

Tidiness

2017 Tidiness-related projects

- Tidiness sub-committee
- Spring Clean Up
- Trash 2 Treasure weekend
- **Cigarette butt receptacles** project (EA subcommittee) – *continued expansion*
- Streetscaping / Public Works projects
 - Replacement of pavement, roadway surfaces, sidewalks; railroad track themed sidewalks installed
 - Various impact reduction construction technologies



2016 Evaluation Form

TIDINESS		
<p>Tidiness includes an overall tidiness effort by the municipality, businesses, institutions and the residents throughout the community. Elements for evaluation are parks and green spaces, medians, boulevards, sidewalks, streets; municipal, commercial, institutional and residential properties; ditches, road shoulders, vacant lots, signs and buildings; weed control, litter clean-up (including cigarette butts and gum), graffiti prevention/removal and vandalism deterrent programs.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Tidiness, order, cleanliness and first impressions	10	8.50
Community anti-litter awareness programs	10	8.50
Effective bylaws, programs and policies and enforcement; litter control, unsightly private property maintenance by-laws, graffiti prevention and eradication, graffiti removal kits to residents	10	9
Cleanliness of public green infrastructure: parks, streetscapes (sidewalks, planters, urban signage and furniture such as benches, litter and recycling containers etc.)	15	13
Visual appeal, and condition of municipal buildings and properties (including City Hall grounds),	15	12.50
Business & Institutions		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness and first impressions	15	12.50
Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks and parking lots	15	12.50
Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter and recycling containers	5	3.50
Residential		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness	20	17.50
Condition of buildings, grounds and yards	15	13.50
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual street tidiness, clean-up programs, activities and annual maintenance (including promotion, organization, innovations involving youth and seniors, etc.)	10	8.50
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community clean-up programs	10	8.50
Tidiness Total	150.00	128.00

2016 Evaluation Form

TIDINESS

Observations:

The town is generally tidy and no graffiti was observed. The town bylaw officer is proactive in addressing violations and providing education. The effects of this work are apparent.

This year, instead of a tidiness contest for businesses, clean business properties are being recognized on the HBC Facebook page. This is a nice shout out for important efforts that make a difference.

A spring cleanup in the parks is followed by a barbecue for volunteers and is sponsored by local businesses. The event was promoted with posters made by students. Seeing a visible difference from such events is an even better motivator than food!



It was impressive to see freshly painted fire hydrants downtown. They look sharp!

Bear and seagull-proof waste containers are an important element in keeping streets and parks tidy.

“Send me a selfie” is a program worth copying! Students are invited to help pick up trash in parks and asked to send a selfie of themselves in action. Great idea.

Recommendations:

Consider using door hangers to acknowledge properties that are well maintained. These could be distributed by the HBC committee members or even by mail carriers or delivery persons who regularly see all the streets in town.

During the spring cleanup event, be sure to recycle as much of the items that are picked up as possible. Let the community know how much has been picked up.

It was noticed that tree wells downtown were being used as trash cans even though very visible trash receptacles are available. They need to be cleaned.

The lot adjacent the Superfluity store is full of weeds and warrants a visit from the bylaw inspector.

The water tank next to the grocery store is in desperate need of paint. The mural in front of it only serves to draw attention to deferred maintenance.

Many benches throughout the town need to be refreshed or replaced.

The town is doing a nice job with service club signage. Be sure to add a sign showing your CiB Five Blooms Bronze rating.

The high school parking lot would benefit from more aggressive litter pickup. Consider challenging students to work on it every day for only 10 minutes to see if the amount of litter isn't reduced after a short time.

The school division bus yard needs to be mowed and perhaps treated with a pre-emergent to keep it looking good.

Tidiness

Tidiness is an important component of many activities in the town. Many individuals take it upon themselves to clean and tidy public spaces.

[HBC & TOS Video - TIDINESS](#)

Every spring the town promotes a **Spring Cleanup** (to coincide with Earth Week), where they offer a spring lane cleanup, with local businesses and not-for-profit groups helping to sponsor cleanup tools and supplies in previous years, there are community cleanup activities. A Tidiness sub-committee poster contest at the schools produced posters for promoting Earth Week. A banner was created for the Rec Centre to remind people about the activities. Since 2014, Spring Cleanup has been tied to **Trash 2 Treasure** and the **Spring Lane Cleanup**. Notices are sent out with town water bills, posted on Facebook and Twitter and promoted in the newspaper, to raise awareness as to when certain things could be disposed of. Throughout the year, residents and groups are encouraged to adopt parks or come together to do park and town cleanup activities during the week.

You said it – We DIDN'T do it (YET)

“In addition to the spring cleanup, consider adding one in the fall to start winter with a clean slate”

The expansion of the spring cleanup & recycling options, combined with fall recycling/reuse program options, means that we won't be adding a fall cleanup yet. It is in consideration for the future...

		SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER PAGE 2	
			
Stettler Eco Centre		Wow Stettler! Way to Walk 'n' Roll!!	
<p>The Stettler Eco Centre is a year-round waste collection for recycling and responsible disposal and is located at the Stettler Waste Transfer Station. (Located on the Ring Road 55th Avenue and 38 Street)</p> <p>For a full list of items that are accepted please visit www.stettler.net : Home > Town Services > recycling/environment > Waste (under Related Links)</p> <p>The Stettler Eco Centre is funded by the Stettler Waste Management Authority which includes representatives from the Town, the County and surrounding Villages.</p>		<p>Mayor Richards declared August to be "Walk 'n' Roll" month and what a response!</p> <p>Approximately 55 businesses and organizations participated by having at least one employee who walked or biked to work.</p> <p>See the full list at www.stettler.net</p> <p>Walk or bike to some of your destinations and leave your car at home sometimes. It gets you outside, it's invigorating, it reduces emissions, and it's just more fun!</p>	
Canadian Badlands Pheasant Festival Stettler Registration is now open!		Let's continue to Walk 'n' Roll! ...Could I walk or bike this trip?	
<p>Join us October 15 - 19 for the first annual Canadian Badlands Pheasant Festival Stettler. With 30 sites, 3000 Pheasants, and over 500 hunters; the first annual Pheasant Festival is sure to be a success!</p> <p>For more information visit: www.canadianbadlands.com/cbl/events</p>		<p>Sponsored by the Heartland Beautification Committee, the Stettler Wellness Network and the Stettler Traffic Safety Committee.</p> <p>The Stettler 'Church Mice' Art Group Meets Every Wednesday starting September 17, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</p> <p><i>Everyone interested in joining us is welcomed. Please bring your own supplies and your lunch. Coffee is supplied.</i></p> <p>The cost is \$2.00 per session. For more information phone Donna Lea at 403-742-5690</p>	
Stettler Ag. Society Farmer's Market will be held every Tuesday from 9am-1pm until October at the Stettler Ag. Society. For information, please call (403)742-6288.			
Town of Stettler 5031-50 Street, Box 280 Stettler, AB T0C 2L0 Phone: (403)742-8305 Fax: (403)742-1404		Visit us at: www.stettler.net	
			

[Link to Town of Stettler Monthly Newsletter / Town Life Magazine](#)

Green Tip Of The Week
"Get Vitamin N"

Vitamin N is for Nature.
Spending time outside can have a profound positive effect on our mental and physical health. Walk to work. Dig in the dirt. Go to the park. Get outside.



Subscribe Today!
403-742-2395

No one can do anything
without an environment.

Supporting the
Livestock Revolution



Chris Van Somer, in apron, serves up a hamburger to Karen Sernecky, right, at the free Earth Day barbecue. The event signals the end of Earth Week Clean-up. From left are Jade Nelson, Van Somer, Ronnie Deems, Polge Noote and Sernecky.

TOYO TIRES

A Higher Degree Of Savings!



\$70 OFF

Community comes together for annual clean-up, barbecue

SPACE LARKIE
INDEPENDENT REPORTER

Beautiful weather last week, April 20-22, saw Stettler and area residents put in fever tiding the community of winter detritus during the annual Earth Week Clean-up.

The annual clean-up event saw businesses, groups and individuals come out throughout the week to clean up what the melted winter snow reveals.

Organizer Karen Sernecky said that it's not that Stettler people are messy.

"Garbage cans can get full, garbage can liners around, cans knocked over, big trash bins, ani-

mals, from cars, etc.," she said. "It's not necessarily that people drop garbage. That's not how it happens."

The week ends with a free barbecue for the community in the No-Fills parking lot, located by Newalta. This year the group went with hamburgers, with Tim Hortons donating timbits and coffee.

"(This year was) fantastic," Sernecky said. "Most of our areas we had on the list were signed up for and taken care of, and extra areas our town staff went to pick up bags. People were just getting out and cleaning up."

The event is held as a beautification committee

initiative.

For the second year, the event was promoted using posters made by students, with Bailey Webb's poster winning the contest.

"It was a hard decision, but we picked the one that kinda 'popped' the most," Sernecky said. "They were all great posters. The kids always do a great job with it."

Originally the clean-up was an Earth Day event, but Sernecky and other organizers found that it was hard to get people out on that day. They changed it to earth week, so people could go any time they wanted throughout the week, depending on their schedules and the weather.

You said it – We DID it!

“...Strive for consistency in providing garbage and recycling containers in all locations ...”

Bottle/can recycling containers are on all garbage cans around town, with more and more locations getting full-sized recycling bins, paired with a garbage can. These are in all high-use locations.

“...As you further promote Stettler as a destination, be mindful that you have sufficient waste and recycle containers for the visitors’ needs.”

Garbage Pick Up

Along Stettler’s expanding walking trail system, many frequent users **pick up garbage** during their routine walks, assisting in **trail tidiness**. It is not uncommon to see people out walking and picking up garbage at the same time. A number of the **Beautification Champions** that have been nominated and/or recognized in recent years were selected for their tidiness-related activities. In 2014, at least 4 separate individuals were nominated (but did not accept), all for their tidying. A number of businesses (e.g. Walmart) have their employees clean up their properties throughout the year.

Local businesses willingly step forward to sponsor Earth Week Clean Up BBQ’s and events
(Newalta, TransCanada Corporation, Sean’s No Frills)

Over the years, **bear/seagull-proof garbage** cans have been purchased annually to expand the number of garbage cans that are put along Stettler’s growing paths and sidewalks. **Bottle/Can recycling containers** are in place on all community garbage cans. A number of the **new garbage cans are doubles**, with one can being a blue bin for recyclables. In high use areas (the recreation centre, ball diamonds, etc.), blue recycling bins have been added.



Bear/Seagull-proof garbage bin



“Twinned” garbage/recycling bins



STILL NEW in 2017

Cigarette Butt Receptacle program & Butt Recycling

To try and deal with **cigarette butt littering** in the downtown core, the Environmental Action subcommittee investigated options for cigarette butt disposal. They found good options for **disposal receptacles** that would be installed on downtown light posts and power poles. A motion was passed to go ahead and order them. Since placement of the receptacles would contravene the existing *No Smoking* bylaw (not allowing any smoking or ashtrays within 6m of businesses/buildings), receptacles were placed in two public parking lots on a trial basis. Additional receptacles have been placed in



Stettler Cigarette butt receptacle



NEW in
2015/2016/2017

a total of 10 locations, with **approximately 7 lbs (~20,000) of butts collected and sent for recycling** through:

<http://www.terracycle.ca/en-CA/brigades/cigarette-waste-brigade.html>.

Policies / Bylaws

Littering bylaws have been in effect for years, and the littering bylaw is as follows: *“No person shall place; permit to be placed, or throw any substance or thing of any kind, including cement from construction sites, on any highway, boulevard or sidewalk”*. Our Bylaw officers enforce this, on a complaint basis.

Municipal Bylaw Enforcement

In 2011 the Town of Stettler initiated a **Municipal Outreach Program** to **educate** residents though local and social media about upcoming bylaw enforcement such as tree trimming, snow removal, overgrown properties, etc. This continues to this day.

The 2014 Municipal Outreach topic focused on **reducing animal defecation** in Stettler parks by promoting awareness through Town of Stettler Dog Bag Dispensers and encouraging people to report offenders.



In 2012, the contracted Bylaw Officer became an Alberta Weed Inspector and obtained the authority to address the presence of noxious or prohibited weeds. And as an education practice we are being **proactive** by sending a **reminder letter** with information to everyone who has experienced noxious or prohibited on their property the previous year (enclosed). HBC events have also included Weed Awareness brochures.

Example Property Enforcement Statistics Applicable to Beautification

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015*	
	Warnings	Fines	Warnings	Fines	Warnings	Fines	Warnings	Fines	Warnings	Fines
Overgrown Trees	55	0	12	0	44	0	7	0	17	0
Unightly/Nuisance Property	21	4	60	3	37	2	11	1	42	8
Overgrown Grass and Weeds	81	1	98	0	191	0	58	1	94	7
Garbage and Refuse	27	4	15	0	4	0	6	0	7	0
Animal Defecation	9	0	8	0	9	2	0	0	1	0
Provincial Weed Notices	-	-	8	0	40	0	11	0	18	0
TOTAL	184	9	193	3	316	2	93	2	179	15
Complaints Received	84		82		83		29			
Officer Observed	100		111		233		64			

*2015 Statistics as of July 10, 2015

[Town Life Magazine 2017](#) – information on abandoned vehicles, proper sewer etiquette, etc.

The direction of our Bylaw program is primarily **focused around education rather than enforcement**. The statistics show the education and warnings are working. Looking at the overgrown grass and weed category, in 2013 this was our summer focus, 191 properties were attended regarding this bylaw contravention, however of the 191 – 0 fines were issued to the property owners as they cooperated with the education and warning process.

As you can see by the defecation statistic our 2014 municipal outreach which focused on reducing animal defecation in the Town was a success as only 1 warning was issued vs 9 warnings and 2 fines in 2013. The dog bag dispensers were very well received and citizens of Stettler were very happy to be provided with an item to help work towards the goal of reducing dog defecation around Town; to this day I continue to see folks with the bright yellow fire hydrants with them while walking a dog. In speaking with citizens in the parks and around Town it was noted that the situation of excessive dog feces left on Town paths has improved; I have also personally seen this as the problem areas of Town where excessive dog feces was present were looking cleaner, this includes the dog park.

More fines were issued with respect to nuisance/ unsightly properties and overgrown grass and weeds. This can be attributed to re-offending properties who have received previous warnings and non-compliance was received. In these cases, fines being issued were not a surprise, as the education was provided to the property owner. Our education program in this area has also had a positive impact reducing the amount of warnings issued in 2014 by almost 100. The nuisance property complaints stayed about the same.



NEW in
2014/2015

The 2015 focus was towards nuisance properties. The enforcement stats tell us that we are improving on our goals to reduce the number of nuisance/unsightly/& grass & weed complaints; there is always room for more improvement. In the 2015 edition of the Town of Stettler “Town Works” magazine, pages 10 & 11 were dedicated to this very topic. A few pictures of nuisances observed in 2014 were present as well as the listed stats, tips on what constitutes a nuisance property, and how to prevent a property from becoming a nuisance. Along with active enforcement, the article within this magazine (which was distributed to all Town of Stettler residents) will educate and inform residents of nuisance properties:

http://issuu.com/townofstettler/docs/2015_town_works

The 2016 focus continued towards the overall abatement and control of properties which are or become of a nuisance state. Investigations are initiated from Town residents voicing concerns or from observations by Town staff and Bylaw Enforcement. This abatement works in conjunction with the enforcement of the Weed Control Act of Alberta and the control of noxious and prohibited noxious weeds. An education piece was created and published in the Town Life magazine for the year of 2016 to educate and raise awareness of noxious weeds in Stettler and Alberta (Page 16). Town of Stettler is also an active participant in the PlayCleanGo Program which has recently been adopted by the Alberta Invasive Species Council.

<http://www.stettler.net/public/data/documents/TownLife2016pdf.pdf>

These are the statistics and focuses from the Bylaw Enforcement aspect for beautification Stettler. I would like to take the opportunity to applaud the efforts of all TOS departments such as public works, parks & leisure, development, or any other staff who are involved in the care and upkeep of the municipality. Their efforts each year truly shape Stettler into the vibrant community that is enjoyed by all residents and visitors each year. – Kevin Duval – Municipal Enforcement Officer – Alberta Animal & Municipal Enforcement Services



John Smith
1001 50 Street
Stettler, AB
T0C2L0

Dear Sir or Madam,

During the year of 2013 a Weed Inspectors Notice was issued to you as per Section 13 of the *Weed Control Act, Statutes of Alberta, 2008 Chapter W-5.1* with respect to the following property:

Address: 1001 50 Street, Stettler, Alberta

The Weed Inspectors Notice detailed instructions for the control of the following Noxious Weed:

- Oxeye Daisy

Please ensure during the year of 2014 that preventative measures are taken to prevent any further growth of this Noxious Weed on your property and any plants which may be observed growing are removed immediately.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding the type of Noxious Weed on your property please contact the Stettler Town Office at 403-742-8305 or Alberta Animal & Municipal Enforcement Services at 1-866-340-2388.

Sincerely,

Officer K. Duval
Provincial Weed Inspector
Alberta Animal & Municipal Enforcement Services
Town of Stettler

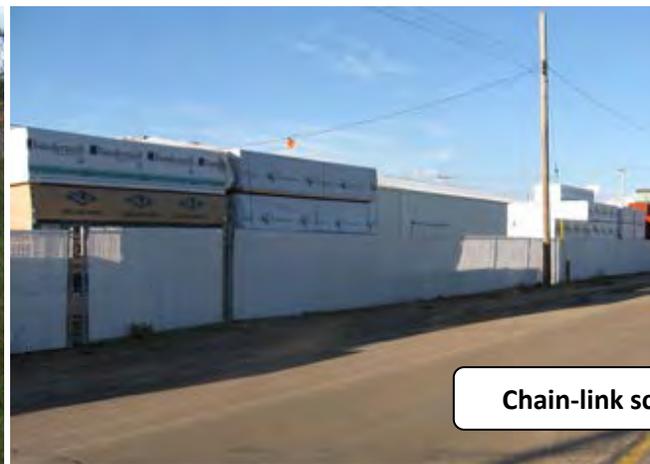
Street sweeping

The Downtown Business core is **swept bi-weekly**, with all paved business parking lots swept once per year on a courtesy basis. Starting in late 2013, businesses were responsible for parking lot clean up (via a private company). Parking lots of non-profits will be cleaned by the town. All graded public parking lots in the Town which are privately owned are graded at the expense of the owner by private companies.

Business sandwich boards, notices, or sale signs are liable to a fine by owner, removal, and immediate disposal by the Town without any notice or warning to the owner thereof. With the exemption of Garage Sale, or event direction signs, these must be removed immediately after the event has taken place.



Doggie bag dispenser



Chain-link screen

Small litter or “doggie bags” are provided in the dog park, and along the walking trails, and at the entrances to our soccer fields, ball diamonds, and the football field. They are replenished often. Bylaw officers enforce this.

You said it – We DID it!

“...recognize businesses that are making a visible difference...”

In 2014, we launched the Commercial/Industrial Yard Contest (repeated 2015) to invite nominations for businesses that keep their properties tidy or take steps to beautify their businesses. In 2016, we switched to a recognition posting initiative on the HBC Facebook page.

Businesses that are unable to have a clean stock yard, or work area, have been asked to use **chain-link screens** to prevent unsightly premises. Commercial businesses are encouraged to keep their properties clean and tidy, with town staff issuing notices and working with companies until issues are resolved. Bylaw officers can be dispatched to deal with issues.

In 2014 & 2015, in order to encourage commercial/industrial businesses to be tidy and take an active role in keeping the community clean and beautiful, a **Commercial/Industrial Yard Contest** was implemented, along the lines of the Residential Yard/Garden Contest that runs most summers. Businesses were able to nominate themselves or other businesses for tidy “yards” or pretty business fronts. In 2016, rather than run a contest, an initiative to recognize businesses/commercial yards/spaces was used, with recognition postings on HBC Facebook

page. HBC members are also active in nominating and encouraging businesses in tidiness. In 2014, one main street business and one industrial business were nominated and recognized. In 2015, one business was recognized for improving an unsightly area in town. The process was repeated in 2016.

In 2014, a **letter** was sent to **past tidiness “offenders”** or those that had been noted in 2013 Communities in Bloom evaluations, to outline what had been observed and what could be done to improve them. Positive activities and comments were also shared at the same time and all letter recipients were encouraged to initiate beautification and cleanliness activities on their own. A letter was also sent to all town businesses through the Board of Trade inviting their participation in CIB and beautification activities. Some constructive changes have resulted. In some “repeat offender” situations, TOS staff created agreements with specific businesses with regards to cleaning and mowing. In one instance, the business cleans up their beds and lawns regularly, in exchange for TOS mowing with large mowers. It has improved this dramatically.



In response to a suggestion from previous Communities in Bloom judges, **historic or Stettler-themed murals** were commissioned in a contest held over the late winter to provide something to go on the back of information signs that were installed in 2012 in various locations in town. This has the purpose of **reducing vandalism** by removing a “clean slate”. No vandalism has been noted on the signs. See *Mural Contest* (Heritage Conservation section) for more details.

Flags and banners are replaced as required. Seasonal banners are installed and displayed as seasons change. The “Welcome to Stettler” banners are currently being evaluated for refurbishment or replacement. A proposal for a **major banner replacement** and promotion program that came from a several downtown businesses is currently being evaluated and will hopefully be implemented in future. It will see many banners installed all around Stettler.



Weed-free grassed area

Weeds / Weeding

Parks and natural areas are watched for weeds and noxious weeds are eradicated as quickly as possible. A pesticide applicator is contracted out. Limited chemical application is required and educating the public to accept unsprayed dandelions is a challenge.

The Bylaw Officer has been designated/trained as the **Weed Inspector** as required by the Provincial Weed Act. Weed notices will be issued to encourage residents to deal with noxious and prohibited weeds. An Alberta Weed Act Appeal Panel was created in 2012 to review any cases where someone wishes to appeal a weed notice. The panel consists of 3 town councillors and 2 members of the Heartland Beautification Committee.

Youth picking up garbage in a park



NEW in
2014/2015/2016

Parks Clean up

Throughout the week of **Earth Day**, the Town has a **park cleanup/Community Spring Cleanup**, where residents and groups like the Heartland Youth Centre and the Good Sams clean neighborhood playgrounds and public areas.

Residents were invited to come out and clean up public spaces and participate in a **public BBQ** with food and refreshments donated by sponsoring businesses (Newalta, Sean's No Frills, TransCanada Corporation, Tim Hortons).

This was expanded in 2014/2015, 2015/2016 and 2016/2017. A number of other groups and individuals also signed up to clean various parks across town. Estimates are that over 30 different groups reported or registered park/public space clean up. Groups or individuals are welcome to clean any park at any time.

You said it – We ARE DOING it

"The high school parking lot would benefit from more aggressive litter pickup..."

We continue to work with the schools to encourage cleanup and ongoing care of the parking lot. It is a continuing issue that everyone wants to be fixed.

in keeping things clean.

Students were challenged to create **Earth Week Cleanup posters**, with winners receiving prizes. Other initiatives included **"Send Me a Selfie"** picture of them picking up garbage.



You said it – We DID it!

"...Involve the schools in clean-up campaigns to increase student awareness ..."

Starting in 2015, under the initiative of the Tidiness sub-committee, contact has begun between the committee and the schools for form a student/community group to clean up school areas. Initiatives such as "Send me a Selfie" were geared at getting kids aware of and interested in tidiness. School kids have helped to design posters, participate in clean-up efforts and work on tidiness projects.

"...continue trying to involve local students, particularly high school students, in maintenance issues around town..."

Adopt-A-Park Program & Form

Other community groups (e.g. service clubs such as Kinsmen and Rotary) contribute to the maintenance and upgrading of parks and playgrounds. Many individuals volunteer time to keep parks and green spaces neat and tidy. School kids help to clean up the Memorial Park during the school year. Parks are often cleaned more than once per year (e.g. spring and fall).

The Tidiness sub-committee organized some activities with the high school students to raise awareness of tidiness and get them involved

Earth Week Cleanup

April 20-25th

April 25th there is a **FREE BBQ** sponsored by Newalta located at Sean's No Frills right in the parking lot from 11 am-2pm. Hope to see everyone there!



FREE BBQ!



"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children"



**NEW in
2014/2015/2016**

Memorial Park Revitalization Project

In 2014, HBC members met with Wm E. Hay High School staff to arrange for high school students to come once or twice per week for 4-6 weeks to assist in the removal of shale and landscape fabric from under the trees in the Memorial Park, to allow it to be replaced with organic bark mulch. Parks staff assisted in the efforts and also hired contractors to complete the project (it was momentous). The metal gazebo was powder-coated to ensure it lasts for many years. In 2014/2015, a bark mulch layer was added to the formerly shale areas. At the same time, the surrounding trees and areas within the park were pruned to open up the view into the park, to encourage a reduction of illicit behavior and vandalism. This has helped immensely.

Sidewalk & Utilities Replacement

In 2015, the Town undertook the complete road reconstruction of Highway 56 from the intersection of Highway 56 and 12 through to 52 Avenue. Alberta Transportation funded \$2 million for this work. It has greatly improved drainage and dust on that heavily used stretch of road.

The Town has been completing several crown paving projects (Shown below).

You said it – We DID it!

“At Memorial Park, work with volunteers to remove plastic under the shale ... Once completed, top with a thick layer of mulch... Use a good quality weed cloth instead...”

Partnered with Wm E. Hay students to start removing the shale and the weed fabric under the shale. A contractor finished removing the shale in Fall 2014. All shale has been replaced by bark mulch, which is replenished regularly.

Clarification - Plastic mulch is not under the shale, it is a landscape barrier

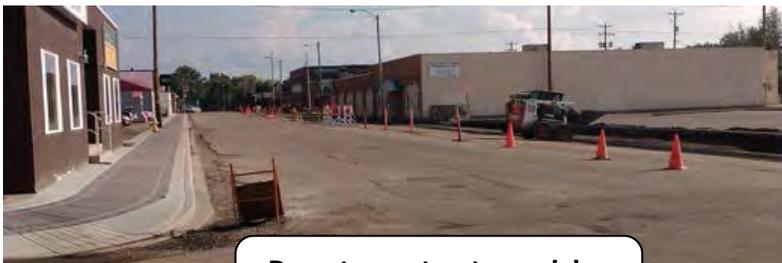
2015 Addition – To open up the view into the park and reduce vandalism or bad behavior, the trees were pruned. This has made a significant difference to safety and activity in the park.



Downtown streets receiving new railroad track design



Downtown streets get railroad track design + narrowing for green footprint



Downtown streets receiving new railroad track design



Revamped crosswalks get railway design

Downtown Streetscape Plan – The Town of Stettler adopted a **Streetscape Plan** to revitalize our downtown commercial district. The existing paving stone sidewalk is being replaced with an aesthetically pleasing **railway track design sidewalk**. Included in this design is curb bulbing at intersections to improve pedestrian visibility when crossing the street. **Planters** are incorporated for additional plantings and benches have been added to encourage people to stay and visit. **Bike racks** have been added to each of the crosswalk/traffic bulbs up and down the main street. Tree plantings are also being incorporated into the hard feature designs.



Revamped crosswalks with railroad track sidewalks, stone traffic bulb planters, wrought iron posts and bike rack

Several **empty lots** (brownfields and other) have been developed in the last year, with one building being built at the southern end of Main Street in 2014/2015. This site has changed the look of the south end of Main Street and was nominated for recognition as **Beautification Champion for 2015**. In 2014, a **brownfield was reclaimed**, but is still empty at present (construction on a new building is set to begin shortly). Another empty lot was donated by the owners and a **Pioneer-themed Downtown Park** was created in the downtown core (See Downtown Park – Heritage Conservation section).



Railroad track design sidewalk in front of Town of Stettler Office



Railroad track design sidewalk

The Town of Stettler has an overall 5 year construction plan, evaluating road and sidewalk conditions across the town. Streets are **proactively upgraded and repaired** to ensure the roads and sidewalks are maintained in a reasonable and safe condition. Replacement of surface improvements is coordinated with the underground infrastructure improvements whenever possible.

In some areas, where large street trees are in place, road replacement has been combined with **road narrowing**, to create wider green shadows under/around the street trees.

Reduced-disturbance Construction

In 2013, the Town started utilizing pipe bursting technologies for water and sewer main replacements in an effort to reduce the amount of disruption to roads, traffic and overall costs of replacement.

Typical construction methods include large trench excavations to replace existing water, sanitary and storm mains that have reached the end of their life cycle. This results in high construction costs, large areas of disturbed roads that can take years to settle, disruption to traffic and residents and reinstatement of asphalt and road surfaces.

In 2013, three blocks of water main were replaced using a pipe bursting technology to replace an existing cast iron water main. Typically this construction would have seen 240 metres of trench excavation; instead it only needed 40m of disturbed road. In 2014, 300m of water main replacement was completed using pipe bursting technology at 51 Avenue from 49-46 Street. A new connection was directionally drilled under the railroad tracks on 46 Street to increase water quality to the industrial area.

In 2014, water mains under Highway 56 were pipe burst to prevent closing the highway and to eliminate all trench reconstruction costs. In 2015, the sanitary main crossing under Highway 56 to the hospital on 48 Ave was relined using trenchless technology. This eliminated the disturbance of traffic on Highway 56 and eliminated the need to complete road reconstruction of curbs and asphalt to replace aging underground infrastructure.

Capital Equipment Purchases (2015/2016/2017):



NEW in
2015/2016/2017

1. A number of new pieces of equipment were invested in, in 2015 and 2016, to replace very old equipment. New equipment is more efficient, in terms of labour and operating costs (\$\$\$ and fuel efficiency). This included a new street Sweeper, three 3/4 ton trucks with crew cab, a 1 ton truck, a sidewalk scarifier, an asphalt planer and a wheeled excavator. In 2017, replacing an older loader and an asphalt loader.
2. Town Council had committed to installing solar pathway lighting at West Stettler Park, however they installed **LED lights** instead.
3. As a pilot project, the Town has replaced seven traditional high pressure sodium street lights with LED lights as a trial basis to evaluate the cost savings as well as determine the appropriate style of LED light, spacing and angle of placement for best visibility.
4. In 2016, \$125,000 miscellaneous sidewalk replacement program to remove trip hazards, sunken and cracked concrete throughout town to ensure safe pedestrian access. Program will continue in 2017, with a construction value of \$130,000. This year, the Town is also replacing the existing concrete sidewalk adjacent to the Christ King School to ensure safe pedestrian access in the community. Value of \$50,000.
5. Storm Main replacement on 57 Street from Highway 12 to 48 Avenue. An existing corrugated steel culvert that had deteriorated was replaced to ensure the major storm drainage system was not compromised. \$260,000

6. Sewer Lagoon Cell #6 Rehabilitation (2016), #5 in 2017. The existing lagoon treatment cell built in 1960 is in need of reconstruction. Estimated value of \$1,000,000 (\$900,000 in 2017). The Town's sewage is treated through a system of lagoons and wetlands to process the effluent prior to release to Red Willow Creek.
7. 2017 – Replace water and sewer in 51 Avenue in between 57 -59 Streets. Existing cast iron water mains and clay tile sewer mains are at end of life cycles. Continued replacements of town infrastructure ensures quality water is delivered to residents, and reduces seepage from sewer systems into the environment. Construction value of \$900,000.
8. 2017 - Replace water and sewer in the back alley of 55 Street in between 50-51 Avenues. Continual replacement of underground utilities is required to ensure safe drinking water is supplied to residents. Construction value of \$500,000.

Ensuring public works continually replaces existing fleet helps to ensure that the equipment and vehicles we operate are in good working condition allowing the Town to maintain excellent levels of service.

You said it – We DIDN'T do it!

"...in some towns, graffiti and safety can be a concern. ... a webcam installed at the skateboard park stream live to the town's website"

We have moved ahead with the construction of the new skateboard park, which has involved many kids & will be an open concept. It is hoped that through advocacy & involvement, it will reduce the potential for graffiti.

In 2016, solar lights were added to the Skateboard Park. In 2017, LED lights are being installed along the paths of West Stettler Park

You said it – We DIDN'T do it!

"Encourage residents to store their recyclables in clear or blue bags rather than in open recycle bins to reduce windblown litter."

Generally, we have observed that residents already utilized bags for extra materials and boxes are only outside for one day at most. We'll keep an eye on things and adjust, as necessary.

You said it – We DID it!

"School bus depot has weeds that need to be removed and stacks of tires that are unsightly and a potential mosquito breeding ground"

We contacted the school division to share this observation & several others in the hopes that they would act on it

"The school division bus yard needs to be mowed and perhaps treated with a pre-emergent to keep it looking good."

We'll continue to work with "repeat offenders" to try and move things forward.

You said it – We DIDN'T do it (YET)

"The water tank next to the grocery store is in desperate need of paint. The mural in front of it only serves to draw attention to deferred maintenance."

Ongoing work inside and around the water tank has meant that beautification of the tank isn't feasible at the moment. But it will be dealt with once work is complete.

You said it – We DID it (almost)

"The town is doing a nice job with service club signage. Be sure to add a sign showing your CiB Five Blooms Bronze rating"

HBC members are working with town staff to create approved and appropriate CIB signage for both the service club sign boards at all entrances and for each of the entrance signs outside town.

