# **CANNUAL REPORT**







# REPORT Leduc

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### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The City of Leduc acknowledges that the land we now know as Canada is the traditional territory of many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit. Leduc is located on Treaty 6 land, the traditional territory to the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Anishinaabe, and Nakota Sioux. We recognize and pay homage to these and all Indigenous Peoples - past, present and future - that continue to support, educate and contribute to the strength of our region and country. As a Council, we are committed to listening and building our understanding of the sovereignty, lands, histories, languages, knowledge systems, and cultures of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Nations.





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### LEDUC CITY COUNCIL

The City of Leduc is governed by an elected council of a mayor and six councillors. Leduc City Council is committed to responsible, visionary leadership and long-term strategic planning. City council has a broad fiduciary responsibility to the community and passes the municipal budget each year.



**29 Regular Council meetings hosted** (including Committee-of-the-Whole)

- **4** Special Council meetings
- 38 Public commentaries and 25 presentations
- 15 Mock Council sessions for 480 students



Left to right (top): Coun. Ryan Pollard, Mayor Bob Young, Coun. Lars Hansen Left to right (bottom): Coun. Bill Hamilton, Coun. Beverly Beckett, Coun. Laura Tillack, Coun. Glen Finstad



### MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to share the progress and achievements of the city in 2023, through this annual report.

Throughout 2023, the City of Leduc continued to deliver on our commitment to building a community where people want to live and raise a family, and a city that encourages business development, builds for the future and collaborates with our regional partners. Looking back, I couldn't be more grateful for our residents, businesses, local organizations and partners, City staff, and my



fellow councillors, all of whom showcased Leduc's inspiring and innovative community spirit.

The city prioritized the extraordinary service delivery that Leduc residents deserve and took several steps forward on important projects like the 65 Avenue Interchange that will help Leduc to grow and connect in ways not previously possible.

We look forward to continuing this momentum and serving the community in a responsible, accountable and sustainable manner.

Bob J.



### CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

2023 was another busy year in the City of Leduc. Our organization worked hard to deliver exemplary programs, events and services to residents, and City Administration continued to work closely with City Council to achieve our goals and prepare for the future.

Guiding our work were the four key areas of the new 2023-2026 Strategic Plan—we want to be: a city where people want to live; a city with a plan for the future; an

economically prosperous city and region; and a collaborative communitybuilder and regional partner.

Throughout 2023 we remained steadfast in our approach to keeping the City in a positive financial position and offering value to those who call Leduc home.

Looking forward, I know the future of our city is bright. Under the strategic guidance of Council and the new Strategic Plan, we are poised for continued growth and prosperity. The work continues, and the best days of our community lie ahead.



## OUR MISSION



A mission statement is a statement of purpose, a statement about what we currently do. Its purpose is to provide focus and direction.

### **PEOPLE. BUILDING. COMMUNITY.**

## OUR VISION



A vision statement is a statement about what kind of organization we want to become in the future. Its purpose is to provide a clear guide for current and future decision-making and direction.

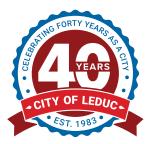
A GREAT LIFE. A CARING COMMUNITY. A THRIVING REGION.



### **GOAL 1** A city where people want to live

#### New Events! Summer in the City and Light Up the Park

In addition to the City's regular line-up of signature events, the City hosted two new events last year: Summer in the City and Light Up the Park. In July, Summer in the City encouraged residents to visit neighbourhood parks throughout the community to play and engage with local organizations on-site sharing information about fall programs. In November, Light Up the Park launched the City's annual Light Up Leduc program, by illuminating Alexandra Park with beautiful holiday lights while event goers listened to carolers and took photos with Santa.





**7,000** Estimate total event attendance throughout the year

### 40th Anniversary of Incorporation

On Sept. 1, 2023, the City celebrated its 40th anniversary of incorporation as a city. On this day in 1983, the Town of Leduc, comprised of roughly 12,000 people, officially joined a handful of other municipalities in the province with the "city" designation. The City marked the occasion by sharing a commemorative video and a series of historical photos and records from the City's archives. Residents may have also seen a special edition of the Leduc Rep.





**352** New residences built (including multifamily units)



96% Of residents feel their overall quality of life is excellent, very good or good.



**91%** Of residents are satisfied with City programs and services.



**Top rated City services:** 

- Recreation facilities / LRC
- Waste collection and diversion
- Fire response services
- Outdoor recreational amenities



3,233 Enforcement services calls

2,857 Fire response events

5,254 EMS response events

**33** Public safety and education engagements conducted



1,045,052 Total LRC attendance up 15.8% from 2022

57,769 LRC memberships up 24% from 2022

#### Safe Speeds in Leduc

The speed limit on residential streets in Leduc was reduced in August from 50 km/hour to 40 km/hour. All Leduc school zone speed limits were also made 30 km/hour on school days from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Reducing speed limits on residential streets makes our community safer, calmer and quieter for everyone. As shown in data from the Southfork pilot, while the change does not impact most drivers, it slows down the top 15 percent of speeds. This helps prevent collisions and reduces the severity of injuries when they do happen.





#### Not the Plan

The City launched an award winning public awareness campaign called "Not the Plan" to help reduce stigma in Leduc around houselessness and what may cause someone to become houseless. The campaign's goals were to help humanize unhoused individuals, show that being homeless is never part of anyone's plan, and to create positive change in the community by breaking the stigma surrounding those in need. This campaign supports the City's continued efforts to address houselessness challenges in Leduc.





6,385 Loads of snow removed from city streets (approx. 63,850 cubic metres); roughly equal to 25.5 Olympic-sized swimming pools



82 Outdoor athletic facilities maintained

87.3 km Multiway trails and sidewalks maintained

62 Parks maintained

**40** Playgrounds maintained



858 Acres of mowing



8,861 FCSS supports administered for individuals and families (7,085 by FCSS; 1,776 by Family Resource Network)

2,161 FCSS referrals (1,454 external referrals; 707 internal referrals)

140 Letters delivered during Sincerely, Leduc up 27% from 2022



26 Citizens recognized through City Awards up 53% from 2022

65 Volunteer opportunities promoted to assist local organizations

**921** Total volunteers in the database up **10%** from 2022

#### **Treaty, Truth and ReconciliACTION**

The City took several steps to listen, learn, and reaffirm its commitment as a Treaty Partner and approach to Treaty, Truth and ReconciliACTION. In June, Indigenous leaders were hosted in the Leduc Civic Centre for a traditional pipe ceremony, and in October the City was pleased to tour the Four Nations of Maskwacis. In recognition of Treaty 6 Day, Indigenous leaders led a pipe ceremony and community walk. To support community learning, the City donated 10 copies of the book When We Were Alone by David A. Robertson to the Leduc Public Library and to each Wee Free Library in Leduc. A series of Indigenous performances/ sessions were also held for the community at the Maclab Centre. Through engagements and learning opportunities like this, the City continues to work with each Sovereign Indigenous Nation to understand ways we can partner together for social and economic benefit to each community.

#### **Communicating with Residents**

Sharing relevant, timely, accessible information about the City's programs, services, and events is essential to building a thriving, successful and engaged community. Last year, the City continued to enhance its communications and marketing efforts to share information with residents through a variety of platforms.



Saw **38%** growth in e-news subscribers



Passed 10,000 followers on Facebook



Passed **4,500** followers on Instagram





**GOAL 2** A city with a plan for the future





2,000 Metres of sidewalk poured



23.7 Lane kms of road resurfaced



650 Metres of road reconstructed

#### **Neighbourhood Renewals**

The City continues to revitalize Leduc neighbourhoods with annual construction work. Last year, 48A Street between Black Gold Drive and 47 Avenue saw full road and sidewalk reconstruction, along with the replacement of water and sanitary infrastructure. This work helps ensure the continued stability of critical infrastructure for years to come.



#### **65 Avenue Interchange**

Construction of the 65 Avenue Interchange last year included the road reconstruction of 50 Street and 65 Avenue. To help showcase the scope of this multi-year project, the City created an interactive website for residents to visit and learn more. This critical infrastructure, anticipated to be complete in 2025, will support safety, ease of movement and future economic development in Leduc, at the Edmonton International Airport and across the region.

#### **Municipal Census**

The City of Leduc Census occurred in the spring, with 99.97 per cent of homes participating. The data collected supports the City in service planning and delivery, and future construction and development. It also supports the City's eligibility for potential funding to support new infrastructure or amenities.





Population: 36,060

Nearly **71%** of residents own their homes

Main languages spoken at home: English, Tagalog, French

More Leduc residents were born in **1981** than any other year

#### **Urban Planning Engagement**

Citizen engagement in the decision-making process is valued and was sought out on several projects last year. This included the first phase of the Urban Centre Area Redevelopment Plan. Through two community workshops and an online survey seeking citizen input on how to approach the future growth and transformation of the Urban Centre, we learned that walkability and safety are the top priorities for residents. The City also conducted an online survey, held stakeholder meetings and an open house about updates to the Municipal Development Plan and the future development of the southeast area of the city.

#### **AVPA – Minister's Award**

The City is proud of the recently changed Edmonton Airport Vicinity Protection Area (AVPA) regulation and is honoured this project was selected as the winner of the 2023 Minister's Award for Municipal Excellence for Red Tape Reduction. The regulation was amended in May 2022. As part of this process, the noise contours that restricted development in Leduc were reduced by 30 per cent and related restrictions on development were significantly reduced. This, paired with the construction of the 65 Avenue Interchange, creates a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reimagine how Leduc will grow and develop.



#### Solar Carport and EV Chargers – Minister's Award

Leduc received the Minister's Award for Environmental Innovation last year for the solar carport and electric vehicle (EV) charging station installed at 4821 50 Avenue in late 2022. Supporting the City's commitment to environmental sustainability, significant contributions to projects such as this have been made to lower greenhouse gas emissions and reduce the carbon footprint of Leduc. This project has the added benefit of attracting more people to Leduc's downtown to further economic development opportunities.



7,654 Total charging sessions at the solar carport and EV charging station

#### Roughly 21 cars per day

More than **81%** of uses providing charges greater than 5kWh (**10%** battery capacity)



**11,189** total trees planted in 2023

#### Urban Tree Canopy Expansion

As the community continues to grow and develop, it is important to protect our natural environment and plan for long-term natural sustainability. Leduc's Urban Tree Canopy Expansion project received a \$363.000 federal funding contribution through the 2 Billion Trees program. With this support, Leduc is planting 20,000 trees on city-owned land over two years (2023 and 2024), to provide ecological benefits and increase wellness throughout the community for years to come. We also continue to plant trees to replace those lost to disease or pests, with funding from the Investing in Canada's Infrastructure Program.





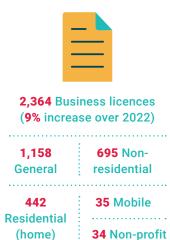
**\$90,000** in sports tourism grants provided to **15 events** 



241 Events / camps booked

#### **Business Licences**

The City continues to support business attraction and development. Ensuring Leduc is known as a great place to do business is vital to the community's prosperity. Last year's business licence totals were up nine per cent over 2022 and reached a five-year high, surpassing the record set in 2018.



\$ ● \$

Leduc employment by sector:

1,732 Oil and gas supply services

489 Homebased business

254 Logistics, warehousing, distribution

141 Value-added agriculture / agri-business



### Fast Permitting Times and Development

The City of Leduc is committed to excellent service and supporting investment and development in our community. The Canadian Homebuilders' Association - Edmonton Region have noted that the cost to a project during the permitting process is significant. In 2023, the City of Leduc was applauded by the Province at the Alberta Municipalities Convention for its fast permitting and approval times. The average time to issue a development permit (that was never on hold) was only 4.1 calendar days last year.

1,578 total building and development permits; \$151 Million total construction value



#### 675 Residential permits; value: \$102,037,976



48 Commercial permits; value: \$18,638,771



23 Industrial permits; value: \$28,834,888



12 Gov't/institutional permits; value: \$1,728,500

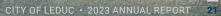
#### Business Satisfaction Survey

Last year, the City launched a **Business Retention and Expansion** survey to better understand the plans and needs of local businesses, and how owners/ managers view our community as a place to do business. Survey results showed a lot of optimism in the business community and will be used to plan future economic development activities focused on the top priorities of local business. Local businesses are the lifeblood of our community, and it is important to us that they be successful and feel supported.

#### **Movie Filming**

Two movies were filmed in Leduc last year, including a Hallmarkstyle Christmas movie called Cape Holly Christmas and a heist thriller called Chasing Midnight. In both instances, the City worked with the production teams as they visited and filmed in various versatile locations, including local shops, restaurants, landmarks and green spaces. The economic boost to hosting production companies in and around Leduc was a net positive for the community and illustrates to other major businesses that Leduc is a terrific place to invest.











135 Community groups supported (including board development sessions, organizational review, town hall, newsletters, virtual meeting software licenses provided)



\$1.1 Million Municipal Grant funding given (excluding Library)

#### **City Supports NWT Wildfire Response**

The City of Leduc opened its Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) in August to assist the Alberta Emergency Management Agency in supporting wildfire evacuees from the Northwest Territories. The ECC welcomed and registered hundreds of people displaced from their homes. The City supported wildfire evacuees from Aug. 13 to Sept. 18.



651 People placed in hotels
287 Hotel rooms booked
949 People registered in the provincial system

**128** Pets supported



**110** Phone calls answered on City's evacuation line

Worked with 11 hotels and seven partner organizations to accommodate evacuees

9 Re-entry flights supported



#### **Public Art Installations**

Two pieces of public art were unveiled and celebrated last year, showcasing the thriving creativity of Leduc residents and the City's commitment to arts and culture. The first piece was a mural designed and painted by a local graffiti artist on the outside of the LRC, using input collected from local youth on how they feel connected to Leduc. The second piece, The Farm Woman, is a sculpture in William F. Lede Park dedicated to female pioneers, who were strong and resilient and formed communities that supported each other in a shared vision of a better future.





#### Leduc hosted Alberta Mid-Sized Cities Mayors' Caucus

In October, Leduc hosted more than 60 elected officials and chief administrative officers as part of the Mid-Sized Cities Mayors Caucus (MCMC). This group represents 25 municipalities-and one million Albertans—and collaborates to share best practices and address common challenges faced by mid-sized cities. This is one of the many initiatives the City uses to advance its advocacy and priorities to better serve its citizens.

### Expansion of Supportive Housing

As the community continues to grow, the City is taking action to increase the supply and access to affordable housing in Leduc. Over the last few years, the City of Leduc has collaborated with the federal government, provincial government and its municipal counterparts to support the Leduc Regional Housing Foundation's Gaetz Landing expansion of supportive housing, which broke ground in 2023.

#### Alberta Development Officers Annual Conference

The City of Leduc, in partnership with the Alberta Development Officers Association, hosted the 2023 Development Officers Conference in September. The conference welcomed more than 160 attendees from all over Alberta to hear from 15 diverse speakers. The event provided an opportunity for everyone to participate in rich learning, networking and valuable discussion, as well as tours and activities within Leduc.

#### Subsidized Transit for Low-Income Residents

Last year, in partnership with the Government of Alberta, the City of Leduc began offering half-fare passes for eligible residents, on Leduc Transit and Leduc Assisted Transit Services (LATS) local and regional routes. In 2023, 52 applications were approved, including seven families and 45 individuals.



112,770 Total transit riders on Leduc Transit (34% increase from 2022)

23,578 Total riders on Leduc Assisted Transportation Service (12.4% increase from 2022)

**28,578** Total trips on On-Demand Transit in 2023 (**3,648** more trips than 2022)

**4.84** Average rating of On-Demand Transit

Leduc Transit is provided in partnership with Leduc County

#### Increased Traffic to Eco Station

In 2023, we continued to operate the Leduc Eco Station in partnership with Leduc County, Town of Calmar, City of Beaumont, and Town of Devon. Resident use of the facility grew significantly in 2023, diverting a range of material from the landfill to be recycled or safely disposed.



#### 58,893 Eco Station visitors up 44% from 2022



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### **FINANCIALS**

Federal / Provincial / Local Grants \$49,258,688

Capital Contributions \$232,768



### **PROPERTY TAXES**

Municipal tax revenues are comprised of a combination of residential and non-residential property taxes. The municipal portion of property taxes collected goes toward funding the services and amenities that make Leduc a great place to live.

A portion of property taxes fund other agencies over which the City has no direct control or management (Provincial School Taxes and Leduc Foundation).

CATEGORY	RESIDENTIAL		NON-RESIDENTIAL	
Municipal Taxes	\$35,442,013	75.90%	\$20,906,036	73.71%
Provincial School Taxes	\$11,140,171	23.86%	\$7,403,480	26.10%
Leduc Foundation Taxes	\$114,183	0.24%	\$53,933	0.19%
TOTAL	\$46,696,368	100%	\$28,363,449	100%



### **REVENUES**

In 2023, the City of Leduc had the following revenues. These do not include interfund transfers.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY	31%
UTILITY SERVICES REVENUE	26%
NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY	18%
GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS	9%
SALE OF SERVICES	8%
CONTRIBUTIONS & LEVIES	3%
PROPERTY SERVICES	2%
INTEREST & PENALTIES	2%
ENFORCEMENT SERVICES	1%



### **EXPENDITURES**

In 2023, the City of Leduc had the following expenditures as indicated by department. These do not include interfund transfers.

PUBLIC SERVICES	20%
FINANCE	12%
FIRE & AMBULANCE SERVICES	11%
FACILITY SERVICES	9%
CORPORATE SERVICES	8%
POLICING & ENFORCEMENT SERVICES	8%
LRC OPERATIONS	7%
ENGINEERING SERVICES	6%
PLANNING SERVICES	5%
LEGISLATIVE & GOVERNANCE	3%
PARKS & ATHLETIC FIELDS	3%
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	2%
PUBLIC TRANSIT	2%
FCSS	1%
LIBRARY	1%
SNOW REMOVAL	1%





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