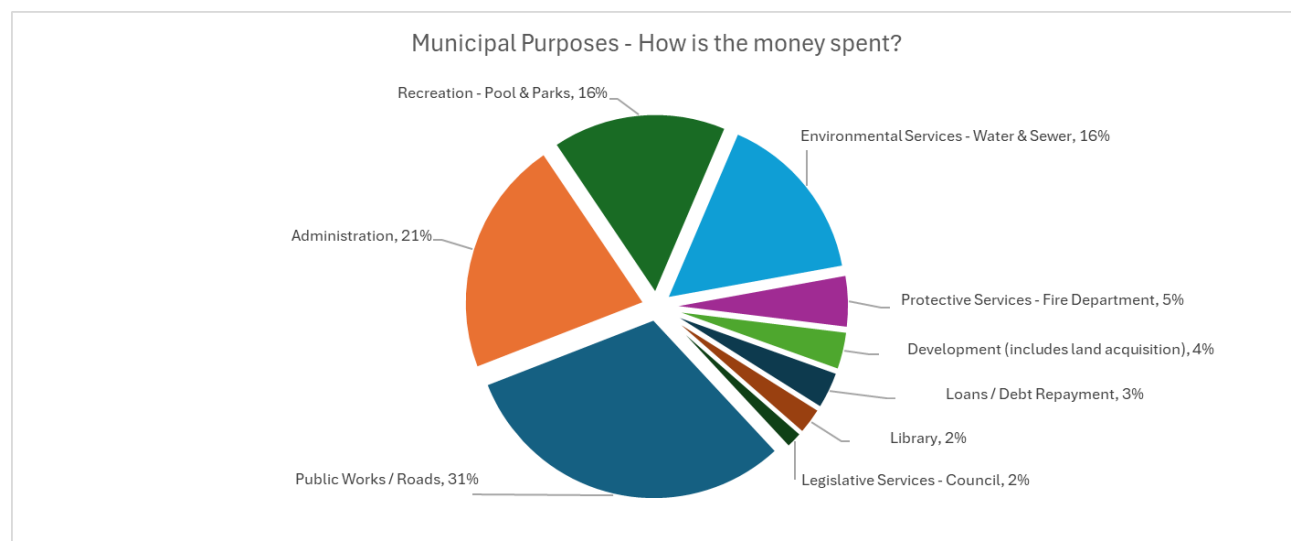
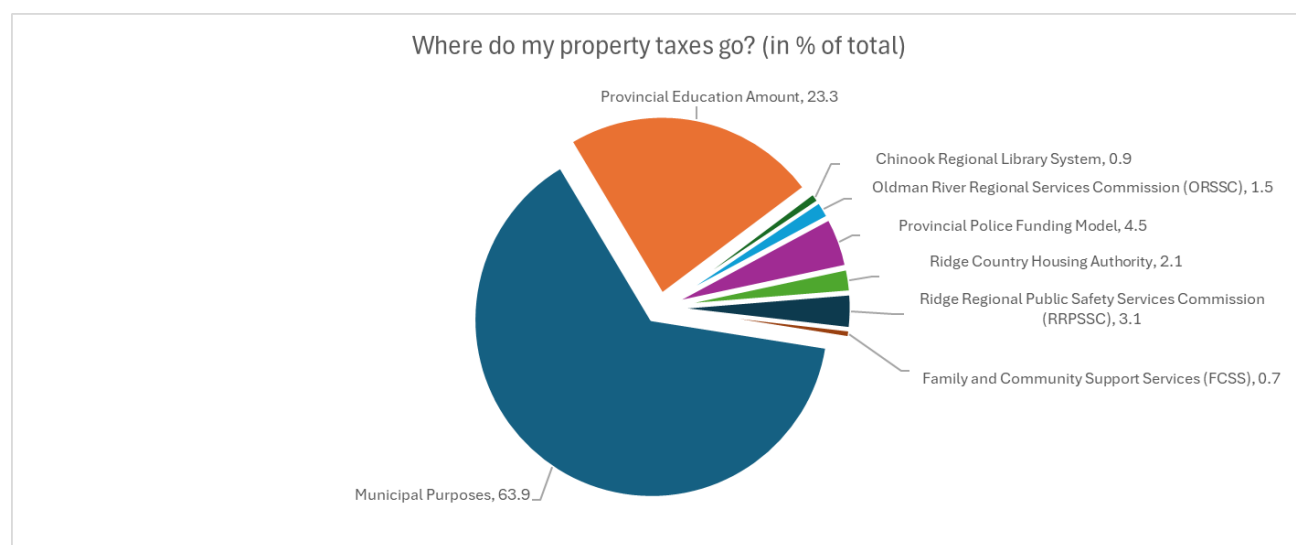


Residents would have received tax assessment notices earlier in the month. While the Village did not increase property tax rates, it is important to remember that the Government of Alberta is seeking to shift more of the education ministry's budget from general revenues to what is derived from the education portion of your property taxes. Consequently, there was a significant increase of +17% in the requisition the Village is required to collect from residents on behalf of and remit to the province. Similar increases are expected from the province again next year. (See the chart below.) You can learn more about education property taxes here: <https://www.alberta.ca/education-property-tax>

The charts below help to explain how your property taxes are spent. The "administration" category includes expenses like the Village's liability and property insurance which is a \$70,000 expense by itself.



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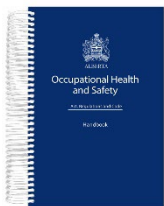


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Council heard from a delegation regarding physician recruitment to explore opportunities to bring medical services to the Stirling Professional Centre in collaboration with a Taber based clinic. The opportunity to attract a physician along with services like massage, physio and other therapies would significantly enhance convenience for Village residents to access medical care. Council looks forward to learning more and determining how we might be able to support the further development of medical services in our community.



A bylaw was passed this month to set the stage for broadcasting of Council proceedings on YouTube as well as allowing for increased electronic participation in Council meetings and public hearings. The bylaw was prompted by changes in provincial legislation requiring municipalities to allow public attendance and participation at public hearings by virtual technologies. Look for more details in the coming months.



The Village team conducted a review of our health and safety program with an inspector from Alberta Occupational Health & Safety this month. These proactive discussions ensure that the Village's policies, procedures and training are aligned with provincial legislation.

Council received the annual report from our municipally controlled corporation, Ridge Utilities, in May. Ridge Utilities continue to gain market share with new accounts across the province. Ridge is designed to reinvest profits back into community projects across our region including scholarships and sponsorships of teams and events. You can learn more here:

<https://www.ridgeutilities.net/communityreinvestmentprojects.html>

A hearty congratulations to the graduates of the Stirling School Class of 2025!



Trevor Lewington

***"I've always believed in local government."*** - Chuck Fleischmann

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