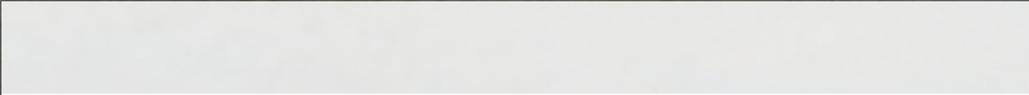
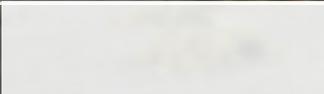

MILESTONES

Lesser Slave River

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT *of* LESSER SLAVE RIVER *no.*124

DISCOVER US





A PLACE OF RUGGED BEAUTY

A PLACE OF REAL PEOPLE

DISCOVER US

Important Key Contacts

EMERGENCY NUMBERS & RESOURCES

Ambulance/Fire/Police:	911
Alberta Health Link:	811 (24/7 health advice)
Wildfire Hotline:	310.FIRE (3473)
Municipal Emergency:	780.849.4888 (24-hour)
RCMP:	780.849.3999 (non-emergency)
Mental Health:	877.303.2642
Addiction Services:	866.332.2322
Kids Help Phone:	800.668.6868
Income Support Services:	866.644.5135
Poison & Drug Info:	800.332.1414
Burning Permits:	780.849.7377
Alberta One-Call:	800.242.3447
Regional Landfill:	780.369.2590
Emergency Alert:	emergencyalert.alberta.ca
Alberta Road Report:	511.alberta.ca
FireSmart:	livefiresmart.ca
Wildfire Status:	wildfire.alberta.ca

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICES

SLAVE LAKE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

3000, 15 Avenue SE **780.849.4888**
Slave Lake AB T0G 2A0 *toll-free: 866.449.4888*
fax: 780.849.4939

Mailing address: PO Box 722 Slave Lake AB T0G 2A0

FLATBUSH ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

PO Box 93 **780.681.3929**
Slave Lake AB T0G 0Z0 *toll-free: 866.681.3929*
fax: 780.681.3936

STAY IN-TOUCH WITH US ONLINE

Website: MDLSR.ca
Facebook: facebook.com/mdlsr124
Twitter: [@RUGGEDandREAL](https://twitter.com/RUGGEDandREAL)
YouTube: youtube.com/user/RUGGEDandREAL
Instagram: instagram.com/explorelsr

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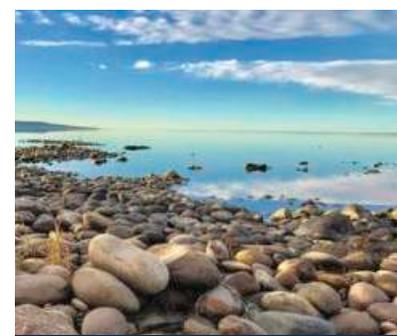
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Message from your CAO, Allan Winarski



ALLAN WINARSKI

allan.winarski@mdlsr.ca

780.849.4888

"With Canada's 150th anniversary comes a renewed vigor to showcase our exceptional region. In a time of both challenge and celebration, the MD works hard to make Lesser Slave River an even better place to live, work and play."

— Allan Winarski

We're pleased to greet the summer months with our latest edition of **Milestones**. This publication provides an opportunity to reflect on progress made over the year, as well as a chance to consider what the future may hold for the MD — especially given that 2017 is an election year!

Economic reality hit hard in 2015 as the energy sector curtailed operations. This shift resulted in cancellation or postponement of projects through 2016 and into 2017. It now appears that the forest industry — our other main economic driver — faces turbulence posed by challenges to softwood lumber trade with the United States.

Accordingly, the MD did not raise its rates of taxation. In turn, it experienced a 12% drop in municipal tax revenues between 2015 and 2017. While levels of service to ratepayers remained consistent, 2016 involved the completion of less conspicuous projects such as a waterline extension to the Canyon Creek Wastewater Plant and progression of initiatives such as the rebuild of Poplar Lane Road, the replacement of the Widewater Complex Roof, and outdoor toilet facilities at the Smith and Flatbush Community Complex Grounds.

The 2017 budget focuses again on smaller projects, including renovations for new indoor washrooms at the Flatbush Community Complex; repairs to the Marten Beach walkways; completion of a playground at the Cambridge Firehall Park in Widewater; and a new paved walking path in Smith. Additionally, Poplar Lane Road is set for paving this summer and a microfibre overlay is scheduled for the West Mitsue Road. Smith will see work commence on a new lift station and force main replacement. The last large wildfire recovery project, the raw water line to Slave Lake from an intake at Widewater, will commence in 2017.

This year being Canada's 150th anniversary, examples of regional pride abound. Just in time, the MD has one of the last designated pieces named to the Trans Canada Trail: the Lesser Slave River. As a blue way (canoe/boat) route, this trail connects Smith to the Freighter Trail at Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park.

The summer months evoke thoughts of FireSmart, wildfire prevention, and emergency preparedness — at home or in the great outdoors. As part of this preparedness, the MD was involved in EMX17: a large scale provincial emergency exercise held in April. I was pleased with how our regional entities, agencies, and teams worked together. Should another large-scale emergency affect our area, we're better trained, equipped, and prepared than ever before.

In October, MD Council will have reached the end of its term. It's important to recognize this Council for its efforts to shepherd the region through the many events, activities, challenges and milestones of their term. I extend my heartfelt thanks to them. Thank you as well to the tireless MD staff who work so diligently to provide the essential services upon which our region depends.


Allan Winarski, CPA, CGA
Chief Administrative Officer

Interview with your Reeve, Murray Kerik



REEVE MURRAY KERIK

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cel. 780.349.0518

"With cooperation, resourcefulness and a steady hand on the helm, Council continues to move forward with strategies and initiatives that help cultivate a safe and thriving region."

Q: Share with us your most rewarding experience as Reeve.

"My most rewarding experience has been witnessing the evolution of Council. We have become a body with the ability to debate issues and then arrive at a decision that we always feel is the best for our MD."

Q: What do you think are the most important qualities for someone to excel in this role?

"The answer to this question is not a simple one. In a general sense, qualities such as patience, common sense and fairness are important. I

have the philosophy that there are seven of us elected to guide the future of our MD. By contrast, other municipalities have Reeves who seem to feel they are the sole arbiters. The MD has always operated via decision-making by the entire Council — and hopefully always will. We've always had the benefit of Councils that try to do what is needed within our boundaries rather than simply what is wanted."

Q: What has been your best learning experience and why?

"By far, the best learning experience for me has been developing the ability to put the right people on the right committees. We all have different strengths and abilities, and we need to use these assets to the net benefit of the MD. Expertise and experience are impossible to ignore."

Q: What has been your greatest challenge and why?

"Challenges in this job have stemmed primarily from eroding funding and support from provincial and federal governments, compounded by growing regulatory requirements that increase costs and slow down any development or construction. We've been involved in consultation workshops, but sadly, not much has progressed. The province must address these problems, and work with us to repair the issues."

Q: What had you hoped to accomplish during your term that remains undone?

"At this point in Council's mandate, we're still trying to get a mutually acceptable and affordable fire services agreement with the Town

of Slave Lake, and finalize an equally acceptable inter-municipal facilities agreement. We also have many land use bylaw and zoning issues that I had hoped to have finished by now, but these issues have proven to be more complex than first thought. Overall, we have accomplished many important capital projects, and we've done our utmost to run the MD as fiscally responsibly as possible."

Q: What is your vision for a new Council this October?

"My vision for a new Council this fall is of a well-balanced Council with representation from both men *AND* women who represent the needs and priorities of all MD residents."

Q: What advice would you offer to candidates running for election?

"First and foremost: be open and honest at all times. Also, do not predetermine any decisions until after hearing all the details. At the end of the day, you don't need to be a lawyer to run for Council; just come forward willing to commit your time, energy and expertise. And bring lots of common sense!"

Q: In closing, what would you like to say to the community?

"With agriculture, forestry and the oilfields as our primary drivers, we have present risks and setbacks, but we also have tremendous potential for growth and advancement. We also have an abundance and variety of unique recreational opportunities that few others enjoy. Given these assets, we need to encourage more development while continuing to safeguard the natural beauty of our home, Lesser Slave River."

Messages from your Councillors



DARREN FULMORE

darren.fulmore@mdlsr.ca
cel. 780.805.2020

Councillor Darren Fulmore

DIVISION 1

"This past term in Council has certainly not been without its challenges, such as limited resources to fund our many capital projects, or time constraints with reworking planning documents like the land use bylaw. However, MD Council and Administration have persevered as they always do, and as a team we have accomplished much. In particular, I'm proud of the completion of the new hall in Smith; and of Council's efforts to unburden service groups in our communities by taking over the maintenance and upkeep of our halls. Most of all, I'm proud to represent the MD and its ever-thriving community spirit. One of the most important things I've learned as a Councillor is that to get things accomplished, you have to make your case, and then build consensus among those you are working with — whether Council or other committees — to see progress!"



ROBERT ESAU

robert.esau@mdlsr.ca
cel. 780.349.0212

Councillor Robert Esau

DIVISION 1

"What a learning curve my two terms on Council have been — beginning with a literal baptism by fire. From the May 2011 crisis and throughout the region's recovery, MD staff have repeatedly proven their dedication, drive and resourceful nature. For this, they have earned my enduring gratitude and respect. Admittedly, the loss of the Fawcett School and the inability to get recreational river access in Chisholm was a low point in my municipal career. As such, achieving growth and community sustainability in the Flatbush and Chisholm areas now presents an even greater challenge. Setbacks aside, it is with tremendous pride that I have been given the opportunity to represent the hard-working people of our community. I have thoroughly enjoyed being a Councillor for the past two terms, and God willing, I plan to let my name stand for one more term. God Bless you all!"



GARRY HORTON

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cel. 780.849.1173

Councillor Garry Horton

DIVISION 1

"It is with great pride that I have been given the opportunity to represent the hard-working residents and business owners of Lesser Slave River. We at the Council table have a great depth and diversity of knowledge. We don't always agree, but we always engage in debate with a respect for one another, and with a common desire to make the MD a better place for all. I encourage anyone with a desire to help nurture and grow our unique region to throw their hat into the election ring this fall. The commitment is considerable and workload is challenging, but it certainly has its rewards. For me, one of the most rewarding aspects of being a Councillor is working with ratepayers on issues they face to achieve meaningful change. There is still much work to be done, but I believe that by continuing to work together we can achieve real, lasting results for residents and industry alike."



BRAD PEARSON

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cel. 780.805.2559

Councillor Brad Pearson

DIVISION 2

"I reflect fondly on my past four years representing the electorate of Division 2. I am honoured to have contributed to the collective objectives of our Council table to the betterment of the MD. I'm also thankful for an Administration that continues to follow through with the implementation of Council's direction, keeping many balls in the air to ensure the MD functions efficiently while under legislative and public pressures. An important cause to me personally is championing the ability of the public to have access to our area's most beautiful resource; that being Lesser Slave Lake itself and its tributaries. To this end, Council's vision secured the long term recreational leases of two critical parcels of land. As always I stand proud to advocate for our municipality and its residents in any forum — whether regionally, provincially, or on a federal level."



BRIAN ROSCHE

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cel. 780.849.0263

Councillor Brian Rosche

DIVISION 2

"The most important learning experience for me as a Councillor since 2004 was without a doubt the Wildfires of May 2011. Helping lead our region through the crisis was a challenging, unforgettable and — dare I say it — greatly rewarding experience. To be perfectly frank, my greatest challenge as a Councillor was controlling my frustration with the provincial government. We have crumbling infrastructure sorely in need of repair, yet the government cuts funding that is badly needed to do the work. It often seems that what takes years to get the GOA to do, a viable business would accomplish in weeks. Looking back, I don't believe I accomplished anything as a sole Councillor. I think achievements are made at the MD through Council and Administration working together as a team. Of the MD's many collective achievements, I am fiercely proud."



MIKE SKRYNYK

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cel. 780.805.0801

Councillor Mike Skrynyk

DIVISION 2

"As a fourth-term Councillor with 13 years of public service, I have seen many changes. When I first got involved in 1999, it was to preserve the MD's rural lifestyle, and to fend off forced amalgamation. Then, as now, I focused on financial accountability. Presently, the greatest challenge is managing the workload put on Councillors with all the committees and commitments involved. I take these commitments seriously and work hard at achieving results. Though the term nears an end, there remains much to be done, including reviewing the land use bylaws, and finalizing the regional fire agreement and intermunicipal agreement with the Town. These items are high on my list of priorities, and I hope to see some of them accomplished before October. With more than 2 million in lost revenue over the past two years, balancing budgets has been challenging. However, Council and administration strive daily to deliver the most cost-effective services to ratepayers."



Considering Running for Council?

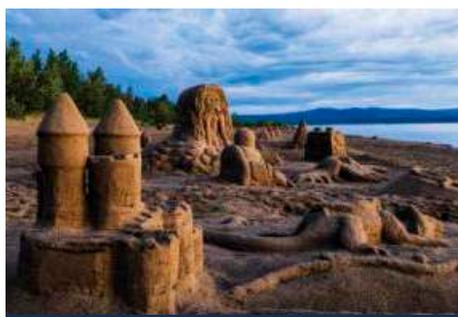
Nomination day is September 18, 2017.

Get the candidate information and resources you need from the Lesser Slave River website.

The next municipal election is October 16, 2017.



Lesser Slave River
mdlsr.ca/Election



Thinking of Running for Council this October?

Leadership groups with a diversity of opinions, backgrounds & lived experiences help make better decisions.

The purpose of a Council is to work together to improve the quality of life for residents. They do this best by considering how their decisions affect different groups. A diverse Council means that decisions are made by a group of people who reflect the community.

Resources for candidates

The next Municipal Election will happen on October 16, 2017. Nomination Day will be September 18, 2017. Council for the MD of Lesser Slave River is composed of one Reeve elected at-large, plus six Councillors representing two municipal divisions. Division One includes the communities of Flatbush, Chisholm, Hondo and Smith. Division Two includes the communities of Mitsue, Marten Beach, Canyon Creek, Widewater and the land adjacent to the Town of Slave Lake. The Reeve and Council members serve a four-year term. There is no limit on the number of times a Councillor can be re-elected in the MD.

Learn about what's involved in becoming a Councillor for the

MD of Lesser Slave River by downloading the *Information Guide for Candidates* available on the municipal website at mdlsr.ca/Election.

The *Information Guide for Candidates* is designed to give prospective candidates an understanding of the process and legislative requirements for running for municipal office. Please note that this guide has no legislative sanction, and therefore we recommend that you obtain a copy of the *Local Authorities Election Act* and other relevant statutes and regulations.

The *Local Authorities Election Act* is the primary legislation that guides the conduct of a municipal or school board election or by-election. Copies can be obtained through the Alberta Queen's Printer, qp.alberta.ca or by calling 780.427.4952.

What is "Ready for Her"?

The Alberta Government Ministry of Status of Women has developed a guide for women considering running for municipal office in the 2017 Municipal Election — *Ready for Her*, which includes tips from women politicians on how to launch an effective campaign. This outreach includes a number of speaking engagements for prospective female candidates, and a new video series to encourage more women to run for Council. The series, viewable online at alberta.ca/ready-for-her.aspx, shows Alberta women politicians sharing their campaign tips.

Having more women means Councils are able to discuss more viewpoints. By hearing different voices and adopting different approaches, we are better equipped to have innovative decision-making at the Council table.

Are you qualified?

To become a candidate, you must be at least 18 years of age on Nomination Day, you must be a Canadian citizen, and you must have been a resident of the electoral division for the six consecutive months immediately preceding Nomination Day.

Time commitment

While being an elected official, the demands on your time will be heavy. You will be elected for a four-year term of office, during which time you will be required to attend regular and special meetings of Council; Council committee meetings; meetings of other boards and agencies to which you are appointed as a Council representative; conferences and workshops for training and discussion; and other events promoting the MD.

Time must also be spent reading agenda material and consulting with residents, the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and other relevant stakeholders. This will all be part of the necessary preparation for meetings so that you can make informed decisions.

Roles & responsibilities of an elected official

As a member of Council, you will have the opportunity to significantly influence the future of your community. Your effectiveness as a member of Council depends on your ability to persuade the other members of Council to adopt

and support your view. Decisions of Council may only be made by resolution or bylaw and must be made at public meetings at which a quorum is present.

As an individual member of Council, you will not have the power to commit your municipality to any expenditure or to direct the activities of the municipal employees. Any promise you make as a part of your election campaign that involves municipal expenditures or the activities of the employees can only be carried out if you can convince a majority of Council that it is a good idea. The Canadian Constitution delegates responsibility for municipal institutions to the provinces. Through a variety of legislation, the Alberta Legislative Assembly has delegated some of its authority to municipal Councils. The legislation you will refer to most often is the *Municipal Government Act*.

In accordance with the *Municipal Government Act*, a municipal Council may pass legislation in the form of municipal bylaws. These bylaws remain in effect until they are amended or repealed. You will not be starting with a blank slate and creating your ideal municipality from scratch. If you are running with some kind of reform in mind, you will have to become familiar with what presently exists, how it has been created — by bylaw, resolution or policy — and why it exists before you will be able to start discussing your changes. Bylaws are available to view on the website.

Remuneration

Elected officials of Lesser Slave River receive compensation for the time and energy they have devoted to their community. Learn more about remuneration for elected officials in the *Information Guide for Candidates*.

MD of Lesser Slave River administration staff

As a member of Council, it will be your duty to establish policy for the MD of Lesser Slave River. It is the job of the administration to implement the policy direction. The MD has competent and dedicated administrators. The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) is the only employee of Council, and you will rely on the support, advice, and assistance of your CAO if you are to be an effective member of Council. The CAO's training, experience, and understanding of how and why things have developed the way they have will be an important resource for you.

How else can I prepare?

The best way to find out what the job is all about is to spend some time reading Council agendas and minutes, and talking to current members of Council. Familiarize yourself with the MD's bylaws and municipal legislation. Read Council agendas and minutes, and sit in the gallery at Council meetings.

Be sure to read the *Information Guide for Candidates* available on the municipal website, mdlsr.ca/Election. The guide provides valuable insight into time commitments, practices, and expectations of holding office in Lesser Slave River. Researching now will help you in your campaign and prepare you for assuming office.

If you require additional information, or simply need clarification on election-related matters, you are encouraged to contact the MD's **Returning Officer, Alanis Marleau**, at 780.849.4888 or by email at: alanis.marleau@mdlsr.ca.

Good luck, and enjoy the journey to becoming a candidate in Lesser Slave River's 2017 Municipal Election!

What's the Purpose of Community Kiosks?

These landmarks provide community context, local news, and goodwill galore.

Dotted throughout Lesser Slave River in places like Wagner, Marten Beach, and Flatbush, the MD's community kiosks are not just for show or shade. With a recent facelift and more structures in the works, these kiosks provide local knowledge and timely information for both community residents and seasonal visitors to the area.

A pressing need to repaint and repair the legacy community kiosks prompted the MD to examine how best to use these structures as tools to inform residents while communicating the pride-of-place that comes from living in this vibrant and diverse boreal region.

By combining permanent graphic panels with lockable signage cabinets, these kiosks will feature information that is not likely to change (such as community noise protocols or OHV regulations) as well as more timely MD news that can be replaced on a regular basis. The MD also aims to educate the public that, during any emergency event that curtails electronic or broadcast messaging, the signage cabinets will remain current with important news.

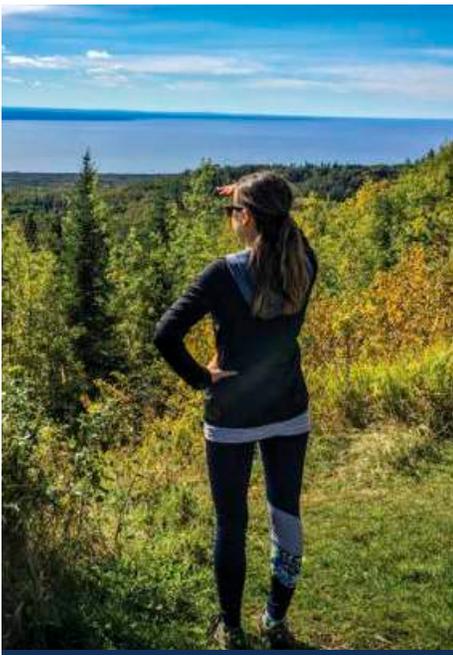


These new graphic panels feature a range of community-focused info, as well as different montages of some of the people, places and things that make the MD so special. Most graphics are being installed this summer, with space reserved for similar Government of Alberta graphic panels coming in the fall.

Of course, the MD has left a design feature from the original kiosks intact: a large public space on the flip side that invites local residents and business owners to post messages of their own. Please do not post anything on the front of the kiosks.

As a final design consideration, these newly revamped, more functional info kiosks now feature community designations clearly illustrated across the top, providing newcomers with a highly visible indicator of which particular community they happen to be visiting.

Later this season, keep a lookout for a few new info kiosks with a different design and more travel-and-tourism focused messaging. For those interested in taking a sneak peek at the design, visit mdlsr.ca/kiosk.



About Planning & Development

Stewarding well-planned growth across the region.

The Planning & Development Department coordinates and manages orderly land development across the MD that protects the interests of the community, facilitates economic growth and complies with municipal guidelines.

Lesser Slave River is a large and diverse municipality featuring residential areas, vital ranch and farm lands, and multiple vibrant hamlets and localities. The MD works co-operatively with both industry and ratepayers to ensure Alberta's unique boreal region remains one of the best places to live, work, play, and thrive. Regional planning to address growth takes many forms. The MD of Lesser Slave River has actively addressed growth pressure through co-operative engagement and the use of statutory tools provided for in the *Municipal Government Act*.

The MD is proud of its proactive, collaborative approach to regional planning and services, which directly impacts the region's growth. Here are just a few ways in which the Planning & Development Department helps the MD in this capacity.

Advanced mapping tools
Implementation and training has been completed for the MD's advanced GIS mapping system,

and map making has commenced. This means that now, the MD can provide residents with current, relevant hamlet maps that include accurate road names and rural addresses. Soon, these detailed maps will be integrated into the MD website.

Aerial photos

The MD uses a process called orthophotography to gain a bird's eye view of the region. This type of digital imagery collection has a uniform scale that provides an accurate representation of the earth's surface, and can be used to measure true distances. This translates to a significant increase in image detail and quality over the previous hamlet aerial photos from 2011. This mapping tool is available to the public, and is designed to help administration, landowners and developers, when dealing with land matters.

User-friendly applications

New planning and development application forms and information packages are being developed in an effort to guide the public in developing, changing the use of, and subdividing land. These can be complex and complicated processes, and the MD is working toward providing easy-to-navigate forms with information packages that are written in plain language, and that contain clear instructions of the process ahead.

To discover more about how the department helps residents, business owners and visitors alike, visit mdlsr.ca/planning.



About Transportation

Maintaining the momentum of Lesser Slave River's progress.

The Transportation Department works year round to provide safe, efficient and cost-effective systems for all modes of transportation across the Lesser Slave River region. This department perpetually maintains and expands these systems to facilitate both present transportation needs and future economic growth.

Tasked with the planning, construction, operation and maintenance of Lesser Slave River's considerable infrastructure, the Transportation Department never stops moving. In addition to construction and maintenance of roads, public walkways, sidewalks and trails, this vital department also administers and oversees street lights, bridges, drainage systems, fleet maintenance, and a spectrum of municipal infrastructure projects.

Much of the MD's transportation network consists of gravel roads. The Transportation Department continually strives to keep these roads in optimal condition. Earlier in the year, a new grader was purchased to assist with these activities. The annual dust control and re-gravelling programs were in full swing beginning in May. Dust control involves the application of

a calcium chloride agent to gravel roads that allow particles to stick together into heavier material that will not spread easily via wind or traffic movement.

The annual brush control program is also well underway. Last season's activities have resulted in significant improvements to the Southshore West gravel section.

The MD's annual shoulder pull program has resulted in major improvements to West Fawcett Road. Comparatively, activities on Otter Creek Road and Ranch Road were not as successful due to weather. Shoulder pulling involves taking material from road slopes, and then re-compacting this material to reshape and restore the crown of the road. These activities result in better, safer roads.

In addition to the considerable roadwork operations this year, the Transportation Department has been involved in a wide number of infrastructure projects, from construction, renovation and repairs to MD facilities to street light installation, flood mitigation, beaver control and more. This department has also been fundamental in progressing the rural addressing project. In June, the Transportation Department assumed control of the Regional Landfill operations. To learn more about these changes and how they affect you, visit mdlsr.ca/landfill.



About Agriculture

Working together to grow a healthy municipality.

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) works with producers and inter-jurisdictional partners to provide leadership and guidance on smart, sustainable agricultural practices. Our efforts help regional agriculture and agri-business industries thrive, contributing to the economic, environmental and social prosperity of the MD.

At the core of Lesser Slave River's Agricultural Service Board is a fundamental belief that farming can take place on the rural landscape with a minimal amount of impact on the people, the environment and the animals that coexist on this shared landscape. In this spirit, the ASB works to empower farmers and ranchers with access to timely, local and unbiased information to assist them in their operations.

As a vital knowledge access point for all MD residents, the ASB provides a combination of agricultural information, services and programs to interested parties. Additionally, the ASB regularly connects producers with third-party resources that have been gathered through years of networking and partnerships.

One of the main goals of the ASB is to promote community awareness of its present resources and future initiatives. This awareness is generated in a variety of ways,

from farm tours and seminars to classroom sessions, community newsletters and partnerships with complementary organizations.

The ASB's Oktoberfest-themed Fall Social was a success, with more than 170 in attendance to enjoy the great food, informative presentations and folk dancing entertainment courtesy of the Bavarian Schuhplatters of Edmonton. This fall event is an annually anticipated favourite for regional farm families.

Recent educational opportunities in the field include the ASB Pasture Tour and Herd Health Seminar — each attended by about 30 producers interested in learning about pasture stewardship practices. Additionally, the ASB conducted a Classroom Agriculture Program, engaging more than 150 local grade four students across six classrooms.

Each year, the ASB partners with the Lesser Slave Watershed Council to deliver the Green Acreages Program. Designed with acreage, hobby farm and recreational property owners in mind, this program helps landowners implement stewardship practices that conserve and protect the valuable natural assets associated with their properties.

The ASB is led by a progressive and passionate team with a vision for agricultural stewardship to preserve the landscape for generations to come. Learn more about their activities online at mdlsr.ca/agriculture.

FOG

Stands for FATS, OILS, GREASE.

It's namely the stuff that gets poured down your kitchen drain after cooking meals and washing dishes. Just like with clogged arteries, FOG **hardens and sticks** to the inside of sewer pipes, eventually forming a blockage that can cause a backup or sewer overflow. Learn more online, mdlsr.ca.

EASE THE
**STRAIN ON
YOUR
DRAIN!**



About Water & Utilities

Water conservation is everybody's business.

The Water & Utilities department provides reliable, quality water and wastewater systems, and maintains all septage waste facilities.

Although the MD is blessed with one of Canada's largest lakes and one of Alberta's largest rivers, water is generally taken for granted. Our communities rely on water daily for a myriad of tasks both large and small. It's vital to our well-being, and it's one of the planet's most precious resources. The Water & Utilities department is tasked with ensuring the safe, steady flow of water to all residents, as well as the efficient and socially responsible management and reclamation of wastewater. As many residents understand, the

management of water systems for a rural municipality such as ours can be challenging. As such, the MD's Water & Utilities department works hard to find and implement realistic, resourceful ways to keep water flowing throughout the region. In recent years, this department has realized some real wins in terms of how our region's water and wastewater are managed.

In 2016, the groundwork was laid for getting the raw water intake station and raw water line from Widewater to Slave lake. This connection will provide an optimal, sustainable source of water for MD, Town, and Sawridge First Nation residents. This vital initiative is a Tri-Council project, with the Town of Slave Lake working as the project manager on behalf of the Town, the MD, and the Sawridge First Nation. The project is anticipated to start during the summer of 2017. Construction

updates will be posted via Town and MD media as the project progresses. Construction contracts are anticipated to be approximately \$17 million — the majority of which is covered by way of a grant.

More recently, the Water & Utilities department installed dry hydrants for fire protection at the boat launch, Summerwood and Marten River. Over the course of the year, the department also purchased and installed generators for the Flatbush MD compound, Smith water treatment plant, Canyon Creek water treatment plant, MD main office, and Sawridge First Nation main office.

The Water & Utilities department is currently in the process of designing a new sewer lift station and forcemain to replace aging infrastructure in the Hamlet of Smith. Updates on this major initiative will be posted in the News section of the municipal website, mdlsr.ca.

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About Waste Management

Did you know that Alberta has one of the most advanced beverage container recycling systems in North America?

The return rate for beverage containers in 2016 was greater than 86%, which is certainly a statistic to be celebrated!

What if the end was really just the beginning?

...the beginning of a whole new creation, that is. Did you know when plastic water bottles are returned to the depot, they're sent to be processed and shredded into flakes that can be made into new bottles and food grade materials, or even polyester that can be used to make new clothes? That's just the beginning.

There are more than 55,000 registered beverage container types that can be returned to a local depot. The plastic from these containers is then used to make a wide range of products such as appliances, cardboard boxes, fleece jackets,

bicycle and machine parts, and so much more. For more information on regional waste, visit the municipal website, mdlsr.ca.

Steer clear of the metal pile

The Regional Landfill often gets asked why they won't allow residents to rummage through the metal pile for parts and materials. This restriction is for purposes of safety. With a few very minor exceptions, landfill management strictly prohibits scavenging for metal or any other materials found on site.

Free appliance disposal

Domestic appliances and household electronics are accepted free of charge at the MD's Transfer Stations and the Regional Landfill. This promotes less waste in ditches and backcountry dumping sites. To learn more, visit mdlsr.ca/landfill.



About Human Resources

Cultivate your career with the MD

The MD of Lesser Slave River offers a variety of employment opportunities to help you make a difference in your community and grow professionally.

From permanent roles to seasonal positions, there are a number of different ways to ply your trade at the municipality while furthering your career path and working with a diverse and dedicated group of colleagues. We offer competitive wages and benefits, true work/life balance, career advancement opportunities, and a corporate culture of respect.

As a service-oriented employer, we seek individuals with a solid work ethic and a genuine passion for customer service. Explore the opportunities at mdlsr.ca/careers.

Submit your qualifications

Everyone at the MD — from front desk to the field — works beyond the boundaries of a mere job description. They contribute their collective insight and expertise to a culture of respect and empowerment, and they reap the rewards of an organization that's focused on customer service. If you can see yourself in our mission, vision and values, and if you'd like to leverage your time and talent into an amazing career, we'd love to hear from you.

Email your cover letter and resume to us at hr@mdlsr.ca — even if we have no career postings. We're always on the lookout for outstanding people!

Volunteering in the MD

The MD encourages residents to participate in the life of their communities by volunteering. Share your time and talents with one of the many municipal services, programs and not-for-profit organizations in the region. Whether you participate on community boards, assist with programs and lessons, or support the Lesser Slave Regional Fire Service, your involvement makes a real difference in people's lives. In many cases, the potential exists to turn a volunteer opportunity into a career path!

Municipal publications

Much of the work of a municipality involves properly communicating a great deal of ever-changing information with residents, businesses, and other regional partners. The Lesser Slave River website is a great medium to do just that, but print materials also form an effective part of the municipal communications program. As such, a number of info sheets, brochures, and booklets are mailed to residents and made available at the municipal offices.

Lakeside Leader subscriptions for residents

In addition to MD-produced print collateral, residents are provided a subscription to the local Lakeside Leader newspaper free of charge (courtesy of the MD). Alternately, *MD Message Board* segments from weekly Lakeside Leader editions can be viewed on the municipal website at mdlsr.ca/publications.



About Lesser Slave Regional Fire Service

Be found when it matters most. Get on the grid.

In an effort to enhance the Lesser Slave River Emergency Communications System and ensure accurate and rapid community response, everyone who lives and works within the Lesser Slave River boundaries is encouraged to provide the MD with a primary home phone number as well as at least one backup number such as a mobile or work phone number.

This information will then be added to the municipal callout database, ensuring you're contacted immediately and automatically in the event of a water line break, road closure or more critical emergency. Take a few moments to complete the simple registration form online at mdlsr.ca/grid. The *Get on the Grid* program is entirely voluntary, and your contact information will never be disclosed to any third party other than emergency services personnel.

Mock disaster simulation

On Friday, April 29, MD staff and management joined the Lesser Slave Regional Fire Services and various other provincial emergency response agencies to conduct a regional disaster simulation. The purpose of this exercise was to pose a fictional crisis scenario to emergency response personnel in the Lesser Slave area, and

then gauge how well the teams collaborated on the response. Each aspect of this simulation — from emergency communications protocols to fake wounds and injured actors in the field — was crafted to look and feel like a real-life event.

These types of training events are essential to test regional systems, safeguards and responders. It is also one of the ways in which relationships between towns, municipalities and provincial and federal emergency response agencies are built and strengthened. This type of emergency exercise challenges not only the individual responders, but also the equipment and communication systems they use.

The disaster simulation comes as a direct result of the Province's priority to continuously improve the region's emergency response to wildfire and other emergency events. This particular initiative was taken by the Lesser Slave Lake Search and Rescue Association. Other parties involved included the MD of Lesser Slave River, Town of Slave Lake, RCMP, Emergency Management Services, Alberta Energy Regulator, Alberta Health Services, Red Cross and Alberta Agriculture and Forestry.

Learn to live FireSmart

Preparing for the threat of wildfire is a shared responsibility. FireSmart is living with and managing for wildfire. FireSmart is here to educate and inform residents across the province

about the risk of wildfire. We must work together to help prevent wildfires. We must learn how to live FireSmart. For helpful tips to make your home and community must safer, visit FireSmart.ca.

Alberta's fire ban system

Planning to enjoy a campfire? Before you head out, visit wildfire.alberta.ca for the latest fire ban information. The Alberta Fire Bans website is a single portal to all active fire advisories, fire restrictions and fire bans across the province. Alberta Agriculture and Forestry has a five level colour-coded system for putting on fire bans in the Forest Protection Area of Alberta. The system increases efficiency in applying fire use restrictions during increasing fire hazard. It also provides more advanced warning about possible impacts on burning and campfires.

Firefighters wanted

The Lesser Slave Regional Fire Service is always looking for caring, committed individuals to join their team as Volunteer Firefighters. They view the position of Firefighter not merely as a job, but as a way of life. Volunteer firefighting can be an extremely rewarding and valuable way to serve your community. However, it is a decision that should not be taken lightly. It takes considerable dedication, a serious ongoing commitment to mental and physical fitness, and many hours of training to become a firefighter.

The shortlist of criteria can be found online at mdlsr.ca/fire-services. If you think you've got what it takes and want to attend an information session, fill out the online form and submit it to the Regional Chief of Lesser Slave Lake Fire Services Jamie Coutts. All applicants will be invited to the next session.

Alberta's Five Level Colour-coded Fire Ban System

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry has a five level colour-coded system for putting on fire bans in the Forest Protection Area (FPA) of Alberta.



NO RESTRICTION

Fire permits are required during fire season for any type of burning in the FPA, except campfires. Safe campfires are allowed in campgrounds and backcountry or random camping areas.



FIRE ADVISORY

The fire hazard rating has increased. Fire permits may be restricted. Safe campfires are allowed in campgrounds and backcountry or random camping areas, but this level is a warning they may be restricted if the situation doesn't improve.



FIRE RESTRICTION

Safe campfires are allowed in fire rings in campgrounds only. No campfires (or other open fires) or charcoal briquettes are allowed in backcountry or random camping areas. Gas or propane stoves/barbeques and portable propane fire pits are allowed. Fire permits may be suspended or cancelled and no new fire permits will be issued. If the situation continues to worsen, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry will put on a fire ban.



FIRE BAN

No campfires (or other open fires) are allowed in campgrounds or backcountry and random camping areas. This includes charcoal briquettes. Gas or propane stoves/barbeques and portable propane fire pits are allowed. All fire permits are suspended or cancelled and no new fire permits will be issued.



FOREST AREA CLOSURE

The fire danger has reached such extreme levels that portions of the forest are closed and no access is permitted for public safety concerns.

REPORT A WILDFIRE

toll free: **310-FIRE** (3473)

wildfire.alberta.ca

Independent Auditors' Report



March 29, 2017
Edmonton, Alberta

To the Reeve and Council of the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No.124:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No.124, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2016 and the statements of operations and accumulated surplus, changes in net financial assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error.

In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No. 124 as at December 31, 2016 and the results of its operations, the changes in its net financial assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Hawkings Epp Dumont LLP
Chartered Accountants

2016 Capital Budget Highlights

Salary & Benefits Disclosure

Disclosure of salaries and benefits for Municipal Officials, the Chief Administrative Officer and designated Officers as required by **Alberta Regulation 313/2000** are as follows:

⁽¹⁾ Salary includes regular base pay, bonuses, overtime, lump sum payments, gross honoraria and any other direct cash remuneration. ⁽²⁾ Employer's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pension, healthcare, dental coverage, vision coverage, group life insurance, accidental disability and disbursement insurance, long and short-term disability plans, professional memberships and tuition.

2016 SALARY & BENEFITS DISCLOSURE

COUNCILLORS	SALARY ⁽¹⁾	BENEFITS & ALLOWANCES ⁽²⁾	2016 ACTUAL	2015 ACTUAL
Reeve Murray Kerik	\$38,800	\$253	\$39,053	\$38,803
Division 1: Robert Esau	\$30,900	\$253	\$31,153	\$34,403
Division 1: Darren Fulmore	\$30,650	\$253	\$30,903	\$31,903
Division 1: Garry Horton	\$25,900	\$165	\$26,065	\$25,815
Division 2: Brad Pearson	\$35,150	\$253	\$35,403	\$33,653
Division 2: Brian Rosche	\$27,100	\$253	\$27,353	\$28,353
Division 2: Mike Skrynyk	\$33,400	\$253	\$33,653	\$33,903
Municipal Manager	\$190,897	\$27,163	\$218,060	\$217,020
TOTAL	\$412,797	\$28,846	\$441,643	\$443,853

Project Accomplishments

2016-17 A YEAR IN REVIEW

2016 PROJECT	BUDGET	2016 PROJECT	BUDGET
Poplar Lane Road Reconstruction	\$2,492,000	John Deere Grader	\$394,000
Widewater Reservoir & Booster Station	\$5,998,000	Vermeer Brush Chipper	\$47,000
Canyon Creek Raw Water Line	\$351,000	2 Kubota Mowers	\$27,000
Dry Hydrants <i>Various Locations</i>	\$309,000	Emergency Generators <i>Various Locations</i>	\$465,000
Concrete Outdoor Washrooms <i>Smith & Flatbush</i>	\$54,000	Widewater Complex Roof	\$320,000
New MD Gateway Signage	\$140,000	Widewater Fire Hall Park	\$150,000

Did you Know?

The Municipal District of Lesser Slave River's assets are property owned, controlled and/or used by local governments. These assets are managed directly or indirectly for the benefit of constituents to achieve local service delivery goals. The Municipal District had assets valued at just under **\$98 MILLION** at the end of 2016:



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

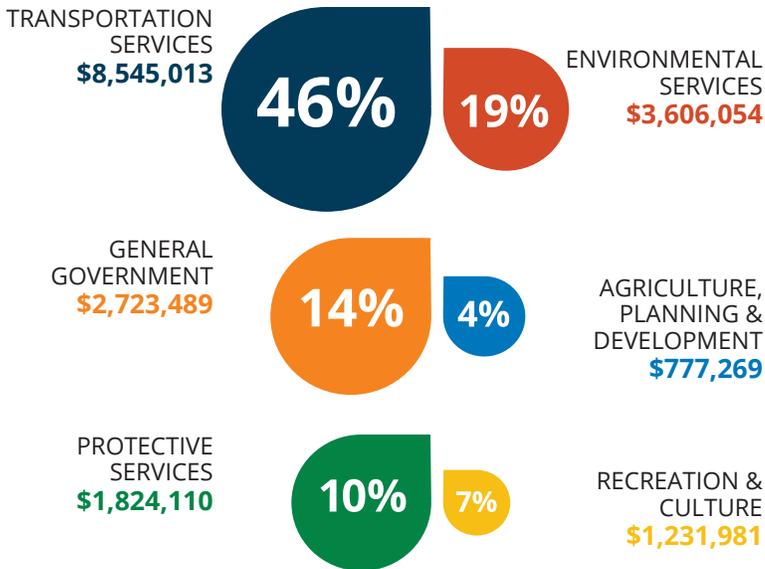
DECEMBER 31, 2016	2016 ACTUAL	2015 ACTUAL
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash (Note 2)	\$4,996,117	\$13,753,547
Receivables		
Taxes and grants in lieu of taxes (Note 3)	\$385,433	\$354,143
Trade and other receivables (Note 4)	\$611,253	\$1,779,274
Other long-term receivables	\$1,313,177	\$1,525,177
Investments (Note 5)	\$38,899,730	\$20,444,806
	\$46,205,710	\$37,856,947
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$2,184,376	\$4,232,177
Deposit liabilities	\$223,784	\$476,135
Deferred revenue (Note 7)	\$18,622,899	\$12,542,582
Employee benefit obligations (Note 8)	\$208,574	\$189,768
Reclamation liabilities (Note 9)	\$73,400	\$73,400
Long-term debt (Note 11)	\$3,123,149	\$3,424,133
	\$24,436,182	\$20,938,195
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	\$21,769,528	\$16,918,752
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets (Schedule 1)	\$97,869,140	\$101,685,268
Inventory of consumption (Note 10)	\$1,472,599	\$1,490,257
Prepaid expense	\$204,402	\$216,167
	\$99,546,141	\$103,391,692
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	\$121,315,669	\$120,310,444

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS & ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

DECEMBER 31, 2016	2016 BUDGET (Note 21)	2016 ACTUAL	2015 ACTUAL
REVENUE			
Net municipal property taxes <i>(Schedule 3)</i>	\$13,780,026	\$13,801,204	\$14,503,205
User fees and sales of goods	\$1,335,240	\$1,513,834	\$1,599,396
Government transfers <i>(Schedule 4)</i>	\$836,676	\$1,208,046	\$1,273,926
Investment income	\$442,460	\$614,383	\$518,423
Penalties and costs of taxes	\$73,000	\$123,012	\$76,946
Licenses and permits	\$25,000	\$23,795	\$24,966
Other	\$39,325	\$160,351	\$366,193
TOTAL REVENUE	\$16,531,727	\$17,444,623	\$18,363,055
EXPENSES			
Legislative	\$343,748	\$299,448	\$292,804
Administration	\$2,567,513	\$2,424,041	\$2,229,304
Protective services	\$1,574,563	\$1,824,110	\$1,597,176
Roads, streets, walks, lighting	\$8,455,633	\$7,422,218	\$8,166,512
Common services	\$1,456,510	\$1,122,795	\$1,192,395
Water supply and distribution	\$2,019,087	\$1,858,538	\$1,830,335
Wastewater treatment and disposal	\$1,536,907	\$1,390,352	\$1,378,894
Waste management	\$423,506	\$357,164	\$298,441
Family and community support	\$102,634	\$93,624	\$85,395
Agriculture, planning and development	\$987,644	\$777,269	\$834,543
Parks, recreation, culture	\$1,207,009	\$747,700	\$665,140
Inter-municipal cost sharing <i>(Note 17)</i>	\$350,000	\$390,657	\$599,489
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$21,024,754	\$18,707,916	\$19,170,428
ANNUAL SURPLUS (deficiency) BEFORE OTHER REVENUE	(\$4,493,026)	(\$1,263,293)	(\$807,373)
OTHER REVENUE			
Government transfers for capital <i>(Schedule 4)</i>	\$2,953,799	\$2,048,318	\$2,811,138
Gain (loss) on disposal of tangible capital assets	\$200,000	\$220,200	\$47,213
	\$3,153,799	\$2,268,518	\$2,858,351
ANNUAL SURPLUS	(\$1,339,227)	\$1,005,225	\$2,050,978
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$120,310,444	\$120,310,444	\$118,259,466
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS AT END OF YEAR (Note 13)	\$118,971,217	\$121,315,669	\$120,310,444

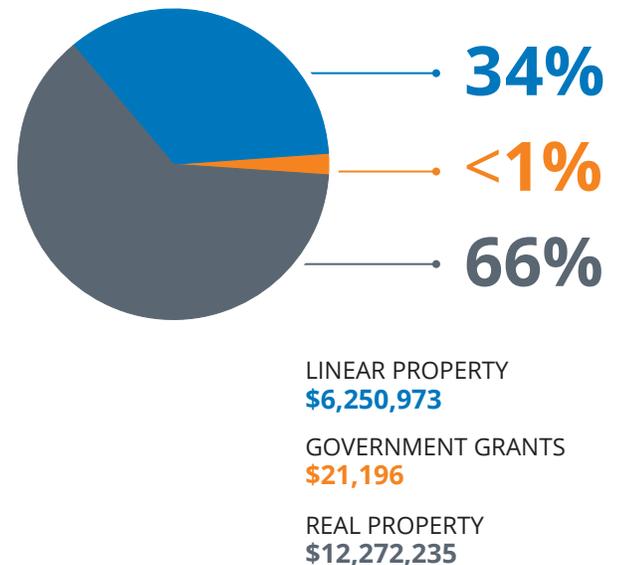
Municipal Expenditures

Almost everything the Municipal District does has a cost associated with it. Councillors spend a lot of time on making financial decisions. Their role is to safeguard the taxpayer's money and make the best use of financial resources.



Tax Revenue by Assessment Class

Each sector represents the taxes paid in 2016 by groups in the Municipal District.



STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS

DECEMBER 31, 2016	2016 BUDGET (Note 21)	2016 ACTUAL	2015 ACTUAL
ANNUAL SURPLUS	(\$1,339,227)	\$1,005,225	\$2,050,978
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(\$3,478,929)	(\$2,520,900)	\$10,209,110
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	\$220,200	\$58,700
Amortization of tangible capital assets	\$6,525,247	\$6,337,029	\$6,577,952
(Gain) loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	(\$200,000)	(\$220,220)	(\$47,213)
	\$2,846,318	\$3,816,129	(\$1,568,691)
Change in inventory consumption	\$214,751	\$17,658	\$138,625
Change in prepaid expenses	-	\$11,765	(\$31,587)
	\$214,751	\$29,423	\$107,038
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	\$1,721,842	\$4,850,776	(\$1,461,653)
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$16,918,752	\$16,918,752	\$18,380,405
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$18,640,594	\$21,769,528	\$16,918,752

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

DECEMBER 31, 2016

Net cash inflow (outflow) related to following:

	2016 ACTUAL	2015 ACTUAL
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Annual surplus	\$1,005,225	\$2,050,978
Non-cash items included in annual actual:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	\$6,337,029	\$6,577,952
(Gain) loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	(\$220,220)	(\$47,213)
Net change in non-cash operating working capital balances:		
Decrease (increase) in taxes and grants in place	(\$31,290)	(\$87,444)
Decrease (increase) in trade and other receivables	\$1,168,021	\$329,720
Decrease (increase) in long-term receivables	\$212,000	\$218,789
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	\$11,765	(\$31,587)
Decrease (increase) in inventory for consumption	\$17,658	\$138,625
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(\$2,047,800)	(\$1,001,350)
Increase (decrease) in deposit liabilities	(\$252,351)	\$178,308
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	\$6,080,316	(\$1,860,467)
Increase (decrease) in employee benefit obligations	\$18,806	(\$13,621)
Cash provided by operating transactions:	\$12,299,179	\$6,452,690
CAPITAL ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of tangible capital assets	(\$2,520,900)	(\$10,209,110)
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	\$220,200	\$58,700
Cash applied to capital transactions	(\$2,300,700)	(\$10,150,409)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Long-term debt repaid	(\$300,984)	(\$288,164)
Cash provided by (applied to) financing transactions	(\$300,984)	(\$288,164)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of investments	(\$18,454,924)	(\$10,233,400)
Cash provided by (applied to) investing transactions	(\$18,454,924)	(\$10,233,400)
CHANGE IN CASH DURING THE YEAR	(\$8,757,430)	(\$14,219,282)
CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$13,753,547	\$27,972,829
CASH AT END OF YEAR	\$4,996,117	\$13,753,547

SCHEDULE OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

DECEMBER 31, 2016	LAND	ENGINEERED STRUCTURES	BUILDING & FACILITIES	MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT
COST				
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$2,733,201	\$137,187,846	\$34,014,250	\$9,356,618
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	-	\$356,218	\$83,039	\$716,317
Transfer in (out) of WIP	-	\$6,580,928	-	\$1,520
Disposals	-	-	-	(\$880,416)
BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$2,733,201	\$144,124,992	\$34,097,289	\$9,194,039
ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION				
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	-	\$74,083,090	\$12,464,798	\$5,657,711
Annual amortization	-	\$4,512,902	\$1,018,478	\$694,792
Disposals	-	-	-	(\$880,416)
BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	-	\$78,595,992	\$13,483,276	\$5,472,087
NET BOOK VALUE OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS	\$2,733,201	\$65,529,000	\$20,614,013	\$3,721,952
2015 NET BOOK VALUE OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS	\$2,733,201	\$63,104,755	\$21,549,452	\$3,698,907

SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES BY OBJECT

DECEMBER 31, 2016	2016 BUDGET (Note 21)	2016 ACTUAL	2015 ACTUAL
CONSOLIDATED EXPENSES BY OBJECT			
Salaries, wages and benefits	\$5,798,330	\$5,207,401	\$5,223,914
Contracted and general services	\$4,400,488	\$2,933,295	\$3,652,337
Materials, goods and utilities	\$2,284,492	\$2,165,046	\$1,872,335
Provision for allowances	-	\$87,277	(\$4,516)
Transfers to local boards and agencies	\$1,858,426	\$1,826,648	\$1,685,920
Bank charges and short-term interest	\$5,000	\$1,087	\$1,363
Interest on long-term debt	\$152,770	\$150,132	\$161,123
Amortization	\$6,525,247	\$6,337,029	\$6,577,952
TOTAL	\$21,024,754	\$18,966,262	\$19,170,428

Full financial statements are available for viewing on the municipal government website, mdlsr.ca. A hardcopy is available at the Municipal District Administration Office in Slave Lake.

VEHICLES	WORK IN PROGRESS	2016 ACTUAL	2105 ACTUAL
\$1,403,031	\$10,217,960	\$194,912,906	\$184,853,123
-	\$1,365,327	\$2,520,900	\$10,209,110
-	(\$6,582,448)	-	-
(\$131,416)	-	(\$1,011,832)	\$(149,326)
\$1,271,615	\$5,000,839	\$196,421,975	\$194,912,906
\$1,022,039	-	\$93,227,638	\$86,787,524
\$110,857	-	\$6,337,029	\$6,577,952
(\$131,416)	-	(\$1,011,832)	\$(137,838)
\$1,001,480	-	\$98,552,835	\$93,227,638
\$270,135	\$5,000,839	\$97,869,140	\$101,685,268
\$380,992	\$10,217,960	-	\$101,685,268

Visitor Information Centre



OPEN YEAR ROUND, we invite you to stop by and inquire about local activities and tourism opportunities. Be sure to check out the gift shop showcasing work from talented local artists and craftsmen.

DID YOU KNOW THE MD HAS...

1685 RESIDENCES		7 HAMLETS		4 FIRE HALLS	
73KM OF WATER MAINS	+	65KM OF WASTEWATER MAINS		2 LOADERS	
257KM FROM EDMONTON		1,168KM² SIZE OF THE LAKE		3,074 RESIDENTS	
57 FULL-TIME POSITIONS		698KM OF MUNICIPAL ROADS		5 GRADERS	
119,067 ACRES OF LAND UNDER AGRICULTURAL USE		10,258 CATTLE & CALVES		49 BRIDGES	



Lesser Slave River Rugged & Real Recreation

Explore the unspoiled land of rugged-and-real.

Looking for a uniquely authentic Alberta travel destination? Discover the Slave Lake Region: a vast northern paradise of lakes, wilderness, beachfront and abundant outdoor adventure. This magical region is home to a spectrum of unique year-round natural and cultural pursuits. For those who seek an authentic destination surrounded by unspoiled nature, friendly locals and breathtaking boreal forest, this is a place like no other.

True adventure awaits in all corners of the Slave Lake Region, no matter what season. Endless sandy beaches and gradual shoals stretch as far as the eye can see. Private and provincial campgrounds dot the forests and overlook the lakes. For biking, off-roading or trail riding enthusiasts, every manner of natural and maintained trail snakes across field, forest and valley.

Navigate your canoe through Hubert Lake Wildland Provincial Park or tote your fishing gear to campgrounds at the MD's secluded provincial recreation areas at Chain Lakes, Lawrence Lake or West Fawcett Lake. From fun-filled sandcastle competitions, gorgeous golf courses and big-purse sport fishing tournaments in the warmer months to skiing, snowmobiling

and winter camping when the snow flies, the Slave Lake Region offers an abundance of activities to the intrepid traveler in search of something authentic. The following are just a few suggestions for an unforgettable retreat in this rugged-and-real region.

Venture off the beaten path.

Quadding the region's many trails is a popular pursuit for many locals, and draws adventure-seekers from near and far. Across all seasons, ATV riders of every variety navigate the vast wooded terrain — from the well-marked Peace River Trail and sandy stretches of Chisholm to the largely-uncharted boreal forest areas. Some of the beautiful back lakes in the eastern region can only be accessed through trail riding.

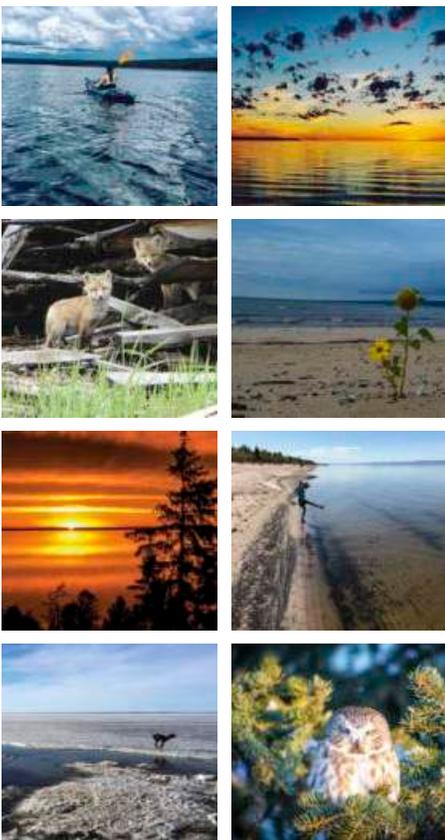


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Search...

Lesser Slave River The Municipal District of Lesser Slave River holds rugged beauty and real adventure. Use **#explorelsr** to give us permission to share. www.mdlsr.ca

76 posts 105 followers 84 following



#explorelsr Follow

With the recent opening of the Peace River trail from Sawty to Moose Portage, riders have more access to the backcountry than ever before. From sand and mud to cut lines and hard-packed trails, the region is chock full of exceptional experiences for every type of rider.

Make camp amidst breathtaking boreal forest.

With an enticing mix of unspoiled beauty and local charm, the region's many campgrounds attract travelers in search of smores, solitude and sweet forest air. Get lost (figuratively) in the great outdoors, remove yourself from the rat race for a moment in time, and enjoy nature at its most unspoiled on a rugged-and-real camping retreat. From full-service lakefront campsites to hidden backcountry gems, the region boasts a variety of facilities to suit any outdoor enthusiast.

Experience aquatic splendor at its finest.

Travelers of any age or experience level can take to Lesser Slave Lake by canoe or kayak for a truly unforgettable experience. The Athabasca River also provides an exceptional opportunity for some gorgeous sights as you paddle downstream. Stop to visit unique sites and islands on your trip or do some shoreline exploring. You're certain to discover eye-catching geology and abundant bird life.

Endless opportunities for subzero adventure.

With its always-ample seasonal snowfall and endless expanses of unspoiled wooded areas to explore, Lesser Slave River provides a truly breathtaking backdrop for any type of cold-weather adventure. The region's extensive trail system and vast

Lesser Slave Lake provide a host of opportunities for every brand of winterized outdoor enthusiast.

Take in a truly one-of-a-kind winter landscape as you trek through a crisp white, snow-silent boreal forest on cross-country skis or snowshoes at the Nine Mile Creek Recreation Area. Search for animal tracks with the kids at Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park.

Nature like you've never seen it before.

Nestled in the scenic Provincial Park, the Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory is the ideal place for wildlife viewing. Depending upon the season, bird watchers will see several species of migratory songbirds, the common raven, bald eagles, geese, rare trumpeter swans, numerous species of ducks, sharp-tailed grouse, spruce grouse and ruffed grouse. We also have willow ptarmigan, gray jay, boreal chickadee, and several species of woodpecker. Mammals include boreal bison, moose, elk, woodland caribou, bears, cougars, timber wolves, fox, marten and wolverine, snowshoe hare and lynx. Bring your camera and get set for an unforgettable adventure.

A place that you'll never want to leave.

Stay at one of the local cabin rentals, then take a guided tour or hike on your own to one of our many forest trails or shorelines. Visit the Provincial Park or pack a lunch and enjoy one of our day use areas at Lily Creek or Marten River. Trails include the Trans-Canada, Lily Lake, Walk Through Time, Jack Pine, Whispering Sands, Peace, and Songbird. Want more information about the spectrum of year-round activities in and around the Slave Lake region? Check out the Explore section of mdlsr.ca.



Canada 150 Celebrating the Sesquicentennial in Style

Don't miss the Canada 150 celebrations happening across the MD. Learn more online about several special days to celebrate in 2017.

2017 marks Canada's 150th Anniversary of Confederation. That means all year long, communities across the nation will be doing their part to celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial in style — and Lesser Slave River is no exception. As a region that's well-known for playing just as hard as it works, Lesser Slave River's festival and cultural event planners are pulling out all stops to ensure an unforgettable Canada 150.

All year long, the MD of Lesser Slave River will be doing its part to showcase the splendour of the region to travelers from afar and home-grown locals alike. The MD has completed its piece of the Trans

Canada Trail. This coast-to-coast marvel is designed to help Canadians get out and explore the nation.

Make the most of this year

The MD is curating a variety of area activities within a special Canada 150 section of the municipal website — mdlsr.ca/Canada150. Visit this page often to discover a growing inventory of natural wonders, local festivals and much more. From a world-renowned fishing derby to fairs, rodeos and a wide variety of native cultural activities, the reasons to celebrate Canada's 150th in our uniquely beautiful boreal home know no bounds. The sesquicentennial provides a great opportunity for us to reflect on our heritage and celebrate our special place on the world stage. Take part in the excitement!

Legend

- | | | |
|-------------|------------------|----------------|
| Airport | X-Country Skiing | Hiking |
| Boat Launch | Fishing | Photo Op |
| Campground | Fire Services | Quad/Motocross |
| Canoe/Kayak | Golf Course | Rodeo Grounds |



Local Attractions

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 Diamond Willow Resort | 7 Gilwood Golf & Country Club | 13 Lawrence Lake Provincial Rec Area |
| 2 Marten River Campground | 8 Nine Mile Creek Recreation Area | 14 Chain Lakes Provincial Rec Area |
| 3 Marten Mountain Viewpoint | 9 Devonshire Beach (Day Use Area) | 15 Flatbush River Valley Golf Course |
| 4 Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory | 10 Fawcett Lake Provincial Rec Area | 16 Cross Lake Campground |
| 5 Lily Lake Campground | 11 Anchor Inn Resort | |
| 6 Canyon Creek Harbour & Campground | 12 Mosquito Lake Resort | |



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