cityofgp.com

CITY OF GRANDE prairie

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Hello / Taa Haanach'e / Tansi,

The City respectfully acknowledges the Beaver, Cree, Dene and Métis people as the original caretakers of these Lands and surrounding areas.

We are grateful to live, learn, work and play on Treaty 8 territory within Turtle Island and acknowledge these Lands have been home to diverse and sovereign First Nations and Inuit Nations since time immemorial.

Thank You / Wuujo Aasanalaa / Kinanâskomitin



National Aboriginal Hockey Championships 2024





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This Annual Report is produced in part to demonstrate the City of Grande Prairie's transparency and accountability to our residents.



MESSAGE FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

“This Annual Report highlights how we’ve brought our Strategic Plan to life this year, focusing on providing quality services and value to our residents.”

2024 was a year of significant achievements for the City of Grande Prairie, with innovative approaches to supporting our community, quality service delivery and investment in growing our future. These efforts are designed to embrace Grande Prairie as the place to be for building careers and creating an excellent quality of life.

To do this, Council and Administration are guided by our Strategic Plan which serves as the framework for making Grande Prairie a vibrant, connected and inclusive community that overcomes challenges and seizes opportunity.

While we’re proud to share this annual report to showcase the hard work undertaken over the past year to better serve our residents and community, we know this community is built on the strength of its residents, businesses and non-profit organizations, so thank you!

Highlights include:

- Successful continued transition of the Grande Prairie Police Service to become the police of primary jurisdiction.
- Advancement of our Health Care Attraction and Retention Strategy to support robust and sustainable health care in the region.
- Ongoing construction on 116 Avenue to upgrade infrastructure and support safety and accessibility for local and commercial users.
- Continuing our reputation as a games city by by welcoming nearly 6000 visitors to the 2024 Alberta Winter Games and being the first city in Alberta to host the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships.

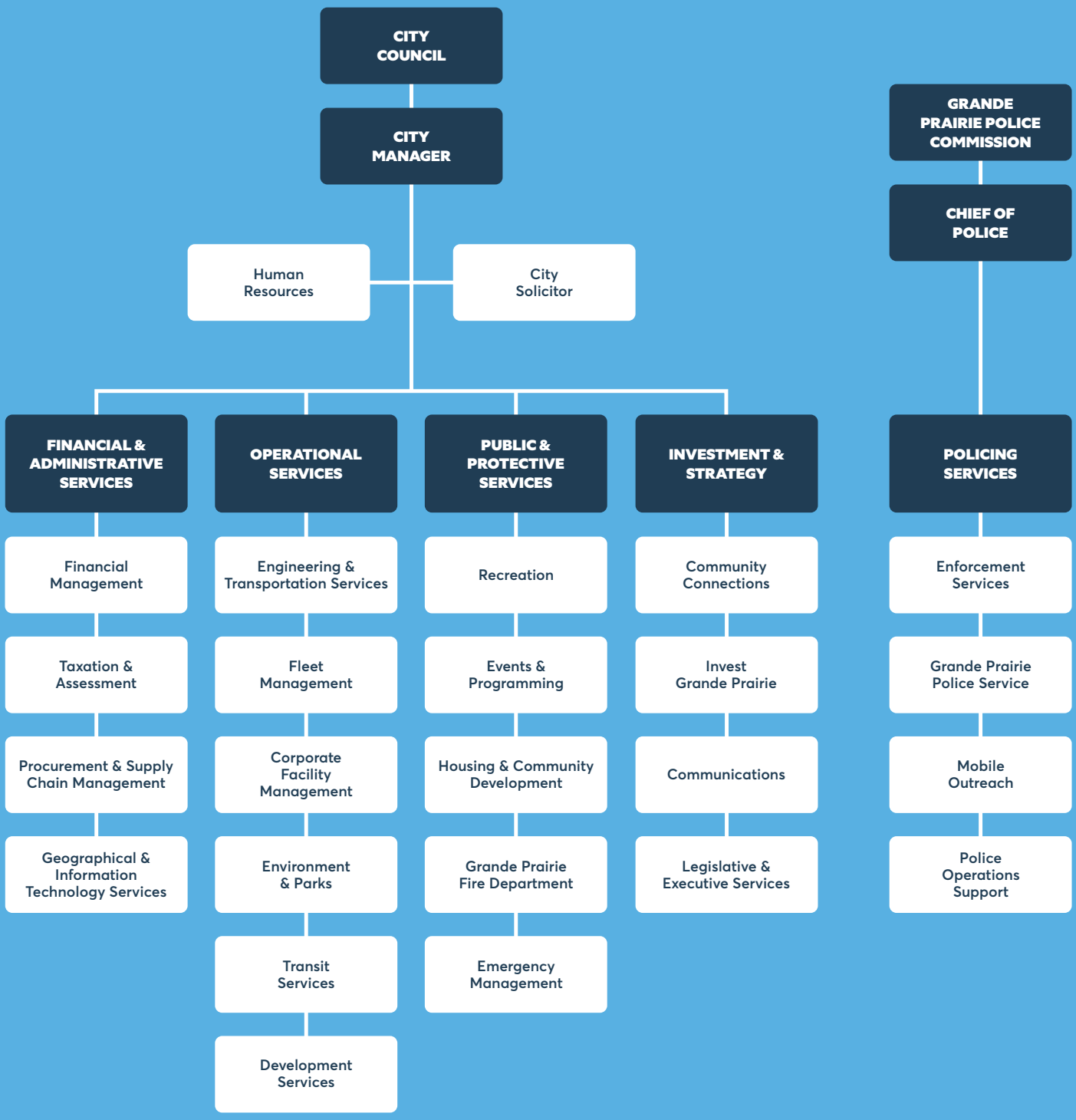
Read on for more highlights and stay tuned to the official City channels to keep up to date on the exciting things happening in 2025.



Sincerely,

Mayor Jackie Clayton

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



QUALITY OF LIFE

Where we want to live, work and play.

- Active Lifestyle
- Fierce Community Pride
- Safety

ENGAGING RELATIONSHIPS

Strong and purposeful relationships expand local government value.

- Reputation Management
- Brand, Marketing & Communication
- Culture & Pride

INCLUSIVE & CARING COMMUNITY

A community that includes all people and serves all people.

- Multicultural
- Youth to Seniors
- Housing

INNOVATIVE EFFICIENCIES & ECONOMIC READINESS

A strong local economy enables a sustainable high quality of life.

- Strategic Growth
- Innovation Development
- Attraction

QUALITY OF LIFE



Fostering high quality of life is the cornerstone of Council's strategic plan.

With a focus on community pride, promoting active lifestyle and community safety, Grande Prairie strives to enhance quality of life, creating a city where current and future residents can live, work and play.

ANNUAL EVENTS

- Grande North Winter Festival
  - The 2024 Grande North Winter Festival welcomed nearly 3,000 attendees who embraced the winter weather to partake in indoor and outdoor fun including ice carving, Storm games and live entertainment. Did you know the Grande North Winter Festival is now part of the Canadian Ice Festival circuit!
- Women of Influence Awards
- Youth Career & Education Expo
  - The Youth Career and Education Expo was a new event for 2024, in partnership with the City, the Tamarack Institute and Community Building Youth Futures
  - 2400 local students attended this event and engaged with over 100 vendors to explore career possibilities and educational pathways for their future
- Here Comes Summer
- Canada Day
- Eastlink Centre Triathlon
- Heritage Day
- Experience GP
  - Taking place at the end of summer, Experience GP, a free community event, saw nearly 6000 people for the downtown block party featuring 97.7 Rock as our official emcee and Kim Mitchell as our headlining act.
- Alberta Day
- Storm Hockey Home Opener & HockeyFest
  - The largest attendance in the Alberta Junior Hockey League (AJHL) for the year!
- Halloween Spooktacular
- Council's Interfaith Breakfast
- Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony
- New Years Eve-ning Out





Sport Tourism

- Alberta Winter Games
  - We proudly hosted the 2024 Alberta Winter Games (ABWG) February 16-19, attracting nearly 6000 visitors to Grande Prairie and creating an estimated $4.6 million economic impact in the region. Athletes aged 11–17 competed in over 17 sports across the four day event.
  - Highlights include a sold-out opening ceremonies at the Bonnetts Energy Centre and installation of a commemorative art sculpture depicting the ABWG bear emblem outside the Community Knowledge Campus.

46 outdoor event permits were issued by the City in 2024. Outdoor Event Permits are issued for large-scale outdoor events including music, dance, sport, food, performing arts or similar outdoor activities.

- National Aboriginal Hockey Championship
  - Grande Prairie became the first city in Alberta to host the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships (NAHC). The NAHC is a sporting event that allows Indigenous youth across Canada to play at an elite level in a tournament that combines Indigenous culture and sports competitiveness.
  - From May 5–11, 2024, 14 teams from across Canada with approximately 350 athletes ages 14–17 and 80 coaches travelled to Grande Prairie to take part in this exciting blend of sport and culture. The event resulted in an estimated economic impact of $2 million for the Grande Prairie region.
  - As part of the event, the City worked in collaboration with the NAHC, Art Gallery of Grande Prairie and Grant Berg Art Gallery with sponsorship from Canadian Tire to host the Paint-A-Puck community initiative. 750 hockey pucks were painted by members of the community to create a large-scale collage for the event, with the pucks raffled off at the end in support of the Grande Prairie Friendship Centre.





Municipal Police Transition

The Grande Prairie Police Service (GPPS) continued its successful transition to become the police of primary jurisdiction by 2026, and is currently working within the transition grant from the provincial government.

Chief of Police Dwayne Lakusta was officially sworn in, three experienced officers were integrated into the RCMP detachment and a total increase in ranks rose to 16 sworn members by the end of 2024. We're thankful for their dedication as part of the frontline of community safety.

Enforcement Services and Mobile Outreach were officially moved under the GPPS, creating a unified, collaborative, modern approach to policing and serving the community.

Recruit classes are drawing an exceptional number of applicants, prompting the GPPS to increase the size of each class to meet the high demand and maintain a competitive selection process. Recruitment remains ongoing for various positions.

Thanks to valued partnerships with Northwestern Polytechnic and Lethbridge Polytechnic, all training is now available locally.

FireSmart Vegetation Management

The City of Grande Prairie was awarded a $200,000 grant from the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) to action a vegetation management project.

The FRIAA Firesmart program supports communities in implementing measures aimed at reducing the impact of wildfire. Work took place in two areas in South Bear Creek to remove dead or fire-prone trees and thinning dense vegetation with the goal of mitigating wildfire risks.

116 Avenue

This year's construction on 116 Avenue was part of a multi-phase project aimed at addressing aging infrastructure and enhancing traffic flows to best suit the needs of our constantly growing community. As a key truck and dangerous goods route, 116 Avenue handles a significant volume of traffic, making these improvements critical for supporting safety and reliability for local and commercial users.



Work completed in 2024:

- Storm Lead Replacement: Deteriorated stormwater pipes were replaced with more durable, corrosion-resistant materials to strengthen infrastructure resilience.
- Storm Vault Installation: A new concrete storm vault was installed at 102 Street and 116 Avenue to manage stormwater by reducing flooding events.
- Geometric Improvements: Adjustments to the road layout to improve traffic flow and safety, including:
  - Extended turning lanes on 116 Avenue eastbound for both northbound and southbound traffic on 100 Street increased vehicle storage capacity and minimized traffic spillovers.
  - A high-angle entry with an auxiliary overrun from 102 Street northbound to 116 Avenue eastbound, improved safety for right turns and bus traffic.
  - Concrete and Asphalt Upgrades: Upgrades to curbs, gutters, sidewalks and road surfaces enhanced accessibility and safety for all users.
  - Pedestrian Safety: New pedestrian signals and two concrete islands at 102 Street and 116 Avenue were added to shorten crossing distances and reduce wait times for pedestrians.

CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED IN 2024 INCLUDE:

- **31.35 km in Road Rehabilitation**
- **6,469 m in Sidewalk and Trail Repairs**
- **1 km of Storm Sewer Rehabilitations**
- **2 Bridge Culverts Repaired**
- **185 km of Pavement Inspected**
- **3 Storm Outfalls Replaced**
- **77 Catch Basins and 73 Manholes Rehabilitated**



ENGAGING RELATIONSHIPS

Success is better when its shared.

We're creating and nurturing purpose-built relationships to build on mutual strengths and create a strong, well-connected community.

2024 CENSUS

- The 2024 Census reflects the progress of Grande Prairie as a thriving and diverse city, setting the foundation for growth and development. Here's how key findings from the census support the goals of our city in 2024:
  - Population: 70,385 residents
  - Median Age: 35.3 years
  - Occupancy: Over 80% of residents have lived in Grande Prairie for 2 or more years
- Grande Prairie's population of 70,385 residents in 2024 reflects consistent growth and the City's appeal as a dynamic and welcoming hub. With an average annual growth rate of 2.8% since 2000, and a steady 3.1% increase since 2021, Grande Prairie is poised for continued success.



- With an average age of 35.3 years, Grande Prairie remains one of Canada's youngest cities. Middle-aged adults make up 40% of the population, while children (20.8%) and young adults (16.5%) highlight the City's family-oriented and dynamic character. Seniors currently make up 9.9% of the population demonstrating the City can support residents at any stage of life.
- Grande Prairie's housing market caters to a variety of needs and lifestyles. Single-detached homes, which make up 58% of housing stock, provide ample space for families, while apartments in the Central Business District and Gateway offer modern, urban living. With two-thirds of residents owning their homes, the City continues to foster stability and long-term investment opportunities.
- Grande Prairie nurtures a strong sense of belonging, with over 80% of residents calling the city home for two or more years. This exceptional retention rate underscores the community's welcoming atmosphere, and the high value placed on its abundant opportunities and amenities.
- Grande Prairie's diversity continues to grow as families and individuals from across the globe choose to call the city home. Known for its resilience, innovation and inclusivity, Grande Prairie offers a high quality of life where residents of all backgrounds can prosper.



Grander Conversations

In spring, the City hosted a new State of the City: Grander Conversations event featuring a panel discussion with community leaders on what's happening around the city and a look ahead to the future.

We welcomed business owners, community leaders and residents to join us in conversation with City of Grande Prairie Chief Administrative Officer Shane Bourke, Northwestern Polytechnic President Dr. Vanessa Sheane, Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Officer Tanya Oliver and Grande Prairie Police Service Superintendent John Respet.

It was a conversational opportunity to learn more about emerging trends and outlooks in our community directly from this selection of leaders through a personal discussion moderated by Mayor Jackie Clayton. Key conversation topics included the local economy, community safety and social services.

In 2024, AccessGP managed over 70,349 resident interactions across various channels, ensuring that residents could easily connect and receive the support needed. This included:

5,229
Online Service Request Submissions

17,945
Emails

33,122
Telephone Calls

Access GP also sent 280 text notifications to subscribers, keeping the community informed on our latest news and updates.

Health Care Advocacy

Adopting the Health Care Strategy and Action Plan was a key strategic deliverable for 2024. The plan focuses on sharing information, offering incentives and supporting infrastructure for the attraction and retention of health care professionals to support a robust and sustainable health care system in the region. Highlights of what was accomplished this year include:

- The University of Alberta and Northwestern Polytechnic announced a new partnership together for the Northern Alberta Medical Program, supporting local students and education opportunities.
- City Council proudly hosted their annual Physicians and Families Appreciation Event, welcoming 50 local physicians for a night of connection and celebration.
- Invest GP supported Alberta Health Services with 13 site visits, to engage with staff and share information, helping to support the 28 new physicians practicing in Grande Prairie this year.
- Council hosted two coffees with Council to welcome new staff at the hospital and to jointly celebrate the three-year anniversary of the opening of the Grande Prairie Regional Hospital.



Grande Prairie was the first city outside of Edmonton to host the University of Alberta's Asclepius Medical Camp for Youth in 2024. Hosted by local preceptors and medical students from the University of Alberta, the camp aims to inspire students, highlight education and career pathways in medicine and reduce financial barriers to pursuing medical school.

Renaming of Tenille Townes Way



- On November 19, the City of Grande Prairie together with Sunrise House Youth Emergency Shelter proudly renamed 107 Avenue as Tenille Townes Way to commemorate the musical and philanthropic achievements of Grande Prairie local and Canadian Country Music Award (CCMA) winner, Tenille Townes.
- Townes is the reigning CCMA Female Artist of the Year—a title she has held for a record-breaking five consecutive years. Locally, Townes started the annual Big Hearts for Big Kids Sunrise House fundraiser in Grande Prairie when she was only 15 years old, which has raised over $2 million to support the Sunrise House.

GPREP Activations

- The City of Grande Prairie supported the Grande Prairie Regional Emergency Partnership (GPREP) during two activations this year.
- In May 2024, GPREP activated to support the response to the Kleskun Hills event. 17 households were evacuated with 3 household registered. The activation lasted 12 days, with evacuees returning home on the third day. This is the first time GPREP was in Unified Command with Alberta Wildfire.
- Later in July, GPREP activated again to support the Jasper wildfire relief efforts. We registered 365 individuals, housing 322 of them in hotels. The activation lasted 33 days and resulted in 1619 hotel room nights.

Community Grants and Funding

The City is proud to offer a multitude of funding and grant opportunities to support local individuals and organizations who are making a positive impact in our community. This year we offered the following support:

- $991,134 in Family and Community Support Service Funding was awarded to support local groups and organizations providing preventative social services.
- $42,226 In Pursuit of Excellence Funding was awarded to local athletes and athletic groups.
- $30,000 in Sport Hosting Funding was awarded to local sport organizations to host events that generate economic impact.
- $90,750 in Arts Development Funding was awarded to support art and culture in the community.
- $3,855,416 in Community Group Funding was awarded including an additional $60,000 for the Grande Prairie Public Library.
- NEW in 2024, we introduced a Community Microgrant Fund to foster connections and pride in the community through the funding of gatherings, activities and celebrations of arts and culture. $14,230.00 was awarded to 13 projects or community events.

Advocacy Meetings

One of City Council's responsibilities is to advocate for the needs and desires of City residents and stakeholders to both the Province of Alberta and the Federal Government. In 2024, Grande Prairie City Council advocacy priorities included:

- Immigration Biometric Scanning
- Provincial Changes to Automated Traffic Enforcement
- Improved Rail Service
- Northwestern Polytechnic Advocacy Support
- Medical First Response Funding
- Provincial and Federal Funding for Housing Needs
- Health Care Supports
- Electricity Distribution Costs

Throughout the year, the Mayor and Council were able to meet with over 12 Cabinet Ministers to advance the City's advocacy priorities. City Council was pleased to welcome Alberta's Premier to Grande Prairie in August.

Public Engagement

In 2024, the City of Grande Prairie engaged with residents across various initiatives, gathering over 2,295 survey responses and hosting 568 participants at in-person events. Key projects included the Aging Well Together initiative with 508 survey responses and 91 attendees, the Stormwater Utility project with 221 responses and 250 attendees, the Community Knowledge Campus Annual Survey, which received 666 responses and the 2025 Budget Engagement event which had 150 attendees. Smaller-scale engagement occurred for projects like the Neighbourhood Associates workshops and Bear River Corridor Study, reflecting a diverse range of community interests.

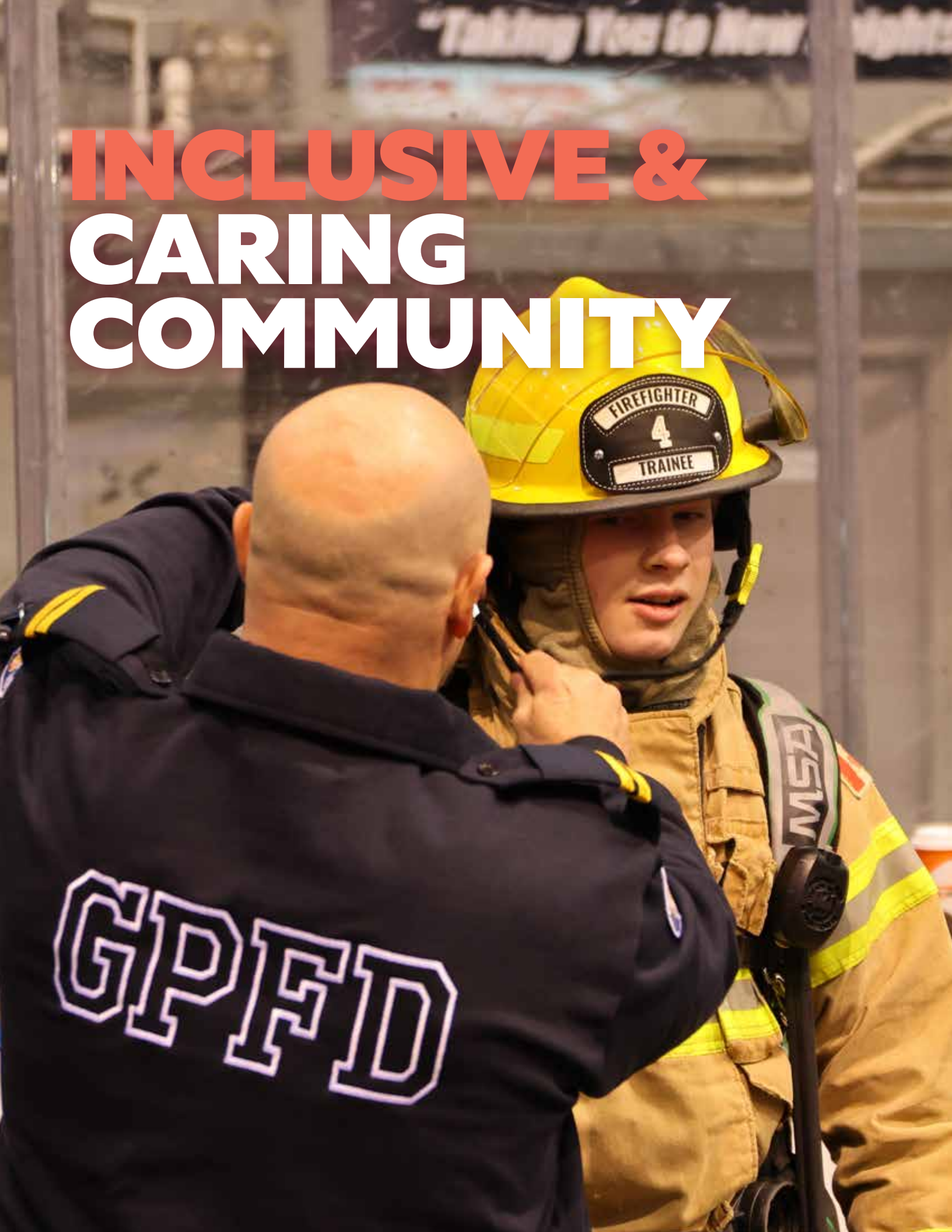


The City completed a Resident Satisfaction Survey in 2024 to assess how satisfied residents are with municipal services. Highlights of the results include: 91% of residents indicate that quality of life in the city is good or very good.

89% of residents believe Grande Prairie is a community with a bright future. 86% of residents are proud to live here. 78% of residents are satisfied with City services.

14 Public Engagement Projects

Project Name	Open House Attendees	Survey Responses
Grande Prairie Inclusive and Caring Community Initiative	69	N/A
Aging Well Together	91	508
Stormwater Utility	250	221
Community Knowledge Campus Annual Survey	N/A	666
Museum Expansion Project	33	102
Bear River Corridor Study (targeted to specific user groups)	5	N/A
Lawn Bowling Facility Upgrade	N/A	133
Resident Satisfaction Survey	N/A	661
Proposed Secondary Suite Changes	76	N/A
Bowes Event Centre Usage (targeted to specific user groups)	4	4
Intermunicipal Development Plan	40	N/A
2025 Budget Engagement	150	360
Transit Services	20	133
RCMP Town Halls	60	750


INCLUSIVE &
CARING
COMMUNITY
FIREFIGHTER
4
TRAINEE
GPFD
MSA

An inclusive, caring community is a place that includes all and serves everyone.

CEDAR POINT

Formerly known as the Coordinated Care Campus, Cedar Point was officially renamed this spring. The name was chosen as cedar has ensured the survival of people for thousands of years and has become a powerful symbol of strength and revitalization. The deep respect for cedar is rich in tradition, and continues to be culturally, spiritually and economically important, especially in Indigenous practices.

We welcomed The Mustard Seed as the new service provider, to provide tenants the supports they need to maintain their housing, reducing the volume of homelessness and related issues in the city and creating a safer, vibrant community for all residents.

There are currently 47 tenants housed in the facility, where they are able to access service providers, healthcare supports and designated Indigenous and multi-cultural spaces all on-site.



Indigenous Relations

The City continued to advance its Indigenous Relations Framework supporting truth and reconciliation locally. In 2024 the following was accomplished:

- A land acknowledgement plaque and local Indigenous artwork was displayed in the lobby of City Hall
- Installation of the Treaty 8 and Metis flags at Dave Barr Community Centre, Design Works Centre and Eastlink Centre.
- Conducted a year-end report on the Indigenous Relations Framework. Eleven of the 29 objectives in the framework are complete, 15 remain in progress/ongoing and 3 will be upcoming in 2025.



Day Care Space at Dave Barr Community Centre

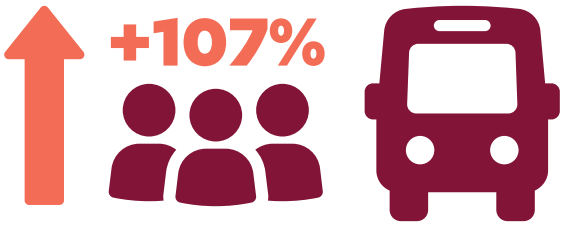
Starting in May, a new childcare tenant, Connecting Dots, began operating daycare services in the Dave Barr Community Centre.

Increasing day care services has been an advocacy priority for City Council and a focus of Invest GP, who liaise with day cares to connect them with local supports, advocacy efforts and grant or funding opportunities.

Across 2024 we saw an 18% increase in day care availability, with 411 new spaces opening in the community, supporting our local workforce and economy as well as affordability for families.

119 City staff completed Addressing Racism and Discrimination Training and 123 completed Unconscious Bias Training. The training is provided in-house and is required for all staff to support equity, diversity and inclusion in our organization and our work in the community.

Transit Services



Since approving free transit for youth in 2023 to reduce barriers for access, youth ridership increased by over 100,000 rides, showing a dramatic 107% increase in ridership.

To support the increased popularity of the transit on-demand service, hours were also extended by 2 hours each evening, with on demand seeing increasing ridership by 35%.

We're thankful for all the residents who attended our Transit Open House in November to provide feedback and ideas for continuing to improve the ridership experience.



Community Building Youth Futures Microgrant Programs

The Community Building Youth Futures (CBYF) Microgrant Program, in partnership with the Tamarack Institute, was designed to assist youth aged 13 to 30 in overcoming financial barriers to education and employment. The CBYF Microgrant offered up to $750 per individual to help address specific needs such as transit, educational materials, work attire and certification fees.

48 youth benefited from the microgrant representing $29,000 of work clothing, technology, training courses or transit passes all directly related to education or employment barriers.

National Safe Swimming Recovery Program

The Eastlink Centre was proud to participate in the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association's National Safe Swimming Recovery Program. This initiative aims to address the national lifeguard shortage by offering subsidized certifications and employment opportunities for youth in the aquatics field.

The program especially encourages participation from those who face barriers to employment, in particular, individuals who are Indigenous, low-income, living in rural/remote areas, visible minorities and newcomers.

10 successful applicants participated in the program.

Connector Trail

Supporting the wonderful outdoor opportunities in our region, we worked alongside the County of Grande Prairie to complete the Connector Trail. This two km trail was designed to enhance recreation and connectivity between the two municipalities and was made possible through funding from the Canada Community Revitalization Fund and contributions from both partners.

The trail opened in late summer running parallel to Range Road 61 past the Aquatera landfill and includes a new pedestrian road crossing at Highway 668 (Correction Line).



Parks crews removed 140 metric tonnes (308,000 pounds) of waste from the community through our roadside cleanup program and public garbage receptacles.

Improving Inclusivity

Across the City's many programs and services a variety of efforts and initiatives were spearheaded in 2024 to increase access, reduce barriers and support diversity. Examples of this include:

- Camp F.I.R.E. (Fostering Independence, Resilience & Empowerment) hosted 15 young women aged 16–20 to explore fire-fighting career opportunities in a supportive environment and address gender bias in the industry.
- The Theraputic Swim Pilot Program at Eastlink Centre in collaboration with local school districts worked to assess and monitor inclusivity rates and accessibility so we can better identify and adapt to the needs of our community.
- A Women's Stick & Puck program was piloted over the summer, with over 50 participants engaging in the sport in a safe and supportive environment.
- In collaboration with local partners, the City hosted Connect Day to help people experiencing homelessness and our vulnerable population connect with housing and other services such as dental care, vaccinations, ID services and more to help them get the support they need to improve their situations.
- The City re-signed the Memorandum Of Understanding for the Rotary Inclusion Employment Partnership with Inclusion Alberta which will implement meaningful employment opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities.

The City helped increase access and inclusivity to our public transit and recreational services by providing:

2,641 Recreation Access Passes

3,587 Transit Access Passes

575 Explore GP Welcome Packages



INNOVATIVE EFFICIENCIES & ECONOMIC READINESS

Through strategic planning focused on innovation and economic readiness, we strengthen our local economy and ensure we're primed to seize key opportunities as they emerge.

ECONOMIC DATA

2024 Indicators	Stat
Building permits	711
Construction value	$122,995,372
Total population (2024 census)	70,385
Total number of dwellings	27,819
Overdimensional vehicles	8,086
Drilling licenses	736
Drilling completions	915

INVEST NW ALBERTA

The City of Grande Prairie, the County of Grande Prairie and the Municipal District of Greenview proudly announced a united initiative to showcase the exceptional investment opportunities in Northwest Alberta with the launch of Invest NW.

Invest NW Alberta offers tailored support to investors, helping them make confident decisions by showcasing the region's diverse assets. With a coordinated approach across three municipalities, the initiative streamlines the investment process through a single point of contact and consistent messaging. This collaborative effort ensures sustainable growth, complementary infrastructure development and increased visibility in national and international markets, attracting more business and investment to the region.





Work NW Alberta

As part of Invest NW, the Work NW Alberta Partnership was rolled out to attract skilled workers and support economic growth.

In collaboration with the County of Grande Prairie (County), Municipal District of Greenview (MD), Grande Prairie & District Chamber of Commerce and Northwestern Polytechnic, Work NW Alberta is dedicated to cultivating a skilled workforce across the region. By working directly with employers to attract and develop talent, Work NW Alberta ensures businesses and organizations have the human resources they need to thrive. This proactive approach not only addresses current employment demands but also lays the groundwork for sustainable growth and long-term prosperity in our community.

Investment Attraction

The Invest Grande Prairie team continued to promote the City's investment opportunities through regional partnerships and attendance at: CERA Week, World Ag Tech, Future Food-Tech, Canadian Hydrogen Convention, Edmonton Real Estate Forum, Global Energy Show, Carbon Capture and Alberta's Industrial Heartland Convention.

New this year, in partnership with the County and MD, we hosted the Sitelink Site Selector Forum. The forum brings together site selectors from across North America to tour the region and engage with local developers and business leaders to explore opportunities for new projects, all in support of local economic development.

Grants and Incentives

Highlights of Grants Received

- $10,000 from Tree Canada's Community Tree Grants program, funded by CN's EcoConnexions – From the Ground Up initiative.
- $200,000 from the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) to conduct FireSmart vegetation management on public land within the city, reducing wildfire risk.
- $50,000 from the Government of Alberta through the Electric Vehicles for Municipalities Program (EVM), administered by the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre to procure an electric zamboni for the Design Works Centre, improving operational efficiency while minimizing the City's carbon footprint.

Summary of Invest Grande Prairie Grants Awarded

Grant Name	Grants Issued	Amount Approved for Award
Training	4	$3,593.75
Marketing	1	$2,500.00
Beautification and Patio	4	$46,508.09
Barrier Free	1	$10,000.00
Municipal Fee Rebate	11	$69,868.84
Residential Infill	1	$15,000.00

*Subject to change based on actuals.

Local Procurement Strategy



A new procurement strategy was implemented that balances local economic development with trade agreement thresholds and requirements, particularly those set by the New West Partnership Trade Agreement (NWPTA) and the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA).

For procurements below trade agreement thresholds, the City actively targets local suppliers within the community. This approach allows for more flexibility in advertising and supplier selection and resulted in 69% of contracts being awarded locally in 2024.

Invest Grande Prairie Engagement & Outreach

Over 2024, InvestGP hosted many networking opportunities and connections with industry leaders, engaging with over 450 representatives to get their insights on working and doing business in Grande Prairie. Highlights include:

Children's Health & Education Mixer: Brought together 60 attendees, leading to plans for a roundtable to explore future collaboration and programming opportunities.

Healthcare Stakeholder Roundtable: Held one roundtable, kicking off efforts to bring together key regional stakeholders to support healthcare retention and recruitment. This will continue on a biannual basis moving forward.

Employer & Industry Monthly Connections: Monthly meetings with key employers alongside the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer to share City updates, discuss advocacy priorities, and support business and workforce recruitment.

Bear Creek Corridor Study

The Bear Creek Corridor Study updated flood maps and conducted slope stability and outfall inspections. A framework was also created to help developers understand any additional studies needed for development within the flood hazard and top-of-bank zones.

This resulted in a clear document for both the City and developers, ensuring safe and sustainable development along the Bear Creek Corridor while minimizing risks of flooding and slope failures.

Water Diversion License

The City of Grande Prairie successfully acquired a long-term water diversion license, marking a significant step toward sustainable water management. This achievement was made possible through collaboration and understanding of Alberta's regulatory frameworks, allowing the City to navigate challenges posed by drought resistance policies and environmental considerations.

The new license will enable the City to sustainably manage water resources for essential services like tree watering, landscaping and reducing reliance on expensive water sources. The shift towards stormwater reuse ensures water availability during droughts. This initiative exemplifies the City's commitment to sustainability and long-term planning and preparedness.

CITY OF GRANDE prairie

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