely flat. High home prices and the need for larger loans in the BC market is forcing more buyers to postpone homeownership due to high interest rates, while also fueling more new listings.

Although most housing markets in BC experienced a decline in sales in September, Chilliwack and District Real Estate Board (CADREB) and Fraser Valley Real Estate Board (FVREB) statistics indicate a slight increase in home pricing throughout the Fraser Valley. Despite high interest rates, benchmark sale prices continues to increase in comparison to last year. Compared to September 2022's benchmark prices, CADREB reports the current benchmark price for a single-detached dwelling increased 5.4% (\$902,200), townhomes decreased 1.3% (\$614,300), and apartments increased 0.9% (\$411,200). In communities to the west, the FVREB reports the current benchmark price for a single-detached dwelling increased 4.6% (\$1,526,200), townhomes increased 3.5% (\$848,600), and apartments increased 3.4% (\$545,900).

Residential building permits in Chilliwack continue to trend lower throughout 2023. To date, Chilliwack's total residential building permit units are 453 (143 single detached, 24 townhouses, 286 apartment units) compared to 698 residential building permit units of the same period last year (195 single detached, 6 duplexes, 35 townhouses, 462 apartment units). Though not reflected in the City's building permit statistics, there continues to be a high rate of residential construction on First Nations land, which broadly contributes to the City's overall growth. The majority of this growth and development is occurring on Tzeachten and Skowkale First Nations' and Shxwhá:y Village's land.

Sources: Central 1 Credit Union, City of Chilliwack Building Permit Records, Chilliwack & District Real Estate Board, Fraser Valley Real Estate Board



MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT

MAPPING THE CITY'S DENSITY

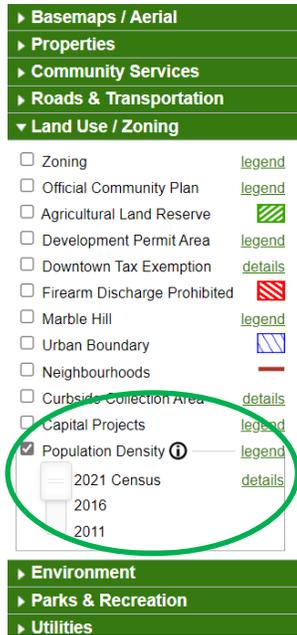
New layers displaying population and density are now publicly available on the City's online mapping tool

(maps.chilliwack.com/b/).

These new mapping layers show population and density in the City of Chilliwack by

Dissemination Area (DA) for the 2011, 2016, and 2021 Census years. They

give users the ability to view density changes and DA boundary shifts over a span of ten years, helping paint a picture of how Chilliwack's neighbourhoods have grown and changed over time.



HERITAGE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN: NEXT STEPS

Progress continues on updating Chilliwack's 1991 Heritage Inventory. Through in-depth field review, a comprehensive review of 1991 Heritage Inventory was undertaken to determine what buildings and sites retain heritage value. In September, the consultants provided the Chilliwack Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) with an update on the project's progress, findings, and discussed recommendations for an updated inventory. The next steps include finalizing the evaluation criteria and preparing a draft report to present to HAC in December 2023. The project is anticipated to be completed by January 2024.



CITY & NEIGHBOURHOOD PROFILES

Over this period, the City hired CitySpaces to prepare City and Neighbourhood profiles, including a ten-year community trends overview, using data from the 2011, 2016, and 2021 Census years. The project began in July, with the consultant's review of the data, indicator shortlisting exercise, and preliminary design concept development. The project is on track to be completed by March 2024.



MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT



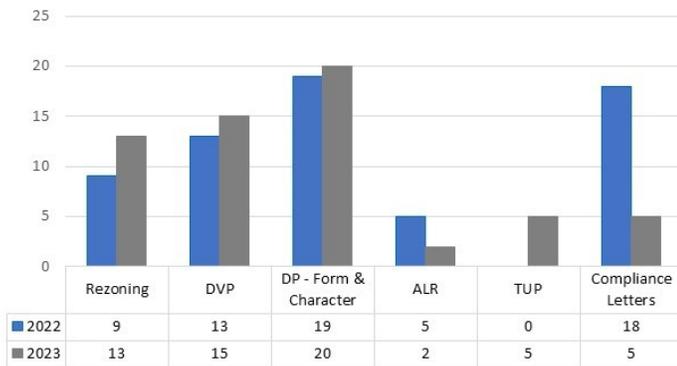
PLANNING DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION SUMMARY – 2022

APPLICATION	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Q3 Totals	2022 YTD Totals
Rezoning	13	7	16	6	14	8	0	4	5				9	73
DVP	11	3	5	4	8	5	1	5	7				13	49
DP - Form & Character	8	9	12	20	13	5	4	10	5				19	86
ALR	0	2	0	0	5	1	1	4	0				5	13
TUP	2	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0				0	7
Compliance Letters	2	12	2	1	4	4	5	3	10				18	43
New Business Licences	69	58	63	42	52	72	40	72	42				154	510

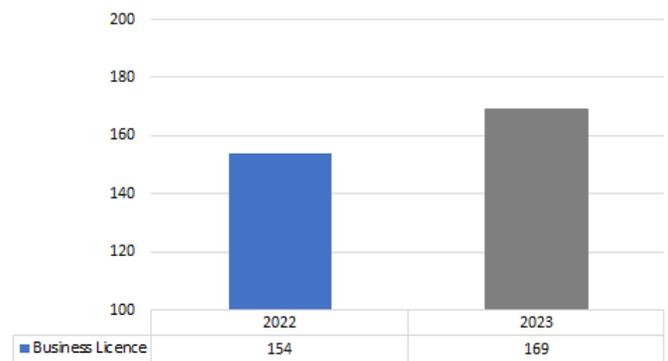
PLANNING DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION SUMMARY – 2023

APPLICATION	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Q3 Totals	2023 YTD Totals
Rezoning	7	3	4	8	5	3	8	4	1				13	43
DVP	9	5	7	6	7	3	8	5	2				15	52
DP - Form & Character	8	6	11	11	10	3	6	8	6				20	69
ALR	0	0	1	1	3	3	2	0	0				2	10
TUP	2	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	2				5	10
Compliance Letters	5	1	4	3	2	1	1	1	3				5	21
New Business Licences	35	77	38	56	55	62	61	55	53				169	492

3rd Quarter - 2022/2023 Comparison



3rd Quarter - 2022/2023 New Business Licences



MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT



APPLICATIONS RECIEVED BY NEIGHBOURHOOD - 3rd QUARTER

	Rezoning	Development Variance Permits	Development Permits Form & Character	ALR	TUP	*Business Licences
Fairfield	1					8
Little Mountain						2
Chilliwack Proper	9	9	9	1	3	66
Chilliwack Mountain			1			3
Cattermole						
Village West	1	2	3			8
Sardis	1		1		1	18
Vedder	1	2			1	27
Greendale						10
Greendale Area		1	1	1		
Yarrow		1	1			11
Promontory			3			20
Ryder Lake						
Majuba Hill						2
Eastern Hillside			1			5
Rosedale						3
Valley North						12
Valley South						1
Non Resident Businesses						25
TOTAL APPLICATIONS	13	15	20	2	5	221

*Note: Business Licences include new, change of address, ownership changes and non-resident.

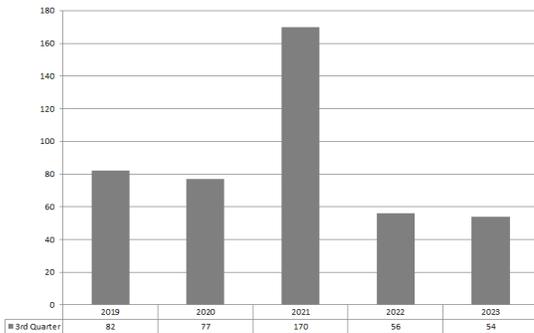


MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BUILDING & LAND DEVELOPMENT

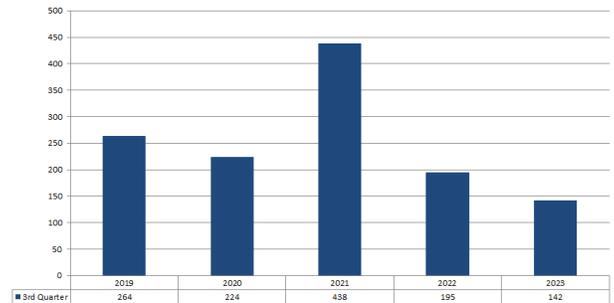


BUILDING PERMIT INFORMATION

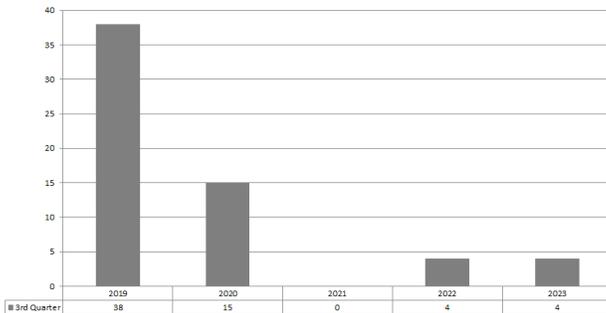
**Single Family
3rd Quarter 5-year Comparison**



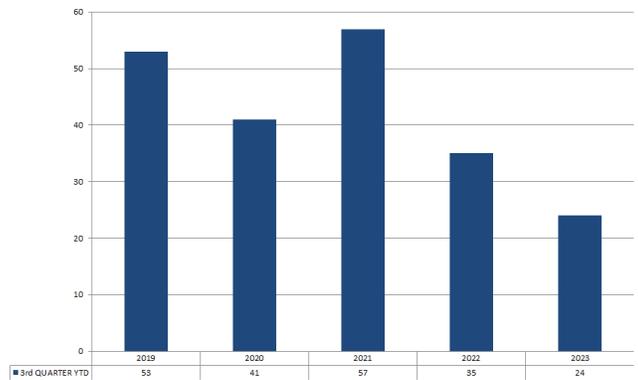
**Single Family
Year-to-date 5-Year Comparison**



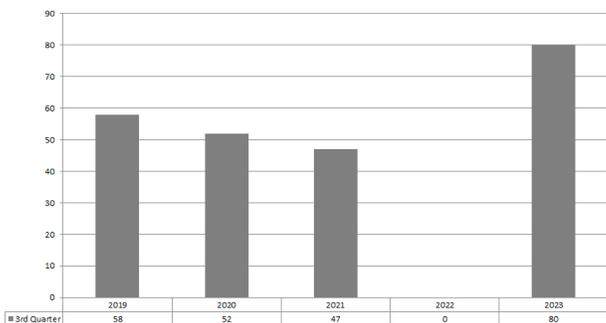
**Townhouses
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison**



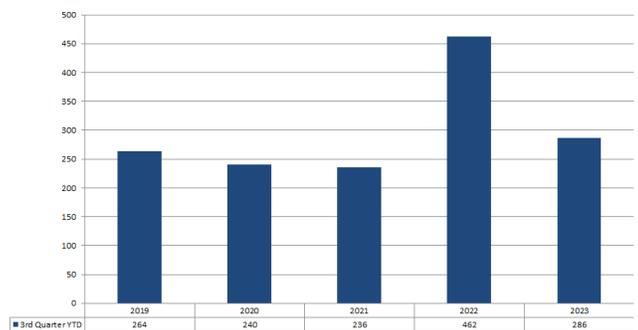
**Townhouses
Year-to-date 5-Year Comparison**



**Multi-Family Apartments
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison**



**Multi-Family Apartments
Year-to-date 5-Year Comparison**

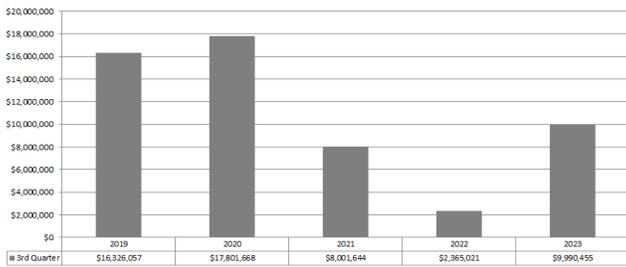


MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BUILDING & LAND DEVELOPMENT

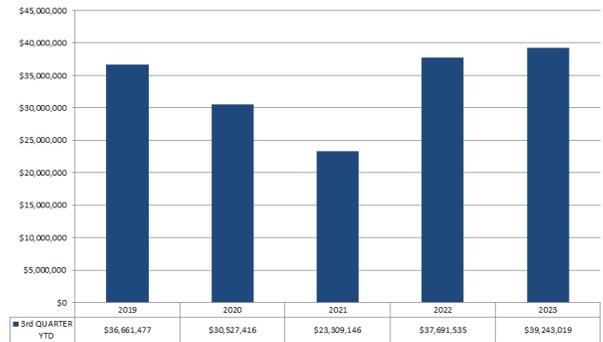


BUILDING PERMIT INFORMATION

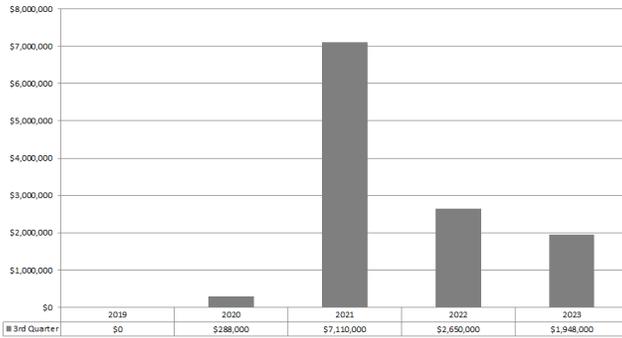
Commercial
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison



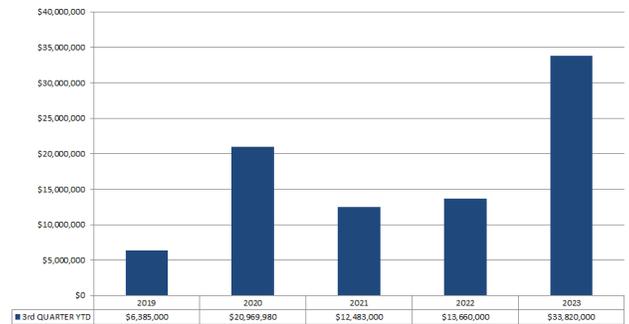
Commercial
Year-to-date 5-Year Comparison



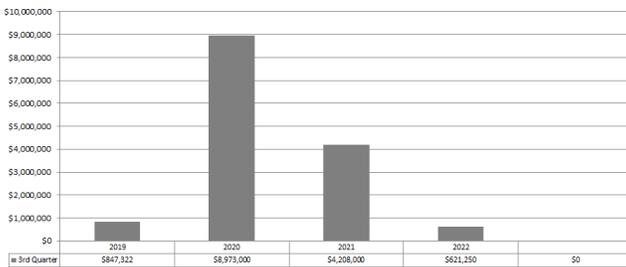
Industrial
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison



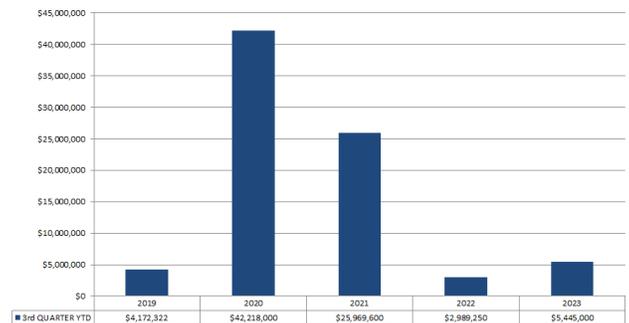
Industrial
Year-to-date 5-Year Comparison



Institutional
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison



Institutional
Year-to-date 5-Year Comparison

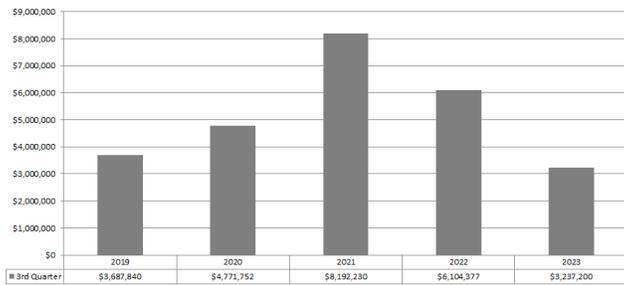


MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BUILDING & LAND DEVELOPMENT

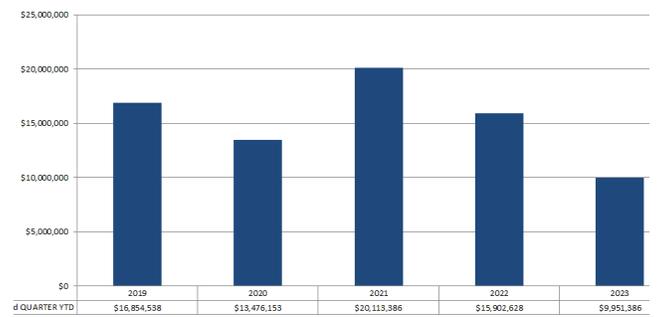


BUILDING PERMIT INFORMATION

Agricultural
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison



Agricultural
Year-to-date 5-Year Comparison

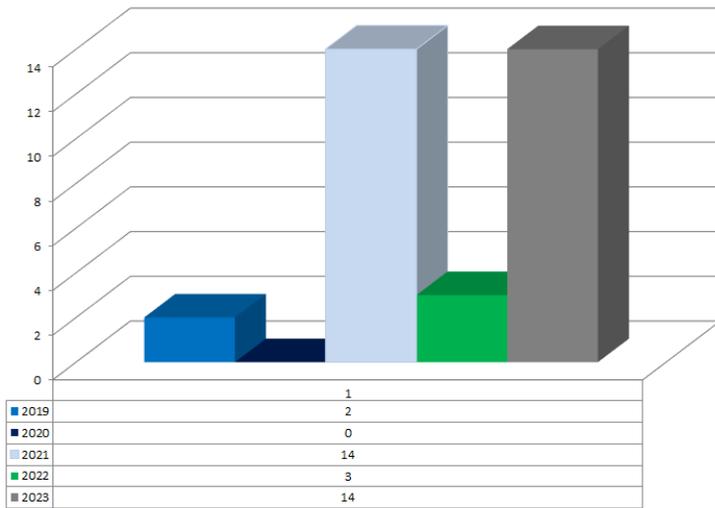


MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BUILDING & LAND DEVELOPMENT

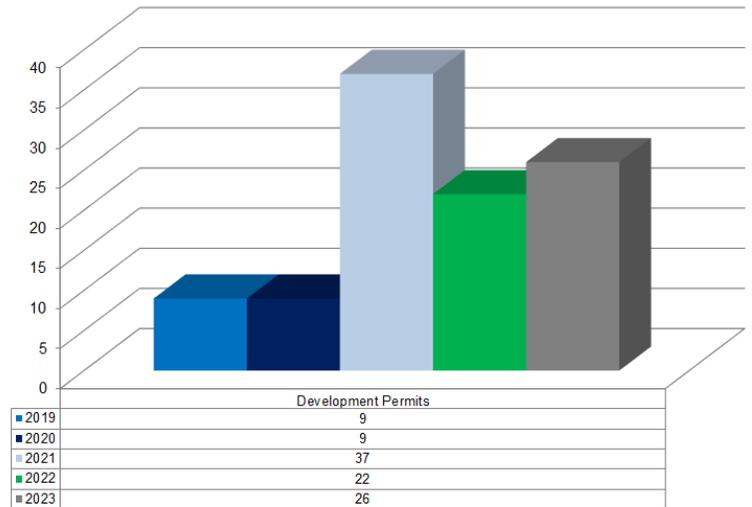


LAND DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION

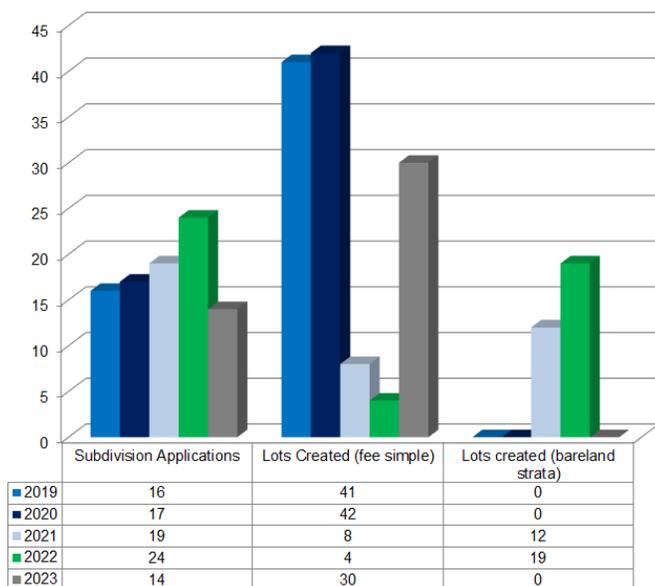
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison
Development Permits



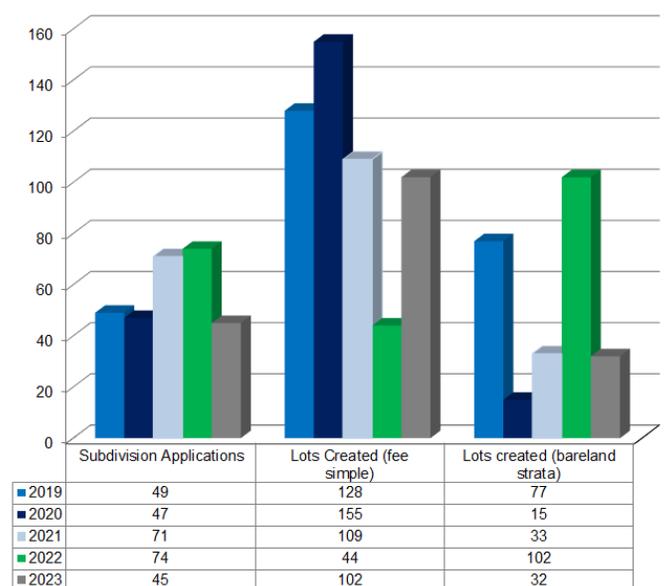
Year-to-Date 5-Year Comparison
Development Permits



3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison
Subdivision



Year-to-Date 5-Year Comparison
Subdivision

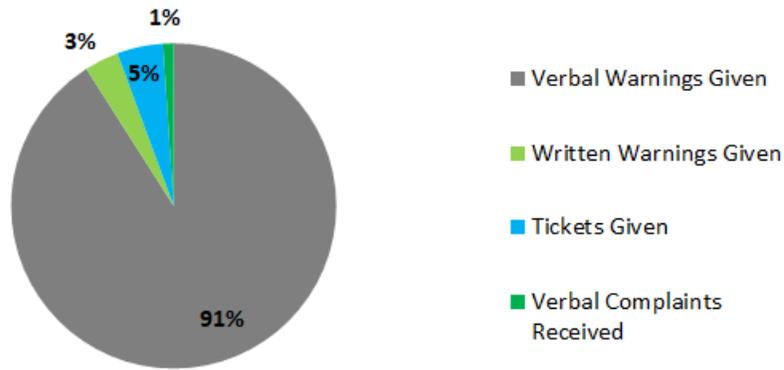


MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BYLAW ENFORCEMENT

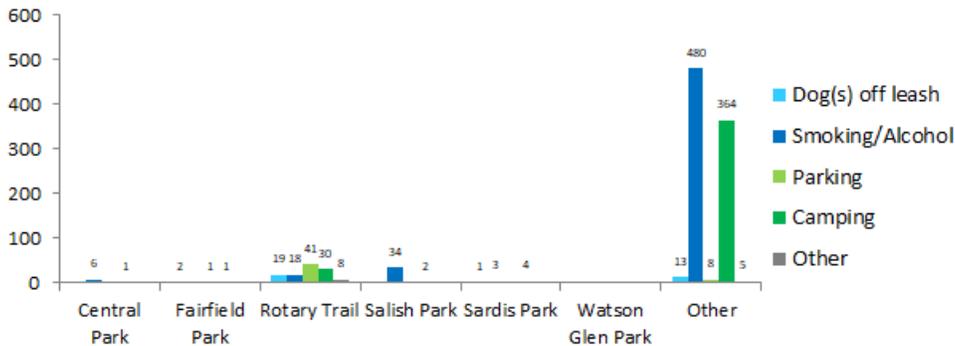


BYLAW BIKE PATROL INFORMATION

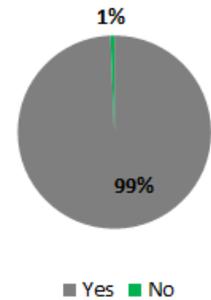
Total Monthly Stats



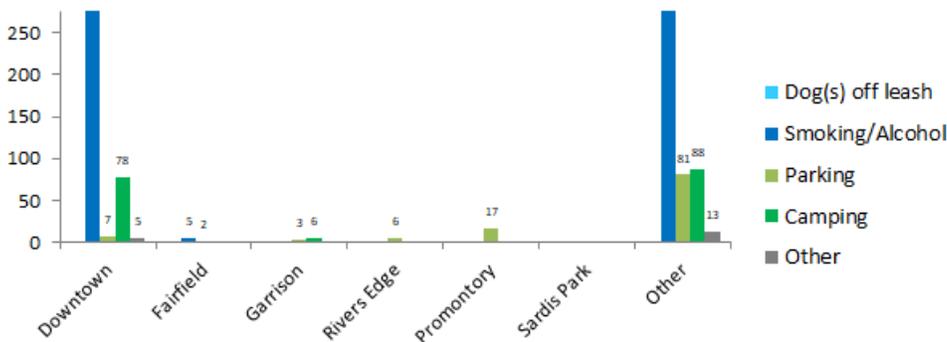
Verbal Warnings (Parks)



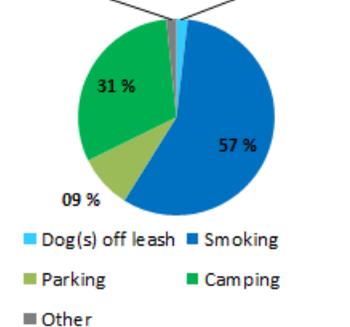
Verbal Warning - Compliance Achieved



Verbal Warnings (Neighbourhoods)



Verbal Warning Breakdown

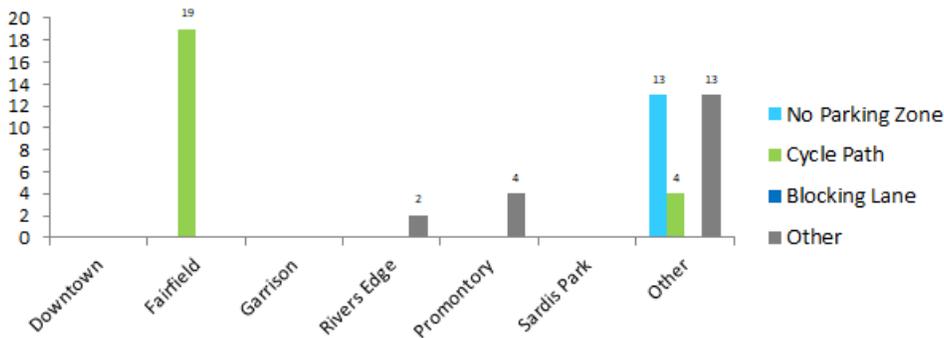


MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BYLAW ENFORCEMENT

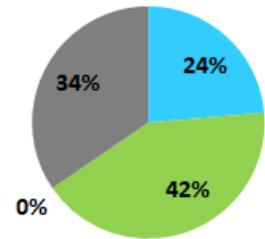


BYLAW BIKE PATROL INFORMATION

Written Warnings (Neighbourhoods)

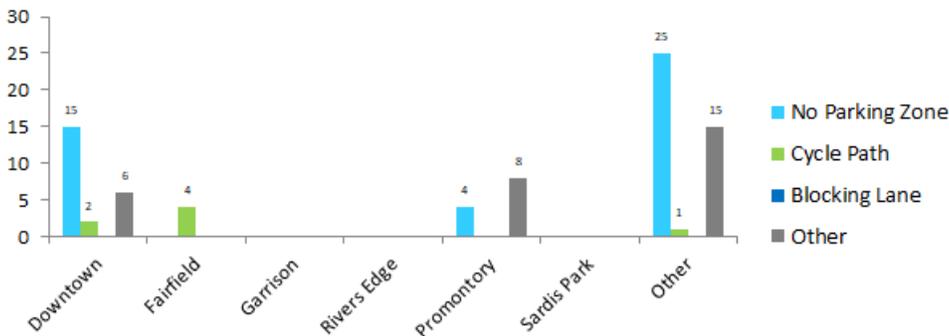


Written Warning Breakdown

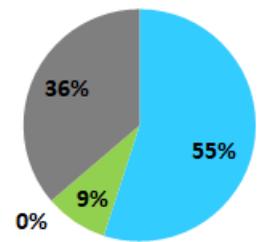


- No Parking Zone
- Cycle Path
- Blocking Lane
- Other

Tickets Issued (Neighbourhoods)



Ticket Breakdown



- No Parking Zone
- Cycle Path
- Blocking Lane
- Other

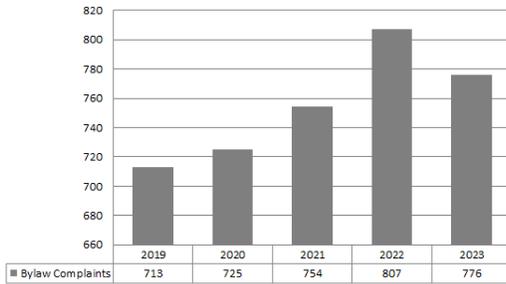


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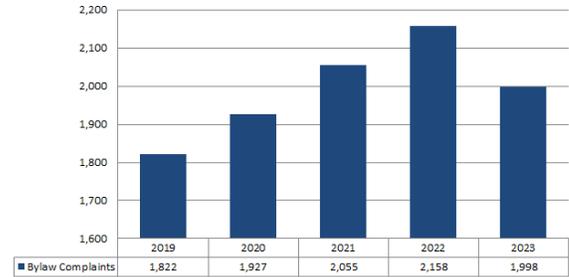


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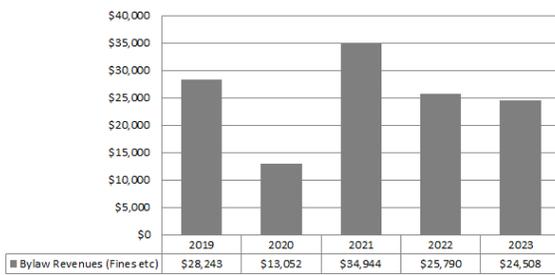
Bylaw Enforcement
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison Complaints



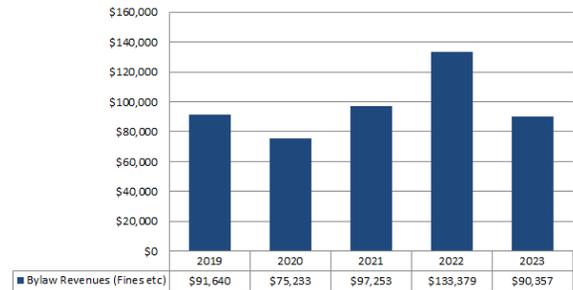
Bylaw Enforcement
Year-to-Date - 5-Year Comparison Complaints



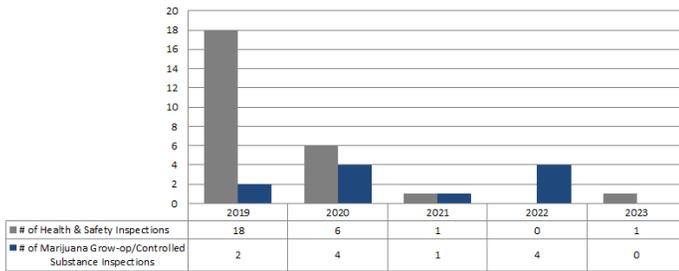
Bylaw Enforcement
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison Revenues



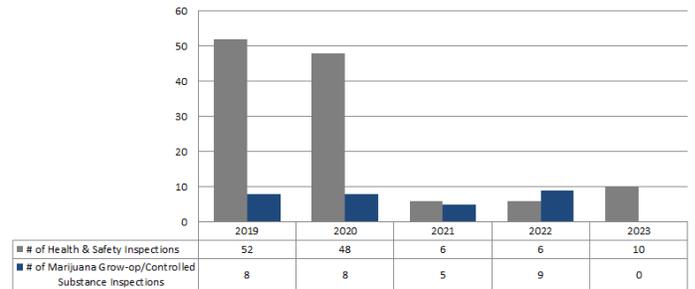
Bylaw Enforcement
Year-to-Date - 5-Year Comparison Revenues



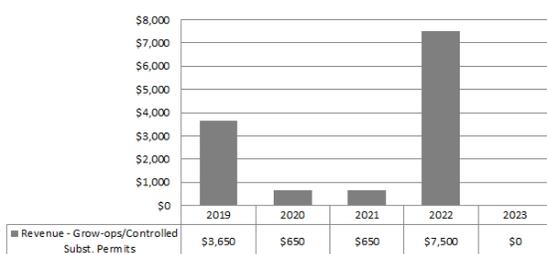
Health & Safety Enforcement Inspections
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison



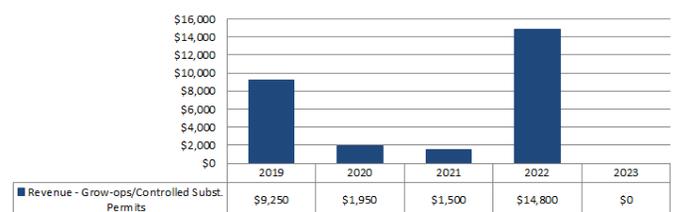
Health & Safety Enforcement Inspections
Year-to-Date - 5-Year Comparison



Health & Safety
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison Revenues



Health & Safety Revenues
Year-to-Date - 5-Year Comparison Revenues

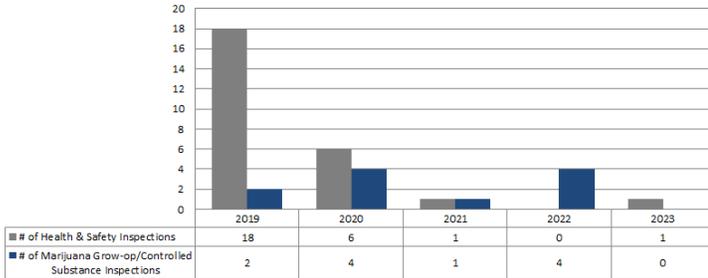


MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BYLAW ENFORCEMENT

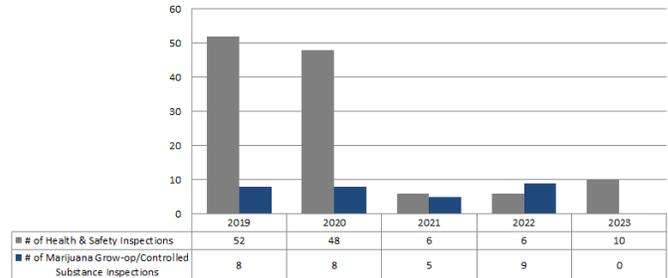


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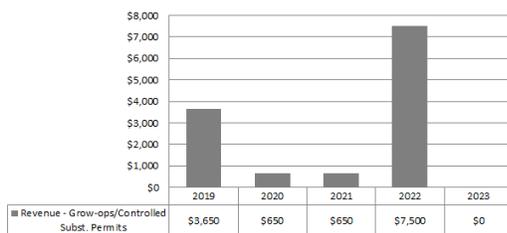
Health & Safety Enforcement Inspections
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison



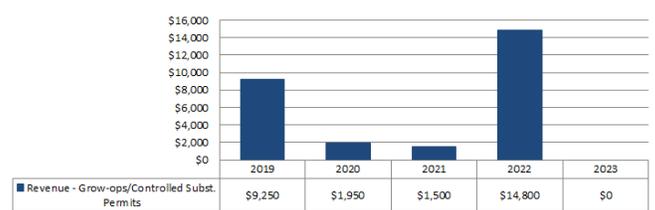
Health & Safety Enforcement Inspections
Year-to-Date - 5-Year Comparison



Health & Safety
3rd Quarter 5-Year Comparison Revenues



Health & Safety Revenues
Year-to-Date - 5-Year Comparison Revenues





SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

**COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN
HOMELESSNESS ACTION PLAN
REACHING HOME
CHILLIWACK HEALTHIER
COMMUNITY**

THIRD QUARTER REPORT, 2023

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN



COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

Through the third quarter, significant work continued to support implementation of the Chilliwack Community Safety Plan:

Pro-Active Communications Strategy – The RCMP Communications Strategist continues to implement a social media strategy.

Street Based Outreach – Through Reaching Home, the City approved funding for street based outreach that will remain in place until spring 2024. Outreach services are provided seven days a week by Pacific Community Resources Society. Through this work, individuals experiencing homelessness are connected to services, including health services, housing and residential treatment. Outreach staff also support the Community Response Team on daily patrols. Cyrus Centre successfully secured funding through Reaching Home as well, to provide outreach supports to youth, as well as specialized supports for Indigenous youth.

Mobile Health Supports – Fraser Health's Integrated Homelessness Action Response Team (IHART) and Intensive Case Management (ICM) Team remain active in Chilliwack. Team members are connected and collaborating with RCMP and local service providers and continue to provide mobile, on-call outreach which includes medical and mental health supports.

Case Management – This is occurring in conjunction with Community Response Team patrols, as well as through weekly Situation Table and bi-weekly Shop Talk meetings which bring multiple agencies together to collaborate on case management for individuals at elevated risk in the community.

Advocacy for ACT and Car 67 – After many years of City led advocacy efforts, the Province announced in July they will be expanding the Mobile Integrated Crisis Response Team (also known as Car 67) to include Chilliwack. (Fall 2023) MICR Teams are specialized crisis-response teams that pair a police officer with a health-care professional to respond to mental-health calls made to police. Teams provide on-site emotional and mental-health assessments, crisis intervention and referrals to appropriate services in the community. Built on partnerships between municipal police departments or local RCMP detachments and the regional health authorities, these teams help free up police resources.

Funding for Indigenous Homelessness – Staff continue to advocate for additional funding to support Indigenous individuals experiencing homelessness in the community. Through Reaching Home, funding has been allocated to an Indigenous Housing Support Facilitator (Housing Hub), Indigenous Shelter staff (Wellness Centre) and Indigenous Youth Outreach. Additional funds would ensure culturally safe and appropriate services for Indigenous individuals experiencing homelessness.

Culturally Appropriate Outreach – Cyrus Centre is currently funded through Reaching Home to provide outreach supports to youth, as well as specialized supports for Indigenous youth.

Indigenous Training/ Collaboration – Indigenous Homelessness training was provided for front-line staff on September 12 and 13 by Reaching Home and A Way Home. This Indigenous-led training covered the history of Indigenous peoples, colonization, systemic racism, and the multiple oppressions that continue to influence day-to-day realities. The training highlighted the resiliency, strength and beauty of Indigenous people through stories and teachings. Participants were provided with practical strategies, tools, self-awareness opportunities and activities to further support and Indigenous individuals and families.

City staff also participated in LGMA training regarding Indigenous Relations for Local Government in September.

Wellness Centre – The Wellness Centre continues to serve individuals in the community from 7 am - 7 pm, seven days a week. Trethewey partnerships and collaboration meetings continued throughout the third quarter. Attendees included staff from BC Housing, RCMP, Griffin Security, PCRS, RainCity and the City of Chilliwack.

Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) – PSAC committee members continued to meet monthly in the third quarter.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT HOMELESSNESS ACTION PLAN

HOMELESSNESS ACTION PLAN

In the third quarter of 2023, the following actions were taken by the City, Province, and non-profit partners to implement objectives of Chilliwack's Homelessness Action Plan.

Develop and Implement Housing First – The Housing Hub continues to work to house individuals and families that are either experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness following Housing First principles. Current caseloads support 58 participants with 18 attached children in 46 units. There is a waitlist of over 120 individuals and families for this program.

The CHC Housing First Task Team continues to meet regularly to discuss service provider updates, housing vacancies and opportunities and challenges.

Challenges include:

- An increase in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness
- An increase in overdose deaths
- Rising rental costs and lack of affordable housing
- Long term funding to support the Wellness Centre
- An increase in the number of individuals aged 50-60 experiencing health care issues that are out of the scope of care for service providers.

Opportunities include:

- New builds on the horizon, including the Paramount Project opening in the Spring of 2024
- A shared calendar for service providers
- A high level of community collaboration

Wellness Centre - The Wellness Centre, open 7 am to 7 pm daily, provides a safe space to rest, eat, do laundry, and get help with Income Assistance, identification, minor medical care, and housing applications. During the third quarter, the Wellness Centre had 7,840 unique visits.

Increase coordination amongst agencies to prevent homelessness

- Weekly Chilliwack Interagency Response Team (Situation Table) meetings continue to take place. This weekly meeting provides partners with an update regarding vulnerable individuals with immediate high risks. The team works together to triage the cases with rapid intervention amongst multiple agencies. Bi-weekly Shop Talk meetings continued throughout the quarter, where front-line staff meet to share current successes and challenges, as well as agency updates. This meeting is facilitated through a partnership with the City, PCRS and Fraser Health. During the third quarter, Shop Talk members presented 44 individuals experiencing homelessness, including 30 males and 14 females. 19 of the 44 individuals identified as Indigenous and 41 of the 44 individuals were experiencing concurrent disorders.

Improve the health and safety of individuals experiencing homelessness

- Community Street Outreach and Integration workers have been operating seven days a week, meeting with individuals experiencing homelessness, connecting them to services and housing and offering transportation to the Wellness Centre where they can rest safely during the day. The Intensive Case Management Team and Integrated Homelessness Action Response Team continue to connect with individuals experiencing homelessness and provide medical services, harm reduction and case management. Cyrus Centre provides youth outreach five days a week to address the individualized needs of youth in the community by meeting them where they are at.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

REACHING HOME

REACHING HOME—CANADA'S STRATEGY TO END HOMELESSNESS

Reaching Home – Canada's Homelessness Strategy, Reaching Home is a community-based, federally funded program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness by providing direct support and funding to Designated Communities. Infrastructure Canada has advised they are in the process of drafting an amendment to the existing Reaching Home Funding Agreement for the purpose of extending Reaching Home funding to the City of Chilliwack for at least two additional years: 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 fiscal. The minimum length of time for this extension will be two years, but discussions are ongoing to determine whether a four year extension would be feasible.

During the third quarter, Reaching Home sub-projects continued work in the community to address homelessness. These projects include:

- PCRS—Housing Hub—Housing Support Facilitator
- PCRS—Housing Hub—Indigenous Housing Support Facilitator
- PCRS—Community Integration and Coordination Program (Street Outreach & Situation Table)
- Cyrus Centre—Indigenous Youth and Youth Outreach
- Salvation Army and Wilma's Transition Society—Prevention and Diversion

Training – During this quarter, staff organized several training sessions for service providers serving individuals experiencing homelessness. A session called De-escalating Potentially Violent Situation Crisis was provided by the Trauma Resource Institute in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce to the business community in August, as well as front-line staff from local service providers that work with individuals experiencing homelessness. A Way Home Canada facilitated Indigenous Homelessness Training in September.

Reporting – Staff continue to work with INFC Engagement and Program Officers regarding quarterly reporting, annual financial monitoring, and Results Reporting Online (RROL) to ensure Reaching Home funding requirements are met.

Coordinated Access (CA) – Staff continued to meet with service providers, Infrastructure Canada, Homelessness Policy Directorate and BC Housing regarding Coordinated Access and Homeless Individuals and Families Information System implementation. A Systems Mapping document was submitted to BCH and HPD, as part of Reaching Home requirements, to ensure that service providers are onboarded to the data system with ease. A second community engagement session occurred on September 13 to outline agency involvement in CA and to discuss BCH privacy documents; HIFIS training and onboarding; and creation of a governance committee. BCH-led Discovery Sessions began on September 29 to ensure service provider collaboration with BCH regarding HIFIS needs. Staff have participated in HIFIS training through BCH and continue to work with ACRES Consulting on the HIFIS Masterclass training. Community level Coordinated Access work continues with Bi-weekly Shop Talk and weekly Community Interagency Response Team meetings with front-line staff to ensure agency collaboration is seamless and ultimately assists in providing the best care for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Community Advisory Board (CAB) - CAB hosted a Community Engagement meeting on September 28. The purpose of the meeting was to identify critical community needs and concerns for those who are either experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness. Local service providers and various stakeholders including RCMP, Fraser Health, MSDPR and INFC had an opportunity during round table discussions to outline gaps in services. To gain insight on the perceived importance of the needed services, attendees were tasked with voting on the overall gaps identified during the round table. Some of the gaps included support for concurrent disorders, continuous funding for daytime space, second stage housing, housing support services and youth outreach. Though not all gaps identified can be funded through Reaching Home, this identified needs that attendees could collectively advocate for change.

Photo—RCMP and CICP Outreach Staff



SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

CHILLIWACK HEALTHIER COMMUNITY



CHILLIWACK HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

Regular CHC Partner and Task Team Meetings -

Bi-monthly partner meetings continued through the third quarter. The August 22 meeting was held via Zoom with reports shared by the CHC Steering Committee, Opening Doors, Housing First, Poverty Reduction, Food Council, Healthy Aging, SAGE Collaborative and the community network.

Over the summer months, the CHC website and marketing materials were refreshed and planning for the fourth quarter and 2024 began.

The Poverty Reduction Task Team (PRTT), CHC Coordinator and City staff held their first collaborative meeting with Urban Matters, the successful RFQ proponent for the Chilliwack Poverty Reduction Plan. Plans for a November 2023 community engagement event are underway.

The Chilliwack Food Council (CFC) finalized their 2023 -2028 Strategic Plan in September, an undertaking started in October 2022. The 2023 Food Security Survey project, supported by CFC, is still in progress.

The Healthy Aging Task Team (HATT) members participated in an Emergency Preparedness session, Train the Trainer, coordinated by the Chilliwack and District Seniors Resource Society and the Chilliwack Fire Department.

CHC Friday Mailout –

CHC continues to send out weekly newsletters every Friday, updating and connecting partners and organizations on what is happening in the community and regularly includes local events, grant programs, continuous learning opportunities and employment postings. The weekly mailout is far reaching, and now exceeds over 900 subscribers.

Information and Networking Breakfasts -

An Information and Networking event was held on September 26, 2023 at the Chilliwack Cultural Centre with a focus on reducing and preventing homelessness. Those in attendance learned about Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy funding, current Reaching Home funded programs, Coordinated Access, a short presentation on the Wellness Centre, followed by a Q&A session and networking. Guest speakers included City staff and the Director of Operations Fraser East, Pacific Community Resource Society. Over 40 guests were in attendance.

Events –

Over the course of the third quarter, the CHC Coordinator supported and participated in both in-person and virtual events and training opportunities including:

- The Downtown Chilliwack Community Market, Sundays throughout July-September between 10 am to 2 pm.
- Shhá:lí/Woman: Film Presentation and Discussion with Á'a:líya Warbus and Saylesh Wesley at The'í:tseliya - S.A.Y. Health & Community Centre – July 21.
- De-escalating Potentially Violent Situations Training through CTRI – Crisis & Trauma Resource Institute – August 9.
- The 2023 Chilliwack Pride Festival, downtown Chilliwack – August 19.
- Indigenous Homelessness training through the Canadian Alliance To End Homelessness – September 12 & 13.
- Chilliwack Chamber Connections – the learnings of Orange Shirt Day and its significance as shared by Elder Francis Horne and daughter Simone – September 27.
- Virtual Reconcili'ation Sharing Circle – webinar hosted by Reichert and Associates. How the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action have impacted Indigenous peoples in BC – September 29.
- Xyólhmet ye Syéwiqwélh (Taking Care of our Children) Memorial Ceremonies at Fraser River Heritage Park in Mission – September 30.