# TOWN LIFE

## Fall 2022







## LETTER FROM MAYOR NOLLS



Autumn in Stettler is truly a special time. Not only do our tree-lined streets create a beautiful backdrop as children return to school and routine comes back to our lives; the return to normalcy also gives us a chance to look back on our year to date, and realize how truly incredible 2022 has been.

Events and gatherings have come back to Stettler in a big way! In spring, the Stettler 40th Anniversary Trade Show shattered attendance records, quickly followed by a fantastic turnout at the Steel Wheel Stampede. I was lucky enough to volunteer at both events, and could see firsthand how excited everyone was to be surrounded by their friends and neighbours.

Summer in Stettler was filled to the brim with awesome activities. We partnered with some incredible community organizations to throw a Canada Day Celebration that was bigger and better than ever before, and continued that excitement with perfect weather for every Entertainment

in the Park performance. Our summer attractions also drew in out-of-town visitors; the Taste of the Heartland Farm Tour and Long Table Dinner brought in visitors from all over the province, while the Coast to Coast Vintage Car Tour brought us travelers from across the country. One of the most rewarding experiences as Mayor this year was hearing how impressed these visitors were with our community. From the friendliness of our residents to the beauty and cleanliness of our parks and green spaces, the feedback all echoed what I already know to be true – Stettler is one of a kind.

Moving into September, the momentum in our town didn't slow down. Alberta Culture Days was a smash hit this year, with many of the free activities and sessions being completely full. We battled over borscht, saw unique displays of art, and learned how to make perogies from scratch, all while gaining a new appreciation for the culture of Ukraine.

At this point, it is hard to believe that we **still** have so much to look forward to. The holiday season in Stettler is nothing short of magical, and it's right around the corner. Before we know it, we'll be together lighting the tree on Main Street. I'll never stop being thankful that we live in a community that keeps us excited all year long.

On that note, it is important to acknowledge those who put in the work to make these times extra joyful for us. The Town's Parks & Leisure Department works tirelessly to ensure that there is always something to keep busy with, no matter the time of year, while the Stettler Regional Board of Trade is responsible for many of the events and traditions that set our town apart. And of course, the volunteers and community groups that are the heart of these events. I could take up the rest of the magazine singing the praises of those who made this year awesome, but I will leave it on this note: after an incredible year, the best is yet to come!

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## **STETTLER AND DISTRICT HISTORY BOOK**

#### **Did You Know?**

Stettler's beautiful Main Street is unique to our community, not only because of the many seasonal events it holds, but because of the sheer size of it! Stettler Main Street is wider than most of the Main Streets in other communities - and there's a reason for that!

Unlike other communities in Alberta, Stettler was a Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) village, established on CPR lands. The original survey followed a CPR village plan which included a wider than normal Main Street for that day of age. Below is a photo of historic Main Street which hosted CPR standard #5 at the north end. Can you recognize any of the other buildings?



A small, dedicated group of volunteers are continuing to work on the Stettler and District History Book. To date, they have more than 1300 files! Volunteers are needed to assist in research and compiling stories on a number of files covering sports, clubs, county communities, and businesses.

Time hasn't run out if you would still like to submit anything to the History Book! All submissions must be received by the publication deadline of January 31, 2023.

To contact the Stettler and District History Book Committee or to see what they have been up to, visit their new website, StettlerAndDistrictHistoryBook.com.

## The Stettler and District History Book will be filled with lots of fascinating facts and stories you'll want to read about! Stay tuned - preorders will be available soon!

## **CAPITAL BUDGET WRAP UP**

Every year, Town of Stettler Council passes a five-year Capital Budget focusing on the key priorities of major improvements within the community. In 2022, the Capital Budget was valued at \$5,765,095. Two of this year's main projects were the watermain replacement on 53 Street, which took place from 51 Avenue to 48 Avenue, and the new intersection connecting Highway 12 West to the south service road.

#### 53 Street Watermain Replacement

Wally's Backhoe Services completed three blocks of cast iron watermain and lead water service replacements to properties from 51 Avenue to 48 Avenue. The consistent removal of cast iron and lead water lines are important to ensure that the water we provide to our residents is of the highest quality. Removal of lead services lowers lead exposure and the replacement of cast iron mains reduces the likelihood of watermain breaks. This project's budget was \$950,000, which included all construction and engineering costs.



#### **Highway 12 West Intersection**

This was an initiative brought forward from the Town's Economic Development Committee in an effort to attract more business development by providing better highway access to the properties along Highway 12 West. Funding was largely provided through Provincial Grants and existing reserves totalling \$842,000.



## **Rental Spaces**

The Stettler Recreation Centre has three rooms available to rent based on an hourly or a day rate to fit your needs. From a business meeting to a celebration, let us help you find the perfect room for your event!

With a 60" Smart TV, Wi-Fi capability or hard-wired internet, and the capability to sit up to 30 or 45 people, these rooms are the perfect spot for your next corporate meeting or staff training session.

Stettle

Have a celebration coming up and don't want to host in your home? Why not try the SRC! Don't think your event will fit in one of these rooms? Talk to us about renting the HUB for the day.



For more information on any of our rentals, call the Rec Centre at 403-742-4411 or visit www.stettler.net and explore the 'Stettler Recreation Centre' under the 'Play' tab.

## **RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY BUILDERS**

The Community Builders Committee aims to preserve and showcase our town's history by sharing the stories of those who were crucial in its development through locally crafted monuments.

The Committee was proud to unveil two new monuments in June 2022, honoring Judge William Brigham Gray as a 'Pioneer of Administration' and the Poon Family (Jun Wah, Yick Fong 'Sam,' Star, Yick and Thing Gue 'Harry') as 'Pioneers of Cultural Diversity.'

All four monuments are available to view in Pioneer Park, across from the RCMP Station. Additionally, extended biographies for all the honourees are available on the Town of Stettler website.



## New Monuments Coming 2023!



#### **Help Make History**

We look forward to continuing this recognition program, and want you to be involved! The Community Builders Committee accepts nominations year-round and saves all submissions for future consideration. If you know someone who has made an immeasurable impact on our community, please visit www.stettler.net/the -town/community-builders and fill out the digital nomination form, or provide a letter of nomination to the Stettler Regional Board of Trade at 6606 - 50 Avenue.

## **ALBERTA CULTURE DAYS**

Culture connects us to our past, our diverse traditions, and allows us to explore personal and collective imaginations by learning from one another. This year in Stettler, Alberta Culture Days was celebrated throughout the month of September with planned events that showcased our community's unique talents, pride, and passion. This year's theme explored the customs, cuisine and craftsmanship of Ukraine.

#### **Ukrainian Displays and Crafting Demos**

The Stettler Town and Country Museum hosted a display of special Ukraine Artifacts throughout all of September and welcomed Henriette Chomiak & Anthony Hrabok for interactive demos. The Museum was also host to "The Battle of the Borscht," where local cooks were able to submit their traditional soup to be judged by a panel of celebrity judges.



#### Homemade Nalysnyky

Nalysnyky is a cheese filled, savoury crepe. Chef Brenda Murray spent an evening teaching her participants how to make this delicious snack from scratch.





#### Wheat Weaving

Irene Topolnitsky shared her unique talent of wheat weaving with 10 lucky individuals who got to practice creating their own art with locally grown wheat.



## **ALBERTA CULTURE DAYS**

#### The Art of Pysanky

There were two sessions of pysanky offered throughout the month of September. Participants of these classes got to learn the traditional Ukrainian style of egg decorating from their creative teacher, Wendy Staal.





#### **Homemade Perogies**

Maryna Yemelina guided a group of 12 individuals through the many steps it takes to make a homemade perogy. From preparing and rolling the dough, all the way to cooking the final product. The participants enjoyed every step — especially when they got to taste their work!

#### **Other Highlights**

Fun activities were constantly found around Stettler throughout Alberta Culture Days, with other highlights including a documentary screening at the Stettler Public Library as well as a cultural food tour, where local restaurants featured their culturally inspired dishes on their menus and diners selected their chosen dish for the chance to win \$100 Heart of Alberta Dollars. Stettler's two elementary schools even got in on the fun, enjoying a pysanky colouring contest and learning traditional Ukrainian dancing in Physical Education.

Stettler has now hosted Alberta Culture Days events for the past four years, and this year's Culture Days celebrations may have just been the best yet!

## STETTLER TRANSFER STATION

The Stettler Transfer Station, operated by the Stettler Waste Management Authority, serves the citizens of both the Town of Stettler and the County of Stettler. This facility is located at 19343 Township Road 391, just northeast of town limits. The Transfer Station serves as an option to dispose of home and yard refuse, usable but unwanted items, and recyclable goods.

#### What Can You Find At The Transfer Station?





#### Take It or Leave It

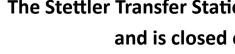
The Take It or Leave It building welcomes you as you enter the Transfer Station. This building allows visitors to leave household goods, electronics, furniture, and other items that they no longer want but are in a good and usable condition for a future owner.

#### **Stettler Eco Centre**

The Stettler Eco Centre is where you can drop off household goods that cannot be placed in your regular garbage or recycling bins. This includes paint, batteries, select varieties of hazardous waste, fluorescent bulbs, and more.

#### **Recycling Corner**

The Transfer Station has a large area located north of the Eco Centre and the Take It or Leave It building that houses an assortment of collection bins for different recyclable items. You can find bins for your standard recyclables - paper, cardboard, tin cans, etc., as well as collection bins for items that wouldn't be collected in your regular bi-weekly recycling such as used tires, propane and helium bottles, electronics, Styrofoam, and more.



#### **Burn Pit**

From tree branches to lumber cut offs, the burn pit is the spot for all burnable, untreated wood. Please follow the signs and collect any wood that can't be burned in the bin located to the southeast of the pits.

#### **Compost Pile**

In addition to the neighbourhood compost bins located throughout Town, the Stettler Transfer Station has a large compost section on top of the east hill where grass clippings and yard waste can be delivered.

#### **Garbage Bins**

Located on the east hill at the Stettler Transfer Station, you can dispose of any household garbage here that doesn't fit in your regular residential garbage bin.

#### Metal Pile

Metal should not be placed in the regular garbage bins and is collected in a separate pile at the Stettler Transfer Station located to the north of the garbage bins.

#### The Transfer Station Does Not Take

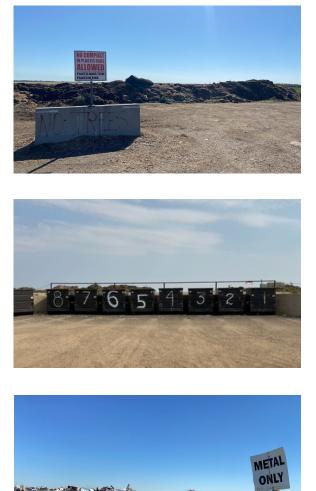
- Used oil
- Anti freeze
- Ammunition



## STETTLER TRANSFER STATION

#### HOURS

The Stettler Transfer Station is open 10am to 6pm every day and is closed on Statutory Holidays.



For further information on the Stettler Transfer Station or where to dispose of materials, please visit our website, www.stettler.net and under the 'Live' tab, select 'Waste Management.'

## STETTLER REGIONAL FIRE DEPARTMENT



The training tower has been a great addition to train local firefighters in the many disciplines they have to become competent in. Moving hose lines to the second story with ladders, stopping the flow of sprinklers, using standpipe systems correctly, and high angle rescue drills are only a few of the many facets of firefighting training that the tower is used for. Firefighters have also been using the stairs for conditioning to be physically prepared for the strenuous tasks a firefighter faces in the line of duty.

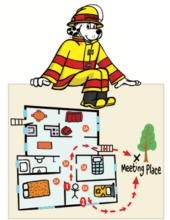
If you would like to join the Stettler Regional Fire Department, check out their Facebook page for the next recruitment drive happening this fall!





Fire won't wait.

#### Plan your escape!



Develop a home fire escape plan and practice it at least twice a year!

Having a home fire plan will make sure everyone knows what to do when the smoke alarm sounds so that they can get out safely. Pick an outside meeting place that is a safe distance in front of your home where everyone can meet.

## **READING YOUR UTILITY BILL**

<b>Town of Stettler</b> P.O. Box 280 Stettler, Alberta TOC 2L0 Phone: 403-742-8305 Fax: 403-742-1404 Email: townoffice@stettler.net	Utility Bi Account Number Service Address	<b>123456.12</b> 4126 - 23 Street	
Doe, Jane 4126 - 23 Street Stettler, AB T0C 2L0	If payment is made after due date please pay \$125.37	2022-09 Amount No	
Stettler, AB T0C 2L0			
Please return this portion with your payment - Thank you! Do Not Pay - Preauthorized Plan			
Billing Period No. of Reading From To Days Type 2022-07-02 2022-08-01 31 Actual		Reading m3 To Consumption	Date Meter Read 2022-07-26
2022-08-01 Balance Forward			\$116.58
2022-08-02 277964 Payment - Thank You!			-\$116.58
2022-08-01Water Consumption Charge2022-08-01Water Flat Rate Charge	1665.00	1685.00 2	0 \$56.40 \$10.00
2022-08-01 Sewer Charge			\$22.75

#### **Understanding Your Utility Bill**

2022-08-01

It is important to understand the water consumption happening in your home, and to keep an eye on your bill for any major changes.

Garbage/Recycle Charge

Your monthly bill will show whether the reading captured was an actual or an estimate; you can find this in the section outlined by the red box on the bill above. Actual readings mean our meter readers were able to obtain a reading, and therefore the bill represents how much water went through your meter since the last billing period. An estimate means the Town's system put a generated consumption for the current billing cycle because an actual reading could not be obtained. If your bill is consistently noted as estimated, it's important to call the Town Office to have the meter checked, which will ensure you do not receive a large consumption bill in the future.

Your consumption is another value you should watch every month. This value can be found under 'm3 Consumption' in the section outlined by the red box above. On average, a four-person household will use 12-20 cubic meters of water in one month. If your bill shows that the consumption is significantly high on an actual read, you may want to check for leaks.

#### **Important To Know**

 The Town of Stettler bills one month in arrears. You can find the billing period in the section outlined by the red box on the bill above.

\$30.25

- It is your responsibility to call the Town Office when you are moving in or out of a house to start or stop your billing cycle. It is important to call before you move.
- Your account number does not follow you if you move. If you move, make sure to check your new account number and pay the right account if you online bank.

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works is made up of several departments: the Water Treatment Plant, Transportation, Water/ Wastewater, and Fleet. Together, they provide a variety of services that directly impact citizens and businesses in town every day, including the maintenance of municipal roads, sidewalks and pathways, fleet management of all town vehicles and equipment, water treatment, production and distribution, wastewater collection and treatment, and stormwater services.

Each day in Public Works can look very different. Arriving to work in the Water/Wastewater Department could look as standard and routine as completing rounds and readings on all water and wastewater facilities and keeping up with general maintenance and repairs. Staff may also arrive to work and have an emergency water main break or sewer failure to repair that fills their day. Our Water/Wastewater Department is also responsible for installing water meters in newly constructed buildings or replacing an old meter in an existing home.





#### **Other Interesting Public Work Duties**

- Planning and building pathways
- Turning compost at the Transfer Station
- Hanging street light Christmas decorations
- Installing the Main Street Christmas Tree
- Replacing street signs
- Completing water and sewer locate requests from Alberta One-Call
- Blowing extra snow on tobogganing hills
- Preparing and filling graves at the Lake View Cemetery
- Flooding the outdoor skating rinks
- Grinding trip hazards on sidewalks
- Cleaning sewer and storm lines
- Picking up your refuse during Spring Lane Clean-Up
- Following the parade in the street sweeper

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF PUBLIC WORKS





In Transportation, tasks such as asphalt patching, crack filling, street sweeping, line painting, and general stormwater maintenance are on the list for completion during the summer months. During winter months, Transportation shifts their duties to the snow removal and sanding of streets, plowing back alleys and parking lots, and clearing Town of Stettler pathways.

Fleet management ensures all town equipment and vehicles are kept operational. The Town's mechanic is responsible for all sizes of engines, from the small engine of a chainsaw or weed eater to the largest engines of our hydrovac, loaders, tandems, and excavator.

At the Water Treatment Plant, staff are busy producing water for the town and the surrounding communities all year long. Staff are continually running tests and treating water to ensure it is safe for all to consume.

"A great deal of our daily life depends on Public Works working 100 percent everyday. You only hear about Public Works when something goes wrong. Generally, the people working in this field are silent, efficient, and effective. It is rare when something goes wrong and well publicized when it does." - Melissa Robbins, Director of Operations



## **STAFF RETIREMENTS**



Laurie Tait's first day at the Town Office was June 28, 1984.
Laurie spent time in almost every area of the Finance Department and finally settled in as Office Manager.
Throughout Laurie's time at the Office, she witnessed many changes. When she first began at the Town, the finances were done by pen and paper alone and evolved through the years to a fully automated system. Laurie retired on April 7, 2020, after being with the Town for 36 years. Laurie enjoys spending time with her family, gardening, bird watching, and you may find her at a car show on the weekends.

Cherie Pochylko started in her role as the Utilities Clerk on October 26, 1995. Cherie spent 26 years being the smiling face that greeted everyone that walked through the office doors. Cherie retired on January 12, 2021 and is now enjoying retired life golfing and spending time with her grandchildren and friends.



Wayne Stenlund had worked as the Shop Mechanic for the Town since September 2, 1997. Wayne spent his days keeping all Town equipment and vehicles in top operating shape. He retired in October 2021 after 24 years of service. In his retirement, Wayne spends his time hunting, fishing, and enjoying pretty much any activity outdoors. He is appreciating the extra time he has now to spend with his friends and family.

Wanda Whitten started at the Town Office on June 2, 1986. The majority of Wanda's years at the Town were spent in the tax department.
Wanda's title quickly expanded to include IT Coordinator as technology progressed throughout the years at the Office. After 35 years with the Town, Wanda retired on November 19, 2021. She now enjoys spending time with family and travelling.





## **STAFF RETIREMENTS**



Glenn Turgeon started working for the Town of Stettler on April 22, 1998, where he worked both at the Water Treatment Plant and the Water Department. In March 2010, he started working full time for the Water Department and eventually moved to the Transportation Department in January 2011, where he finished his career as an equipment operator. Glenn retired July 16, 2022 after 24 years of service. Glenn spends his days reading as much as possible and travelling with his wife.



Kelly Howe has been the longest serving employee in Public Works. She started her Town career working at the Water Treatment Plant and Water Department on June 29, 1988. Kelly worked at the Water Treatment Plant as a Level III Operator for 34 and a half years. She is currently transitioning to retirement with an expected last day of December 12, 2022. Kelly looks forward to spending quality time with family and continuing to help with the family farm. Ivan Wilford started with the Parks Department on October 15, 1990. He later transferred to Public Works and worked his way through the department. In March of 2004, Ivan accepted the role of Transportation Foreman. Ivan retired in March 2022 after 31 years of service. In his retirement Ivan has been busy completing projects he never had the time for. He enjoys tending to his garden and spending time with family.



Thank you to all recent retirees for your hard work and many years of service. It's been a pleasure to see you all grow in your careers and retire happy and healthy. While you will be missed with the Town, we are happy we got the opportunity to see you off in this next chapter of your lives. Happy retirement!

## Upcoming Events Stettler Regional Board of Trade



## Stettler Awards Gala

The Stettler Awards Gala has been a prestigious business event for many years where we have an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of our local businesses and citizens. The Awards Gala will be held at the Stettler Community Hall.

## Moonlight Madness

Join the locals in the kick-off to Christmas with the annual Main Street Christmas Tree light up along with oodles of shopping specials and treats during Moonlight Madness. Such a fun event, even Santa himself likes to check it out!





## The Night Before the Night Before

We invite you to this uniquely Stettler annual event that is a beloved Christmas Tradition! With train rides, entertainment, store sales, and late night shopping, it's the perfect way to start off Christmas holidays!

## Ice Fishing Derby

Family Day Weekend Feb. 2023

Mark your calendars! Planning is underway to hold the first ever ice fishing derby at Buffalo Lake on Family Day Weekend in February! More details to come!

We are busy working on each of these events along with many more. If you are interested in more details, please visit our website www.stettlerboardoftrade.com or contact us at 403-742-3181.

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

#### October

Stettler Airport Master Plan Open House Stettler Pheasant Festival Stettler Public Library Spooktacular Book Sale Night of Terror at the Booseum Stettler Public Library Monster Mash-up Halloween Party Halloween Howl

#### November

Stettler Variety Showcase: The New Jersey Jukebox Heartland Arts Troupe Society: Too Many Cooks, Dinner Theatre Sharebear Christmas Market at the Mall Festival of Lights

#### December

Light the Night Stettler Public Library Christmas Wine Survivor Deadline Stettler Variety Showcase: Ken Lavigne Light the Night Stettler Christmas Market at the Stettler Agriplex Light the Night Skate with Santa Light the Night

#### January

Stettler Variety Showcase: Robert Uchida & Rafael Hoekman

#### February

Family Day Activities at the Stettler Recreation Centre FCSS Family Day Pancake Breakfast Stettler Variety Showcase: Misery Mountain Boys & Maddie Storvold October 13 October 14 - 16 October 17 - 22 October 20 - 22 & 27 - 29 October 29 October 29

November 5 November 9 - 12 November 19 November 28 - December 3

December 2 - 3 December 3 December 4 December 9 - 10 December 9 - 10 December 16 - 17 December 18 December 21 - 24

January 29

February 20 February 20 February 26

16

## **PHOTO CONTEST**

PARRISH & EIMBECKER Nº 14 STETTLER

> Spring 2022 Town Life Photo Contest Winner Photo Taken and Submitted by Lylas McKnight

#### Town Life Photo Contest Fall 2022

#### Send in your photo to townoffice@stettler.net

#### Deadline: March 1, 2023

1st place: \$100 Heart of Alberta Dollars 2nd place: \$100 Heart of Alberta Dollars 3rd place: \$100 Heart of Alberta Dollars

#### Eligibility

The photo contest is open to all amateur and professional photographers. There is no limit to how many entries a contestant can submit. All photos must be taken within the Town of Stettler. Photos will be judged on the Town of Stettler's Facebook page. Photographs must be submitted electronically in the highest quality available. Photos must be taken by the entrant, be original and unpublished.

#### Consent

By submitting your photo you give consent that it can be used by the Town of Stettler and affiliate organizations for promotional and advertising purposes. The Town of Stettler and affiliate organizations will not sell the photos or use the photos to make a profit. Photo credit will be given to the photographer.