



Our Beaumont

2021 Report to the Community

 BEAUMONT



Treaty and Land Acknowledgement

Beaumont is located on the traditional territory of Treaty 6 and the homeland of the Métis. We acknowledge all those who share a deep connection with this land. The City of Beaumont respects the histories, languages, and cultures of all of Canada's First Peoples, whether they be of First Nation, Métis, or Inuit descent, and appreciates that their presence continues to enrich Canada's vibrant communities. We are all Treaty people. The Peace Treaties bind us all.

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Mayor Bill Daneluik

Message from the Mayor and Council

On behalf of the members of Council, I am pleased to present you with our 2021 Annual Report.

The past year was marked by major milestones and transitions. Beaumont's population surpassed the 20,000 threshold in the 2021 Statistics Canada census, climbing to a population of 20,888 people and recording a five-year growth rate of 19.7%. We continued to be a community of choice with the fastest growth in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region and third overall in the province. Our community was also ranked the safest in Alberta by Macleans magazine for the second year running.

Beaumont saw several major projects get underway, including the construction of a ball complex and off-leash dog park at the West Recreation Site and a multi-use artificial turf field in Four Seasons Park. Council authorized the purchase of land off Highway 625 to establish the Beaumont Innovation Park as a place for businesses and investors to pursue innovation in fields such as autonomous technology, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, data management, and many other related fields.

In October, residents elected a new Mayor and three new faces at the Council table, providing a good mix of perspectives and experience, combined with enthusiasm and passion for the community. Since then, your Council has been hard at work passing a budget for 2022, bringing new ideas and issues to the forefront, and making sure Beaumont's quality of life is second to none.

This report marks the final year of the 2017-2021 Municipal Strategic Plan established by the previous council. The plan set the direction for our community and was underpinned by six priorities, the strategic pillars for change:

- Livability
- Connecting with Citizens
- Good Governance, Fiscal Responsibility and Efficient Use of Tax Dollars
- Regional Collaboration and Leadership
- Economic Prosperity
- Welcoming Diversity and Celebrating our Cultural Heritage

Your Council is now putting the finishing touches on an updated set of priorities that will guide our decisions and the activity of City Administration for the next four years.

This report is a high level update on the City's progress on 2017-2021 plan and our activities in the past year. I invite you to read this document and evaluate that progress. Looking back on the past year, I feel a great sense of accomplishment and I look forward to even more achievements in the years to come.

A photograph of a sunset over a field of wheat. The sun is a bright yellow circle on the horizon, surrounded by a large, soft orange and yellow glow. The sky transitions from orange to a lighter yellow. In the foreground, a single stalk of wheat is in sharp focus, showing its green base and golden-brown head with long, thin awns. The rest of the field is blurred, creating a sense of depth.

Beaumont's Vision, Values and Principles

"Together, we make life better in Beaumont. We are the community of choice for livability and economic innovation. We have a vibrant arts community, ample recreational opportunities, and a healthy environment. We are culturally diverse and celebrate our Indigenous, agricultural, and French heritage."

-Our vision for the future state of Beaumont in 2044

Our Values

To get a better understanding of what drives strategy and operations in Beaumont, one doesn't need to look further than Council's identified values. Our values are fundamental to everything that we do:



ACCOUNTABILITY:
we accept responsibility
for all of our decisions
and actions.

Mayor Bill Daneluik



EXCELLENCE:
we continuously
strive to exceed
expectations.

Coun. René Tessier



INTEGRITY:
we are honest,
open, and deliver
on our promises.

Coun. Sam Munckhof-Swain



INCLUSIVE
we respect
everyone,
while promoting
social equity and
opportunity.

Coun. Kathy Barnhart



INNOVATIVE:
we encourage new
ideas, processes, and
policies to improve
our quality of life.

Coun. Catherine McCook



COLLABORATIVE:
we create shared value
and develop a healthy,
strong community
with local and regional
stakeholders and
partners.

Coun. Ashley Miller



RESPECT:
we hold citizens
and all those
serving the
community in
high regard.

Coun. Steven vanNieuwkerk

Our Principles

Council developed Our Beaumont with the intent of leading our community to a successful future. To achieve this, Our Beaumont is very much dependent on our operational environment; how we are organized, administrative management practices, communications, and service delivery. The following principles underpin how Council and Administration help ensure Beaumont residents continue to enjoy a high quality of life:

- ADAPTABILITY:** We embrace innovation and versatility, while addressing the changing needs of our community and region.
- ENGAGEMENT & INCLUSION:** We invite everyone in the community to participate in the development of our plans, policies, and programs.
- EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE DELIVERY:** In our day-to-day operations, we own the requirement to provide exceptional customer service to our community.
- FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY:** Spending decisions are made with the utmost respect for the taxpayers' dollars and the fiscal sustainability of Beaumont.
- INTEGRATION:** We have a holistic view in our strategies, planning, and service delivery, with consideration given to intermunicipal, interdepartmental, and environmental relationships; how they can impact, support, and drive each other for our community's benefit.
- LIVEABILITY:** We plan and implement programs to continuously improve the quality of life for our citizens. This includes the consideration of social, environmental, economic, and cultural factors.
- REGIONAL COLLABORATION:** We are committed to working together with our immediate neighbours and as a region.

STRATEGIC PILLARS FOR CHANGE



Livability

Our citizens desire a great quality of life. Council will support the development of policies and programs to promote the economic, physical, environmental, cultural, and social well-being of Beaumont's citizens.

Recreation

Make sure recreation and cultural facilities infrastructure are available to all citizens.

Maintain a Safe Community

The community is safe and secure for citizens, visitors, and businesses.

Create Great Public Spaces

Natural public spaces are available throughout Beaumont, contributing to regional livability, and providing opportunities for citizens to connect with and enjoy nature and play.

Reliable Roads

Strategic investment in Beaumont's road network ensures an efficient and effective transportation system.

Increase Transportation Capacity

Citizens have transportation and transit options that are clean, safe, reliable, convenient, and regionally connected.

Build Connected Communities

Citizens of all ages benefit from an accessible community with a range of housing and support services options.

2021 Highlights

Ranked Alberta's safest community for the second year running in Macleans magazine's annual comparison of communities.

Adopted an Affordable Housing Strategy that guides the implementation and monitoring of affordable housing and helps ensure people from all walks of life are welcome in Beaumont. The City was also selected for \$75,000 in funding by the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation to develop a framework to identify potential locations for affordable housing.

Marked the one-year anniversary as the first Western Canadian chapter of the Action for Happiness initiative, a movement that builds happier, more caring, and resilient communities. In 2021, each monthly support group was attended by approximately 30 people. Regularly scheduled webinars averaged 500 participants total each month.

Completed renovations at the Ken Nichol Regional Recreation Centre to upgrade aging infrastructure, including ice plant replacement, lobby repainting, washroom renovations, and an upgrade of the building management system. The renovations extend the life of the facility and reduce operating costs with more efficient equipment.

Approved *Our Environmental Management, Environmental Master Plan*, to ensure Beaumont continues to be a safe, clean, and healthy community.

Reached significant completion of a multi-use artificial turf field in Four Seasons Park, along with five ball diamonds and a 12-acre off-leash dog park at the West Recreation site to improve recreation opportunities for residents.

Collected donations totaling 1,264 kilograms of food and more than \$4,000 during the Annual Stuff a Cruiser event for charity held by RCMP and Community Peace Officers from Beaumont and Leduc County.

Completed intakes for residents supported by the Beaumont-Nisku Christmas Elves program that provide Christmas hampers to lower income families and individuals in need. In 2021, there were 90 hampers delivered in Beaumont, serving approximately 360 people.

Responded to 400 emergency incidents, including 24 fires, 229 medical calls, 13 motor vehicle accidents, 110 fire alarm calls, 24 rescue calls, and six mutual aid calls in neighbouring communities.

Replaced water lines and service connections to more than 30 homes in the St. Vital neighbourhood, ensuring the residents have modern and reliable water infrastructure.

Started work on the Urban Forestry Management Strategy to set objectives and actions for the sustainable management and protection of the City's trees. Work on the strategy will continue in 2022.

Maintained nearly 110 kilometres of road and 40 kilometres of trail in Beaumont to ensure safe roadways and accessibility for residents.

Ordered a replacement for Beaumont Fire Services' 20 year-old aerial apparatus to ensure the City can continue to respond to fire emergencies in a growing community with different types of buildings.



STRATEGIC PILLARS FOR CHANGE



Connecting with Citizens

Input from citizens is crucial for creating great policies, designing new programs, and building new infrastructure. Beaumont is committed to regularly engaging with the community.

Connect with our Citizens

Community interests are recognized and Beaumont responds with information that connects us with citizens and stakeholders.

Empower Citizens

Capacity to communicate with citizens is increased in meaningful ways to boost participation in local government and the public process.

Build Community with Technology

Embrace technology to reach different demographics in the community.

2021 Highlights

Increased the number of residents and businesses using automatic payment and paperless billing services.

| Program | 2020 | 2021 | % Increase |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|
| Tax instalment plan (TIPS) | 2,719 | 2,777 | 2% |
| Utility e-billing | 1,460 | 1,904 | 30% |
| Utility pre-authorized payments | 1,440 | 1,549 | 8% |

Launched the Beaumont Projects Dashboard online for residents to view the status of capital projects approved by Council, improving the quality and accessibility of information for residents.

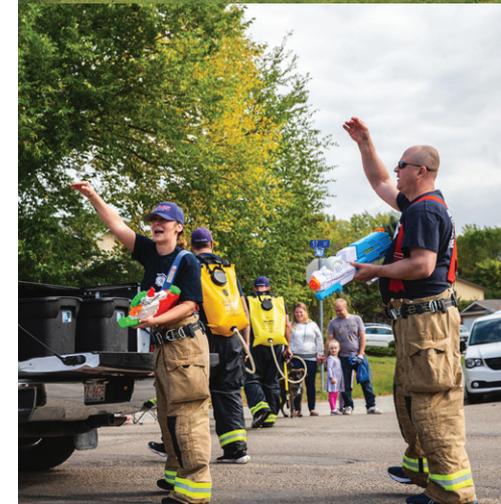
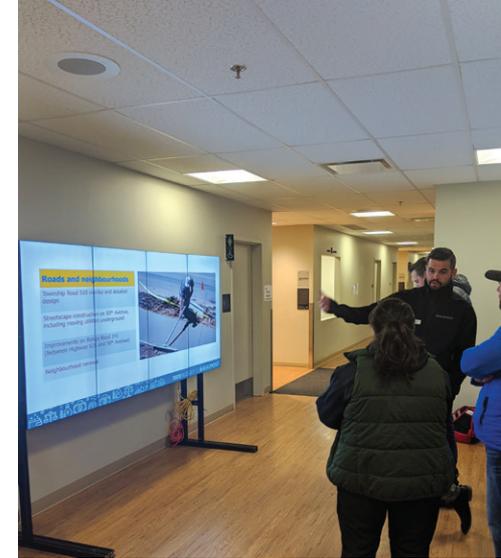
Held more than 20 public engagement opportunities, providing residents with a way to have their say on topics including affordable housing, a winter city strategy, playground renewal, and the City’s budget.

Responded to more than 3,100 requests from citizens on topics ranging from potholes and graffiti, to weeds in city parks and animal concerns, a 30 per cent increase from 2020.

Adopted an Age-Friendly Strategy following extensive engagement with residents and community stakeholders to address demographic trends and ensure Beaumont remains a desirable community with a high quality of life for residents of all ages.

Grew the City’s Facebook following by 16% to 5,807 people, enhancing the ability to communicate timely information to residents.

In response to public feedback, prioritized the registration of local residents for the City’s recreation programs. Beaumont residents can register two days before non-residents.



STRATEGIC PILLARS FOR CHANGE



Good Governance, Fiscal Responsibility, and Efficient Use of Tax Dollars

Beaumont's Council is committed to good governance. They know that the role of being an Elected Official and member of Council requires leadership, fiduciary duty, effective oversight, transparency, and independent authority. Council also recognizes that quality services, delivered cost-effectively, are critical to the well-being of our Municipality. In practicing good governance, Council will ensure municipal services, facilities and programs are financially sustainable.

Good Governance

Council's actions, new policies and decisions follow and implement good governance principles.

Skilled Administration

Beaumont attracts and retains highly skilled staff focused on action and results as they deliver municipal programs and services.

Smart Land Use

Orderly and beneficial use of land maintains and improves quality of life in the community and maximizes benefits for citizens, stakeholders and businesses.

Efficiency

New tools and/or processes are adopted on an ongoing basis to increase efficiency, effectiveness, and consistency of delivery of program and services.

2021 Highlights

Approved the 2021 budget with no tax increase and managed the City's finances to within 0.3 per cent of the total 2021 municipal operating budget for a surplus of \$183,000.

Continued integrating technology applications to improve management and oversight of day-to-day operational processes and provide supervisors with real-time data for:

- Garbage pick-up in public areas
- Turf maintenance
- Winterization and flushing of hydrants
- COVID-19 screening for operators and contractors entering city facilities

Planned and successfully delivered the 2021 municipal and school board elections despite challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, providing residents with the opportunity to participate in the democratic process.

Approved an updated tax policy with guidelines and objectives for the administration of Beaumont's municipal taxation to help ensure costs for services and infrastructure are equitably distributed.

Implemented an updated harassment and violence prevention program to promote a safe and healthy workplace, provide employees a clear understanding of their rights and responsibilities, and ensure the organization is compliant with legislation.

Approved an updated purchasing policy to ensure procurement activities by the City achieve

the best value; create positive economic, social and environmental impacts; and follow open, fair and transparent processes.

Approved an updated utility fiscal policy to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the City's utilities, and establish a consistent approach for the financial planning, budgeting, and rate setting for utilities.

Approved an investment policy that guides the prudent investment of public funds for optimum returns and maximum security while meeting the City's cash flow requirements and complying with provincial government legislation.

Implemented new employee payroll, time, and attendance software to save time across the organization with administrative efficiencies including reducing manual work and eliminating paper-based processes.

Successfully achieved a workplace safety Certificate of Recognition, signifying the organization meets provincial standards and commitments to the health and safety of employees and the organization. Certification also provides eligibility for reduced premiums from the Workers' Compensation Board.

Developed a governance manual for Council, providing clear guidance and standards for a range of topics, including Councillor responsibilities, working with Administration, communication, and policy and strategy development.



STRATEGIC PILLARS FOR CHANGE



Regional Collaboration and Leadership

Beaumont's commitment to intermunicipal and regional collaboration is strong. We believe there are many opportunities for economic, social, and environmental collaboration. Working together, municipalities in the region can achieve seamless boundaries through shared services, efficient infrastructure, and co-operative planning. Beaumont will actively promote our goals, needs, priorities, and values while supporting regional initiatives designed to support sustainable growth in the region.

Connecting our Community

Beaumont enjoys strong intergovernmental relations and collaborates with neighbouring communities in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region and actively pursues the principles and policies of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan.

Partnerships

Municipal resources are optimized by ensuring effective and efficient service delivery through regional partnerships.

Contributing to our Region

Beaumont contributes to a strong Edmonton Metropolitan Region by actively contributing our skills, expertise, and input on regional initiatives.

2021 Highlights

Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Edmonton Metropolitan Region municipalities to work in partnership on economic development. Municipalities agree to collaborate on business growth and investment attraction by sharing resources and knowledge, and sharing in financial benefits.

Joined the Alberta Capital Airshed, a network of communities in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region, to provide air monitoring information for residents.

Joined the Discover Leduc Region tourism campaign to promote Beaumont and its neighbours as a regional destination for food, recreation, retail, and other tourism opportunities.

Partnered with regional municipalities for a Canada Day celebration, including online family activities and entertainment. The event was held virtually due to COVID-19 health measures.

Continued to participate in a range of task forces, committees, and commissions to drive regional collaboration and strategic initiatives in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region related to agricultural policy, economic development and investment, transportation, and other core services.



STRATEGIC PILLARS FOR CHANGE



Economic Prosperity

Resilient communities have growing local economies with strong regional, national, and international connections. They provide citizens with meaningful, year-round work, provide resources to pay for municipal services, and help attract and retain citizens. Beaumont's Council will encourage and promote sustainable business development to help grow our local economy.

Meeting Needs Locally

Essential community and commercial services that meet the needs of citizens, visitors, and businesses are proactively attracted and supported.

Attract Innovation

Livability, arts, and localized culture are strengthened to attract talent and new innovative businesses.

Build Economic Pathways

Working with regional partners such as Edmonton Global, new and beneficial relationships are made that attract new business to Beaumont.

Build and Maintain Infrastructure

A local network of services and opportunities are available for new and existing local businesses to thrive.

2021 Highlights

Continued to attract and welcome new businesses to the community, broadening the City’s tax base and increasing services and amenities available for residents.

| Active Businesses (2019 to 2021) | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Year | Home-Based Business | Commercial Store Front | Non-Resident | Other | Total |
| 2019 | 265 | 154 | 76 | 59 | 554 |
| 2020 | 322 | 184 | 78 | 47 | 631 |
| 2021 | 347 | 210 | 96 | 120 | 773 |

Assembled 160 acres of developable land on Highway 625 to establish the Beaumont Innovation Park. As development proceeds, the park will be a place for businesses and investors to pursue innovation in fields such as autonomous technology, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, data management, and many other related fields.

Issued a Request for Proposals and selected a proponent to finance, build, and operate a network providing high speed broadband internet access to all homes and businesses in Beaumont. The project will position Beaumont as a hub for tech innovation and knowledge-based industry, and provide residents with broadband speed unrivalled in the region.

Completed the upgrade of RR241 from gravel to paved road, improving access in east Beaumont and preparing the area for development.

Established a grant program for local businesses to access qualified accountant or bookkeeping services needed to apply for provincial and federal COVID-19 assistance programs. Unused funds were then reallocated to support local businesses with expanding their digital marketing opportunities.

Completed work to relocate utility lines along downtown 50th Avenue to prepare for streetscape improvements and encourage revitalization and business growth.



STRATEGIC PILLARS FOR CHANGE



Welcoming Diversity and Celebrating our Cultural Heritage

Every year Beaumont welcomes new citizens from all over the world. Beaumont's Council takes pride in the cultural diversity that this brings to our community, while celebrating the community's Indigenous, French and Agricultural heritage.

Embrace our Heritage

Beaumont's distinct Indigenous, French, and Agricultural history preserved through sense of place and the unique character of our community.

Celebrate our Diversity

Beaumont's new cultural diversity and historical past celebrated through events, inclusive services, and the arts.

2021 Highlights

Installed public art at the Beaumont Sport and Recreation Centre as part of the City's Development and Practise of Artistic and Cultural Expression Policy.

Celebrated Beaumont's French heritage during Francophonie Month with a video developed in collaboration with local students.

Hosted more than 5,000 people for the annual Town and Country Daze event from September 10 to 12, to celebrate the community and provide entertainment and recreation for residents.

Re-established the Beaumont Youth Council to advocate for positive youth development, recognize and enable the contributions of youth to the community, and gather input on issues and trends affecting youth in Beaumont.

Introduced universal washrooms at the Chantal Bérubé Youth Centre for a more inclusive environment. Despite the pandemic, the centre's membership increased as staff adapted to obstacles such as health restrictions.

Hosted the RCMP tipi with Elder Roy Louise during Town and Country Daze, recognizing cultural diversity and promoting inclusion in the community.

Established a steering committee to review a draft study for a performing arts centre, gather information, and make recommendations for the site, size, design, and operational models to Council.

Recognized Vaisaikhi, a Hindu and Sikh holiday, for the first time in Beaumont with an official proclamation and ceremony at City Hall in recognition of the community's South Asian residents.





 **BEAUMONT**

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