

Tidiness

2019 Tidiness-related projects

- Tidiness sub-committee (*active Chair*)
 - Expansion of committee membership
- Spring Clean Up – *lots of kids and others involved*
- Trash 2 Treasure weekend
- Strong social media focus
- *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



2018 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		
Overall Impressions Tidiness, order, cleanliness and first impressions	10	8
Anti-litter Community anti-litter awareness programs	10	8.5
Regulations 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	8.75
Cleanliness Of public green infrastructure: parks, streetscapes (sidewalks, planters, urban signage and furniture such as benches, litter and recycling containers etc.)	15	12.5
Municipal Properties Appearance Visual appeal and condition of municipal buildings and properties (including city hall grounds),	15	13.5
Business & Institutions		
Overall Impressions Tidiness, order and cleanliness and first impressions	15	12.75
Site Conditions Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks and parking lots	15	12.75
Furniture Appearance Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter and recycling containers	5	3.5
Residential		
Overall Impressions Tidiness, order and cleanliness	20	18.50
Property Conditions Condition of buildings, grounds and yards	15	12.75
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	8.5
Community Support Financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community clean-up programs	10	8.5
Tidiness Total	150.00	128.50

2018 Evaluation Form

TIDINESS

Observations:

The overall impression that one gets when entering the community is positive. Grass along the roadways was nicely mowed and there was no litter. The gateway sign welcoming people to the community is well maintained and informative. The backside of the same sign thanks people leaving the Town for their visit. It is good to see that the sign serves both purposes. During the tour of the Town no graffiti was seen, we believe this is a sign of pride of community.

There are many tidiness projects in the community; a few that we wanted to highlight were the recycling wire baskets on garbage collectors as a very smart and economical way to collect recyclables. The "take it or leave it program" centred at the land fill site is an excellent example of a great program run in a very efficient fashion. The free access to the landfill site makes it very easy to take part in this program. We were also very impressed with the mattress recycling program. Congratulations on finding "Re: Matt" in Calgary and using their services. 600 mattress out of the landfill a year is an accomplishment to be proud of.



2018 Evaluation Form

Recommendations:

The walkway around West Stettler Lake is a very well done. It is a great addition to the community. Consider installing garbage / recycling containers nearby picnic tables and where you have benches. It is too easy for park users to leave litter and cigarette butts on the ground. Perhaps having containers closer to where people are might help.

Another idea might be to consider having a bench or two along the walk way designated as smoking benches. Controversial, but as health is a goal of exercise consider declaring the walking path around the lake as a no smoking area.

We see many individuals and groups walking the trail, is it possible to have a “walkers pick up group” who would pick up litter as they walk. They might report amounts and for special recognition.

Try to move the cigarette butt containers to more visible sites. The container in the parking lot would get much more use if it were more visible. Locations where smoking is allowed and where you see butts on the ground are good locations in which to locate these containers.

On the whole, your outdoor furniture is in good shape but an annual inspection of benches would be good. There are some benches that need boards replaced and repainting. Also a few on the West Stettler Lake trail that are in need of leveling.

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** (normally 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. In 2019, **colouring pages** were decorated by elementary students and posted in the entrances of local grocery stores. 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 Earth Week. In 2018, Spring Lane Cleanup and T2T weekend were moved to early May, due to delayed arrival of spring and snow melt.

NEW in
2019

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



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
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)

For a full list of items that are accepted please visit www.stettler.net : Home > Town Services > recycling/environment > Waste (under Related Links)

The Stettler Eco Centre is funded by the Stettler Waste Management Authority which includes representatives from the Town, the County and surrounding Villages.

Canadian Badlands Pheasant Festival Stettler
Registration is now open!

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!

For more information visit:
www.canadianbadlands.com/cbl/events

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.



Wow Stettler! Way to Walk 'n' Roll!!

Mayor Richards declared August to be "Walk 'n' Roll" month and what a response!

Approximately 55 businesses and organizations participated by having at least one employee who walked or biked to work.
See the full list at www.stettler.net

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!

Let's continue to Walk 'n' Roll!
...Could I walk or bike this trip?

Sponsored by the Heartland Beautification Committee, the Stettler Wellness Network and the Stettler Traffic Safety Committee.

The Stettler 'Church Mice' Art Group
Meets Every Wednesday starting September 17, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Everyone interested in joining us is welcomed.
Please bring your own supplies and your lunch.
Coffee is supplied.

The cost is \$2.00 per session.
For more information phone Donna Lea at 403-742-5690

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



Earth Week colouring pages in grocery stores

23



Earth Week BBQ table, donated gift basket (Home Hardware), tidiers and Tervita staff hosts



Community comes together for annual clean-up, barbecue

Garbage cans can get full, garbage can blow around, cans knocked over, big trash bins, and

The event is held as a beautification committee

Originally the clean-up was an Earth Day event, but Serneczek 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.



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 for a walk and picking up garbage at the same time. A number of the **Beautification Champions** nominated and/or recognized in recent years were selected for their tidiness-related activities. In 2014 (and 2019), at least 4 separate individuals were nominated all for their tidying, but did not accept. 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 Cleanup BBQ's and events (e.g. TransCanada, Newalta, Tervita, Sean's No Frills), with the Town supplying bags and gloves for volunteers.

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.

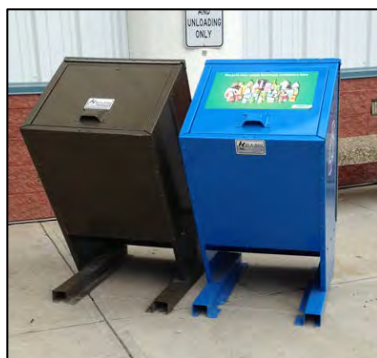
"...As you further promote Stettler as a destination, be mindful that you have sufficient waste and recycle containers for the visitors' needs."

In 2018, based on an idea from a Parks staff member, "Cleanup Thank You Cards" were created to give out to people that were "caught in the act" of tidying up. These cards (which included donated coupons for treats at local restaurants) were given to town staff to give out to people as they mowed grass around town. The cards are still being used.

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



You said it – We DID it!

"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."

Town staff will keep a closer eye on things.

You said it – We DID it

“The addition of stainless steel cigarette butt receptacles and the recycling could be expanded”

“Place them (the receptacles) where the public gather and where they can be seen more easily.

We agree. We’ve added more receptacles every year since the start. We give careful consideration of their placement, within the town bylaws.

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 light posts, buildings and power poles. Following some work to allow the installation to work within the No Smoking bylaw, receptacles were placed in a total of 10 locations

(initially 2, then 8 more), with **approximately 10 lbs (~30,000) of butts collected and sent for recycling each year through:**

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

In 2019 (as of July), 20,000 butts have been collected.

STILL NEW in 2019



Stettler cigarette butt receptacle

Policies / Bylaws

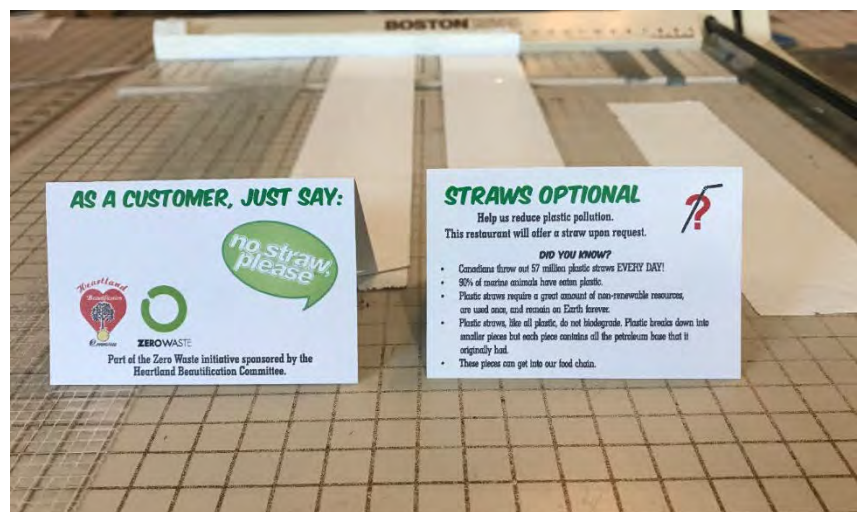
Littering bylaws have been in effect for years, and the littering bylaw is as follows: *“No person shall place; permit to be placed, or throw any substance or thing of any kind, including cement from construction sites, on any highway, boulevard or sidewalk”*. Our Bylaw officers enforce this, on a complaint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

NEW in
2018/2019

Zero Waste Initiatives

The Environmental Action sub-committee, has undertaken a number of **Zero Waste initiatives** to reduce the amount of plastic waste that is used in the community. This includes a **“No Straws, Please” or “Straws Optional” campaign** with area restaurants, which was launched in 2018. It includes table tent cards with information about plastic straw use. There are also signs posted in the entrances of the participating restaurants. There was excellent interest and uptake by local restaurants. **Other Zero Waste initiatives** are featured in *Environmental Action*.

See **ZERO WASTE / STRAWS OPTIONAL** Posters (next page)



We are



“Straws Optional” participants.

Just say:



Part of the Zero Waste initiative sponsored
by the Heartland Beautification Committee.



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 present 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.



The contracted Bylaw Officer is an Alberta Weed Inspector and has the authority to address the presence of noxious or prohibited weeds. As an education practice, staff **proactively** send a **reminder letter** with information to everyone who has experienced noxious or prohibited on their property the previous year (*example enclosed below*). HBC events have also included Weed Awareness brochures and education on weeds (e.g. Spring Plant Exchange)

Example Property Enforcement Statistics Applicable to Beautification

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Warnings	Fines	Warnings	Fines	Warnings	Fines	Warnings	Fines	Warnings	Fines
Overgrown Trees	44	0	7	0	34	0	54	0	17	0
Unsightly/Nuisance Property	37	2	11	1	45	3	16	1	25	1
Overgrown Grass and Weeds	191	0	58	1	54	0	73	1	53	7
Garbage and Refuse	4	0	6	0	45	3	13	0	0	0
Animal Defecation	9	2	0	0	6	0	4	0	0	0
Provincial Weed Notices	40	0	11	0	21	0	14	0	5	0
TOTAL	316	2	93	2	205	6	174	2	100	8
Complaints Received	83		29		81		66		86	
Officer Observed	233		64		124		108		14	

[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 that 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.

The defecation statistic shows that our 2014 municipal outreach (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; you still see people 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. Problem areas of town where excessive dog feces was present are looking cleaner, including 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.

The 2015 focus was towards nuisance properties. The enforcement stats demonstrated movement towards our goals to reduce the number of nuisance/unsightly/& grass & weed complaints; there is always room for more improvement. The Town of Stettler "Town Works" magazine (2015 edition) had 2 pages (pp10-11) dedicated to nuisance property reduction. 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) educates and informs 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 published in the Town Life magazine for 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. **The 2018 focus was responsible pet ownership.**

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

These are the statistics and focuses from the Bylaw Enforcement aspect for beautification of Stettler. 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 is laudable. Their efforts each year truly shape Stettler into the vibrant community that is enjoyed by all residents and visitors each year.



Province of Alberta



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

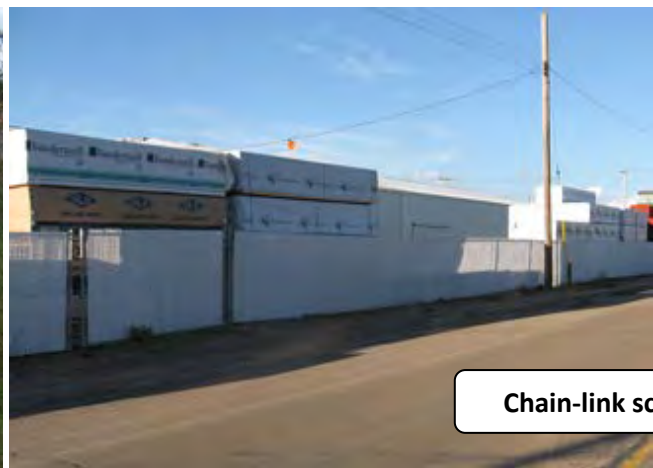
Street sweeping

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 are cleaned by the town. All graded privately owned public parking lots in the Town 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**.

Stettler Board of Trade regularly features businesses in their social media posts.

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. Now, many businesses have worked to improve their storefronts and keep their properties tidier.

In some situations, TOS staff have 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 tidiness in that area dramatically.

In response to a suggestion from previous Communities in Bloom judges, **historic or Stettler-themed murals** were commissioned in a contest 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.

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.



Weed-free grassed area

The Bylaw Officer is designated/trained as a **Weed Inspector** as required by the Provincial Weed Act. Weed notices are 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.

Parks Clean up

Throughout the week of **Earth Day**, the Town has a **park cleanup/Community Spring Cleanup**, where residents and groups (e.g. Heartland Youth Centre and 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, Tervita, Sean’s No Frills, TransCanada Corporation, Tim Hortons). This has been expanded annually. A number of other groups and individuals also signed up to clean various parks across town. Estimates are that over 50 different individuals/groups annually report or register park/public space cleanup. 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.

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 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 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.

Youth picking up garbage in a park

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 been maintained between the committee and the schools to encourage cleaning up school areas and the community. 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, coloured pages and participated in clean-up efforts and work on tidiness projects.**

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

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"



You said it – We DIDN'T do it

"The location of the walking paths in the park have allowed the many geese and other wildlife to leave droppings on the paths. The Town sweeper or a high pressure washer may be some benefit to helping curb the problem"

The wildlife live and are a part of the community. Their droppings don't last long and a small price to pay for their presence in town.

To increase the attractiveness and interactivity of the pathways in WSP, TOS staff painted footprints, hopping games, etc. on the paths

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 MASSIVE). 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.

NEW in
2014/2015/2016



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. In some areas, the existing paving stone sidewalk has been replaced with an aesthetically pleasing **railway track design sidewalk**. However, in future, due to the installation costs and the maintenance challenges (no local contractor to do the work), this will not likely continue. The design concept includes 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. Other elements will be implemented in future.



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 few years, 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**, with a new building set to open shortly (Vision Credit Union). Another empty lot was donated by the landowners and a **Pioneer-themed Downtown Park** was created in the downtown core (*See Downtown Park – Heritage Conservation section*). In June 2018, the Town demolished the old pool hall building, allowing for additional redevelopment to occur. Many **Main Street businesses have redone their storefronts**, improving the look of the street dramatically.



Railroad track design sidewalk in front of Town of Stettler Office



Railroad track design sidewalk

NEW in
2018/2019

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 (2015/2016/2017/2018):

ONGOING

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.
 9. 2018 – The town purchased a new Backhoe to replace the existing units.
 10. New pathway planned for the south side of Highway 12 from 62-67 Streets, including a new pedestrian bridge across Red Willow Creek. (\$200,000).
 11. We are expanding the existing snow dump located on the east side of Stettler. (\$100,000)
 12. Continuing the water and sewer replacements on 51 Avenue from 59-61 Streets. The existing infrastructure is cast iron and clay tile. (\$820,000)
 13. Desludge sewer lagoon cells A, B and C the fall of 2018 to improve treatment.
- 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 DID it!

"The town is doing a nice job with service club signage. Be sure to add a sign showing your CiB Five Blooms Bronze rating"
CiB Five Blooms Bronze signage has been installed on all 4 Service Club sign boards at the entrances to town. We're working towards having something on the entrance signs themselves.

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 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 DIDN'T do it (YET)!

"...Consider installing garbage/recycling containers nearby picnic tables and where you have benches. It is too easy for park users to leave litter and cigarette butts on the ground. Perhaps having containers closer to where people are might help."

This is a great suggestion. We are regularly adding new containers as the pathways expand and as usage patterns dictate. We agree that making it easy to do the right thing is a win:win.

You said it – We'll consider it!

"Try to move the cigarette butt containers closer to more visible sites. The container in the parking lot would get much more use if it were more visible. Locations where smoking is allowed and where you see butts on the ground are good locations in which to locate these containers."

That is a good suggestion. We will re-evaluate our locations and assess their efficacy. We have the challenge that many high use places are not near an existing post, or are within the restricted areas for the bylaw. We'll keep at it.

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!

"We see many individuals and groups walking the trail; is it possible to have a 'walkers pick up group' who would pick up litter as they walk. They might report amounts and for special recognition."

This is a good idea, however we've got some of this already happening. There are many "ploggers" or "plalkers"(?) that routinely pick up garbage as a part of their daily run/walk. We try to recognize their efforts publicly, but they are shy people.

We shared some information on our HBC Facebook page about Plogging, which is jogging/picking up garbage/recycling.

We are also already recognizing pickers that help out the mowers with donated treat coupons and thank you cards.