



REPORT TO THE

COMMUNITY

2022



2022

COCHRANE

ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

The year marked one of the largest capital investments in the community to date. Several achievements were acknowledged, including investments in the community, improvements in the quality of life, benefits to tourism, and business growth.

- The Bow River and Jumping Pound Creek Flood Recovery & Erosion Control Projects were initiated.
- A new downtown pedestrian crossing was opened.
- Construction of the new Protective Services building was underway.
- The new 4th Avenue Bridge was completed.
- \$85,000 was raised for the Trail Project, working to build a trail from Calgary to Canmore.
- Groundbreaking took place for the Greystone Development.
- CP Rail Siding Track Removal was completed to improve crossings and provide a pedestrian link on the East side of River Avenue, enhancing connectivity.
- Regional transit initiatives, including COLI/On-It and SWIFT Mini Thni Transit, provided convenient options for riders traveling between Cochrane and Calgary and Cochrane and Mini Thni for work, school, or shopping.

COCHRANE WAS IDENTIFIED AS THE

Fastest-growing Community IN ALBERTA



11th Fastest IN THE COUNTRY

IN 2022, COCHRANE EXPERIENCED A

Growth of 1,404 Residents OR 4.4%

A TOTAL OF

540 New Dwellings

WERE ADDED

482 HOMES BUILT IN THE TOWN'S

10 main growth neighbourhoods

34,724 POP.

14TH HIGHEST IN ALBERTA



135

HOME SALES
↑ 6.7% YTD

\$521,000

AVERAGE HOME PRICE



2019 - 2021

17.4%

↑ INCREASE IN AVERAGE HOME PRICES

228

SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING STARTS



100+

BUSINESSES OPENED

2,113

BUSINESS LICENCES



501

TOTAL ESTABLISHMENTS

DELIVERING ON COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



IDENTITY

We commit to preserving our unique identity.

2022-2025 Strategic Plan: Council and the executive leadership worked to establish a vision and strategic plan for Cochrane. This plan will not only guide the work of this Council term, but also shape the community we want to become 30 years in the future.

Cochrane adopts new modernized Land Use Bylaw: Following nearly four years of research, consultation and public engagement, the Town of Cochrane formally adopted a new modernized land use bylaw.

VIBRANT ECONOMY

We commit to creating an atmosphere where the modern economy can thrive.

Grand opening of The Station at Cochrane Crossing: Cochrane celebrated the completion of The Station and opening of Cochrane Crossing, new CP Rail pedestrian crossing including the new location of the Cochrane Information Centre, Economic Development, Cochrane Services and centre for business innovation.

CEDI program: Cochrane formed a partnership with Bearspaw First Nation, Chiniki First Nation, Goodstoney First Nation, and Stoney Tribal Administration (STA). These communities, sharing a border to the west and a closely connected history, joined forces to secure a place in the First Nations-Municipal Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) program. This collaborative effort, supported by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Cando, aims to enhance communication and cooperation for mutual economic benefit.

Film friendly destination: Cochrane served as the chosen location for the filming of two television productions, "My Life with Walter Boys" and "Joe Pickett," highlighting its ongoing appeal to both national and international movie production companies.

CONNECTIVITY

We commit to bringing people together physically and socially.

HWY 1A Improvements Project: The \$27M improvement project kicked off in the spring of 2021, encompassing various enhancements. Serving as a gateway into our community, the project included the construction of new pedestrian pathways and upgraded streetlights. Additionally, construction began on the realignment from 4th to 5th and new retaining wall as part of the comprehensive improvements.

Advancing Highway 1A/22 Interchange project: Earthworks were completed to support the advancement of the Highway 1A/ 22 Interchange project. This work was completed while Cochrane relocated critical utilities and took the opportunity to use the displaced dirt to begin construction of the interchange loop ramps, advancing timelines and efficiently using resources.

Regional Transit Service: In collaboration with Southland Transportation, Cochrane unveiled the integration of COLT with an enhanced On-It Regional Transit service between Cochrane and Calgary. This pioneering public-private partnership not only augmented local transit capacity but also established a comprehensive regional transit schedule tailored to the community's needs.



LIVABILITY

We commit to creating a vibrant and active community with connected neighbourhoods.

Utility and infrastructure maintenance and tracking:

Cochrane prioritized proactive maintenance and vigilant infrastructure tracking, resulting in an extended lifespan for vital assets within the community. Notably, these efforts encompassed the documentation of water service shut-off valves in our GIS database and the proactive maintenance and inspections of sanitary sewer mains throughout the area.

Dedicated land for a new Seniors Lodge to replace the existing Big Hill Lodge: Dedicated land for a new Seniors Lodge to replace the existing Big Hill Lodge was secured, reflecting our commitment to livability and ensuring that those who chose to make Cochrane home were supported with a range of housing options.

Extended hours at the Eco Centre: To assist residents with recycling the Eco Centre, Administration extended hours to provide additional capacity to the facility.



OPEN SPACES & NATURAL AREAS

We commit to protecting, nurturing and enjoying our natural landscape

Centennial park playground accessibility upgrades:

Through a partnership with Variety Alberta Children’s Charity, the Centennial Park playground was upgraded to be completely inclusive – breaking down barriers and creating an inclusive space for everyone to play.

Trees bring joy: Together with our community youth, Cochrane celebrated our community green space through a ‘trees bring joy’ campaign – planting 175 trees in Sunset Ridge.

Green space opens at Cochrane Crossing Civic Plaza:

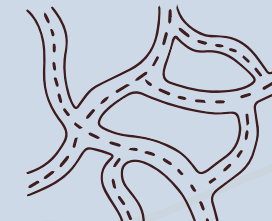
A new community green space opened at Cochrane Crossing Civic Plaza, serving as a vibrant gathering spot for residents and visitors and enhancing connectivity within the heart of Cochrane, bringing community space and connectivity to life.

Flood Recovery and Erosion Control (FREC) Projects:

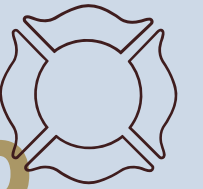
Cochrane initiated two significant projects aimed at enhancing flood resilience in specific areas. The Bow River FREC project involved the expansion and construction of a new stormwater facility, designed to improve flood resilience and enhance the quality of stormwater discharged into the Bow River. This project also featured the construction of a new vehicle-rated pathway bridge. Simultaneously, the Jumpingpound Creek FREC project focused on bank reinforcement, revegetation, in-stream construction of stream barbs (groins) to redirect the creek away from its banks, and engineered log-jams. Additionally, the project aimed to reconstruct the pathway further from the creek, mitigating icing issues and minimizing potential flood damage in the future.



2,785
INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED
SUPPORT
FROM FAMILY &
COMMUNITY SUPPORT
SERVICES

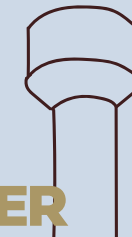


324 km
OF
ROADWAYS



1,160
CALLS
RESPONDED
TO BY FIRE SERVICES

2,190
PARENTS/CHILDREN
ATTENDED
PROGRAMMING



7
WATER
RESERVIORS



8,034
SAFETY
CODE
INSPECTIONS
COMPLETE



531
HECTARS OF
GREEN
SPACE



40
PLAYGROUNDS



4,669
PERMITS



36
TOWN
FACILITIES



3,188
OPERATIONS
REQUESTS



540
DWELLING
UNITS
ISSUED

550
SERVICE
REQUESTS
RESPONDED TO
BY FACILITIES

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

As the fastest-growing community in Western Canada, Cochrane continues to stand on the precipice of tremendous change and opportunity. This moment required intention, foresight, and bold commitments that would shape its future while preserving the values and character that defined the unique community.

The path forward was guided by the meticulously crafted 2022-2025 Cochrane Strategic Plan. This visionary plan was a testament to the dedication to purposeful growth and sustainable development. It allowed the community to set a clear course for the future and ensured that goals were reached with determination and foresight. Adopted by Council in July 2022, the plan became the compass for a thriving Cochrane.

The Cochrane Strategic Plan was built upon the foundation of five key community aspirations, each grounded in the Cochrane Community Vision:

- 1. Identity:** The commitment to preserving the unique identity, ensuring that the heart and soul of Cochrane remained intact as it evolved.
- 2. Open Spaces & Natural Areas:** The commitment to protecting, nurturing, and enjoying the natural landscape, recognizing its vital role in the quality of life.
- 3. Livability:** The commitment to creating a vibrant and active community with connected neighborhoods, where residents could enjoy a high quality of life.
- 4. Vibrant Economy:** The commitment to creating an atmosphere where the modern economy could thrive, providing opportunities for businesses to grow and succeed.
- 5. Connectivity:** The commitment to bringing people together physically and socially, forging bonds that made the community even stronger.

In 2022, one of the largest capital investments in the community's history was made. The focus was on investing in roadway infrastructure, with the Highway 1A Improvements Project and Utility relocation and earthworks for the Highway 1A/22 interchange. These projects were not just about building roads; they were about transforming the way traffic moved through the community. The Highway 1A Improvements Project has already shown significant improvements in traffic flow, reducing congestion, and enhancing safety. These investments were a testament to the commitment and the province's commitment to investing in Cochrane's future.

Another significant milestone was the adoption of a modernized Land Use Bylaw. This updated bylaw responded to the ever-evolving development trends, streamlined the development process, and, most importantly, preserved the unique landscape and character that defined Cochrane. It also provided flexibility for future development, allowing the community to adapt and grow while maintaining its identity and charm.

As we look ahead to our future, it's clear that Cochrane is poised for success. The commitment to strategic planning, infrastructure investment, and maintaining our unique character ensures that our town continues to thrive while embracing growth. We invite all residents to be a part of this journey, as Cochrane moves forward with intention and purpose, creating a bright and vibrant future for all Cochranites.

Cochrane is not just a place to live; it's a place to call home, and together, we will continue to build a community we can all be proud of.

REPORT TO THE
**COM
MUN
ITY**

2022



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