



RM OF EDENWOLD NO. 158

2023

ANNUAL REPORT





RM of

EDENWOLD

158

The RM of Edenwold is situated on Treaty 4 lands. These are the territories of the nēhiyawak, Anihšīnāpēk, Dakota, Lakota, and Nakoda, and the homeland of the Métis/Michif Nation. Today, these lands continue to be the shared Territory of many diverse peoples from near and far.

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This Annual Report was produced by the Planning and Development Department, the Engineering and Public Works Department, and the Administration Department of the RM of Edenwold No. 158.



Al Trainor signing the Oath of Office, as witnessed by CAO Karen Zaharia.

Al Trainor, *Reeve*

In 2023, I transitioned from my role as a Councilor to become the Reeve for the RM of Edenwold. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to former Reeve Mitchell Huber for his exceptional community service spanning two decades. During his tenure, Huber played a central role in advancing the unique features of both the rural and urban areas.

The RM of Edenwold is a wonderful place to live, work, and play, and I am proud of our diverse agricultural sector, commercial/industrial areas, and growing residential communities. I am thrilled to share the amazing results we achieved for our community in 2023.

Council and RM staff have vowed to work hard to improve the way we communicate with you. This includes launching a mass notification system and offering regular updates from your council to be more transparent.

Transparency is important to us and so is your feedback. That's why we have an open-door policy and a dedicated staff who organize open houses and information sessions.

We value our cooperation with other municipalities on projects like wastewater planning and road safety improvements that will benefit our communities. We are always here to listen to you and address your concerns.

On behalf of your Council, I am happy to present this annual report that shows our achievements and celebrates another successful year as a vibrant community for all.

Al Trainor



Reeve Mitchell Huber resigned from Council on June 13, 2023.

"It has been a privilege to be part of the council for 22 years and I'm proud of a lot of the projects and accomplishments that have been achieved. I wish nothing but the best for the RM today and into the future."

Former Reeve Mitchell Huber

Karen Zaharia, CAO & Administrator

The RM of Edenwold had a remarkable year in 2023, thanks to hard work, due diligence, and a solid strategic plan that includes improving internal communications and collaborations between departments.

We welcomed two new councillors, a new Reeve, and some new staff to a strong team who are dedicated to effective leadership and good governance.

The RM of Edenwold is committed to providing high-quality services year-round with a dedicated front-line team. This team ensures we are efficient and can serve our residents and visitors every day of the year.

Behind the scenes, we began the process of creating Administration Standard Operating Procedures, worked on succession planning and cross-function training, and continued ongoing IT and process improvements.

We are pleased to present this annual report of 'your municipality' for 2023. You will see that we are in a great fiscal position and have a bright future ahead of us. We always work hard to ensure the municipality meets the needs of your community with a committed leadership team that makes smart and strong decisions.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Zaharia". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.



12 BRIDGES

58 KMS PAVED ROADS

475 KMS GRAVEL ROADS

145 KMS DIRT ROADS

SNOW CLEARING HRS

511 URBAN **2132** RURAL

8.8 KMS OF PAVED PATHWAYS

17,000 YARDS OF GRAVEL PLACED ON MUNICIPAL ROADS

317,592 M³ OF WATER TREATED

BY THE NUMBERS...

Population **4,422**

40 Average age

Population Increase (10yr) **7.2%**

848.84 Km² Area of the RM

Single-family dwellings **1,592**

1,563 ACRES OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESERVE / CONSERVATION

30,761 ACRES OF FIRST NATION RESERVE LAND

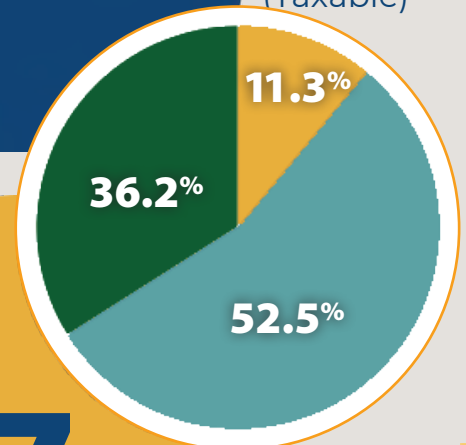
ACRES OF FARMLAND: 193,920 ACRES

92%

10

FIRST NATION/METIS & URBAN COMMUNITIES WITHIN RM BOUNDARIES

PROPERTY CLASS RATIO
(Taxable)



RANK AMONGST OTHER RM'S

#1 Population density at 5.3 people per km²

#2 Most populous

#113 Geographical size

DEVELOPMENT

92 BUILDING PERMITS

143 DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

\$21.8 Million

VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION

19 # OF NEW LOTS CREATED

110 BUSINESS LICENSES ISSUED

7 PARKS

5 PLAY GROUNDS

22

RECREATION AMENITIES

AGRICULTURE
RESIDENTIAL
COMMERCIAL

TOTAL ASSESSMENT

\$1,849,209,500

24

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

2

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

23

PUBLIC HEARINGS



Footnote: Population data provided by the 2021 Canadian Census.

COUNCIL 2023



Reeve
Alan Trainor



Councillor, Division 1
Carmen Leibel



Councillor, Division 2
Stan Capnerhurst



Councillor, Division 3
Nichole Posehn



Councillor, Division 4
Karen Kotylak



Councillor, Division 5
Dwayne Radmacher



Councillor, Division 6
Tim Brodt



Councillor, Division 7
Rod L. Tuchscherer





rm of edenwold



it's where we work



it's where we play



STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2026

RM of Edenwold Strategic Plan 2021-2026:

Our five-year Strategic Plan establishes our path forward as we continue to grow and provide great service to the residential and business communities of the RM. This plan is a guiding document that helps Council and Administration set priorities, develop appropriate budgets, and implement strategic initiatives that support our intended vision and mission.

OUR VISION

The RM of Edenwold is a diverse, complete, and connected regional municipality focused on continual growth with a thriving and sustainable way of life. We are bridging pathways for a prosperous and harmonious future

OUR MISSION

We are a modern, and responsive municipality that provides a high quality of life for our community. We take pride in providing service excellence at every level, offering a balance and diversity of services to meet the needs of today and into the future

OUR VALUES



SAFE, STRONG CARING COMMUNITY

Our history is rooted in connecting with our neighbours and offering a helping hand - it's our Saskatchewan way



CITIZEN FOCUSED

A strong community is fostered through respectful engagement and communication with residents and business owners, and is grounded in dependable government



TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE

Our governance is founded on openness, fairness, and integrity



WORKING TOGETHER

We work collaboratively as a team and with our regional partners to reach our future vision together



MUNICIPAL LEADERS

We are a modern and resilient municipality that seeks innovative and progressive ideas to secure a better tomorrow for all

THE STRATEGIC PLAN IDENTIFIES FOUR (4) PRIORITY THEMES:

- #1: Collaborative Community-Builder & Regional Partner
- #2: Economic Diversity & Prosperity
- #3: Livable Community
- #4: Municipal Leadership



COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY-BUILDER AND REGIONAL PARTNER

OUTCOME: The RM of Edenwold is a regional leader. Working together, the RM partners on strategic ventures for shared investment and benefit so our communities can thrive. The RM's strong and effective working relationships with urban and rural centres, neighbouring municipalities, and First Nations and Metis Nations support key regional priorities.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS:



Ensuring fire protection for residents and businesses, the RM renewed fire service and mutual aid agreements with neighboring municipalities, securing coverage until 2027.



In times of emergency affecting water systems, an agreement was made between the RM and the Town of Pilot Butte to allow either municipality to access potable water from the other through a piped connection.



Promoting road safety, Community Safety Officers conducted school tours during Canada Road Safety Week.



Providing support for community facilities, the RM offered recreation grants to facilities like Communiskate and contributed financially to the Town of Balgonie's new aquatic center.



Collaborating with the WCRM158 Wastewater Management Authority, the RM completed Phase 1B of construction to increase wastewater capacity, with Phase 2 underway to accommodate a growing population.



At the 2023 SARM Midterm Convention, the RM of Edenwold passed resolutions aimed at enhancing local governance and addressing wildlife management issues, advocating for amendments to election regulations, and reinstating the Saskatchewan Coyote Control Program.



To ensure continuous services for ratepayers, the RM collaborated with the Village of Edenwold on Public Works redundancy in case of labor shortages.



ECONOMIC DIVERSITY & PROSPERITY

OUTCOME: The RM of Edenwold is a thriving and economically diverse business, agriculture, commercial, and industrial hub that drives regional prosperity and resiliency. The RM's effective economic and development practices are reflected in the successful relationships it nurtures with its people, organizations, and business community

2023 HIGHLIGHTS:



Responding to feedback from businesses, the RM streamlined the Business License process and eliminated unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles.

"The major improvement of the new Business License bylaw was adding more clarity and efficiency to the process. For example, business licenses no longer have an expiration date and do not require annual renewal."

Paige Boha, Manager of Planning & Development



Supporting continued growth in the RM, the RM issued 143 Development Permits and 92 Building Permits, totaling \$21.8 million in construction value, and 110 business licences.



Supporting the local community's recreational offerings, the RM provided tax abatements to recreational businesses like golf courses and skating rinks, such as Aspen Links, Green Acres, and Communiskate.



To encourage commercial and industrial investment development and construction and support applicants building multi-unit or multi-parcel developments, the RM continued the Commercial, Industrial, Multi-Unit, And Multi-Parcel Tax Exemption, offering up to 100% municipal tax reduction for 3 years, or 5 years for multi-parcel developments.



To encourage residential development within specific urban areas, the RM renewed the Infill Residential Tax Exemption Program offering reduced municipal taxes by 100% for 3 years, with the first year of the exemption beginning after the final inspection.



Prioritizing the benefits to ratepayers, the RM of Edenwold actively collaborated with the White City Emerald Park Business Association, aiming to enhance the area's economic and social well-being, ultimately improving the local community for residents.



The RM continued the Green Fund program offering up to \$2000 for landscaping improvements to commercial and industrial business, to help beautify the area.



The Annual Household Hazardous Waste Day was another success, with residents properly discarding their hazardous household waste in joint event with the Town of White City. The RM collected household hazardous waste, which can now be disposed of in an environmentally-safe manner.



The Edenwold Drainage Improvement Project involved an engineering assessment and preliminary design solutions for three flood-prone sites.



We initiated an Asset Management System – incorporation of bridges, water system and sewer system. Phase 2 to include road networks and lifetime asset management modeling.



BY THE NUMBERS - 2023

OVER THE LAST YEAR:
ADDED **17,000** YDS OF GRAVEL TO RURAL ROADS
WATER USAGE INCREASED **7.8%**
14.7% INCREASE IN FUEL COSTS

LIVABLE COMMUNITY

OUTCOME: The RM of Edenwold is a complete and vibrant community with a full range of services to meet the municipality's needs and beyond. We have a range of housing and lifestyle options, employment, recreation, and leisure opportunities that make our community a highly desirable place to live

2023 HIGHLIGHTS:



Recognizing that ratepayers have different preferences for interacting with the RM, we increased social media presence with updates on RM programs and initiatives. Facebook as the preferred medium, saw the RM's audience base increased by 25% in 2023, reaching nearly 3000 followers. Posts are also shared on Twitter (up 9%) and Instagram (up 17%), offering residents easy access to valuable information through engaging visuals.



The RM sought ratepayer feedback through the Community Satisfaction Survey in May 2023 to gather feedback from residents about the state of the RM services and governance. Survey results showed that 84% of respondents rated the RM's customer service as good to excellent, and 89% rated the quality of life in the RM as good to excellent. 56% preferred to use email to communicate with the RM.



Enhancements for ratepayers's safety and security were made to the RM's Community Safety Officer (CSO) program which included hiring a supervisor and CSOs completing animal behavior training and collaborating with law enforcement agencies to address bylaw complaints to ensure public safety.



Lighting improvements were made to enhance safety and visibility through street lights along Great Plains Road (installed by Regina Bypass and Ministry of Highways).



A total of 81 LED pathway lights were replaced with new solar panels and lights along the pipeline right of way. Additionally, 12 new LED pathway lights were installed in Kuzmicz Park.



The RM added a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) to the Water Treatment Plant to assist in ensuring efficient and reliable water supply management.



To assess alternative and environmentally beneficial dust control techniques, the RM undertook a pilot project using Recycled Asphalt Shingles (RAS) for dust control with the plan to continue testing in higher traffic areas in 2024.



The RM undertook engineering design for improved road safety and durability for the Balgonie Grid, anticipated to be implemented in 2024.



To ensure smoother and safer roads, the RM conducted engineering design work for the South Service Road Pavement Upgrade and the Grid 2185 Pavement Reconstruction.




The RM supported the Community Garage Sale Weekend, not only allowing ratepayers the opportunity to declutter, but also providing an economic opportunity for residents and local businesses.





MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP


OUTCOME: The RM of Edenwold is leading in good governance. Our people are highly trained experts, empowered to make decisions and deliver exceptional service. Our government and services are an intelligent model of adaptiveness, transparency, and accountability while being cost-effective. The RM of Edenwold is a great place to work, and we celebrate our people.


2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

 To increase the timeliness and transparency of RM business as well as providing critical alerts, the RM launched Voyent Alert!, a mass notification system in late 2023, ensuring ratepayers can stay informed and up-to-date.


 To improve information sharing, decision-making, efficiency, collaboration and accountability in serving ratepayers, RM councillors and RM staff established structured committees on key areas.


 Enhancements were made to the Occupational Health & Safety (OH & S) to ensure a safe work environment for RM employees.

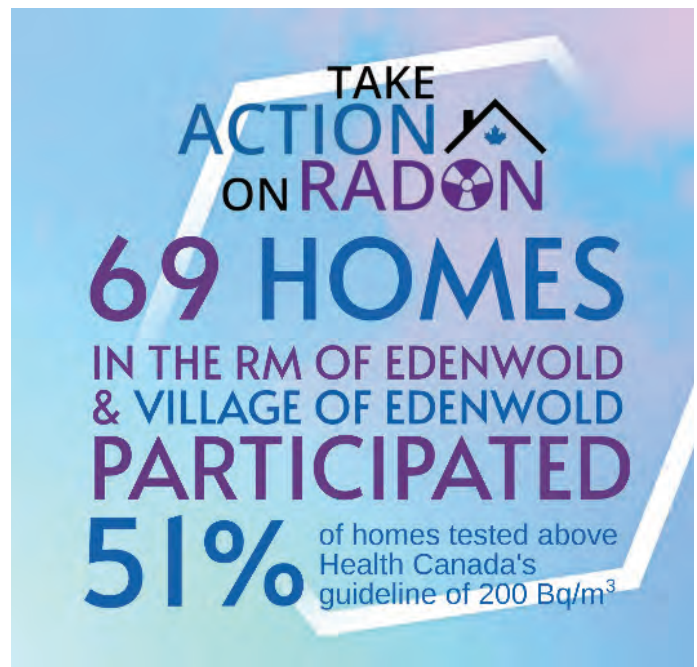
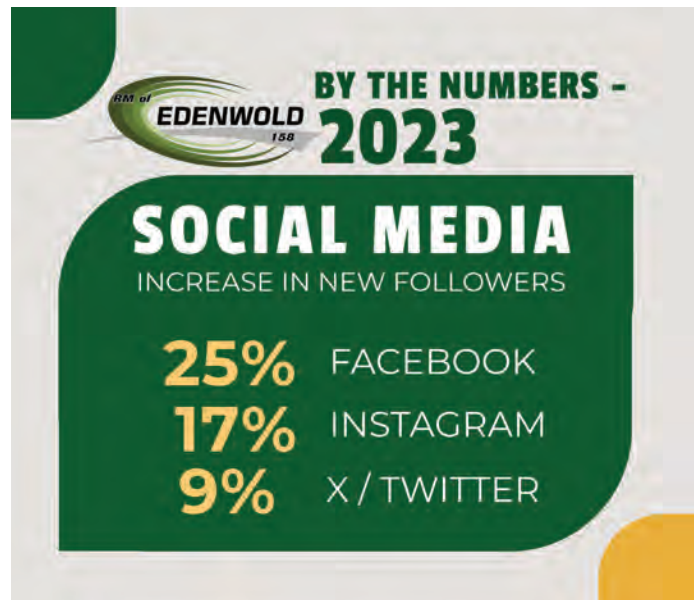
 To improve customer service to ratepayers, RM staff participated in a regional Conflict Resolution Workshop, fostering better communication and problem-solving skills.

 To ensure long-term reliability and cost-efficiency of RM assets, the RM initiated an Asset Management System for effective management of critical infrastructure like bridges, water systems, and sewer systems.

 Following the resignation of the former Reeve Mitch Huber, the RM underwent a change of municipal leadership. Councillor Al Trainor became the Reeve, and two new Councillors - Nichole Posehn and Carmen Leibel joined Council to support effective governance and representation within the municipality.

 The RM continued its commitment to responsive and efficient service delivery, with 334 ratepayer service requests submitted into the RM's Service Tracker, with RM staff closing almost all of them in a timely manner.

 The RM streamlined the bylaw court process and updated bylaws, thereby increasing convictions, ensuring compliance with regulations, and enhancing community safety and order.



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING EVENT

The RM of Edenwold was thrilled to host a Christmas Tree Lighting and Fireworks event that brought the area communities together to celebrate the start of the 2023 holiday season.

The event took place at the RM office on December 7th and hundreds of people showed up to roast marshmallows, meet Santa Claus, and take in a spectacular fireworks display across the RM winter skies beyond the Emerald Park Fire Hall.



"This was a great event and display of community spirit in the RM of Edenwold. The event was a fantastic way to spend some time together and start the holiday season with a bang!"

Reeve Al Trainor



FIRED UP! CLASSIC CAR SHOW EVENT

To celebrate the first anniversary of the opening of the Emerald Park Fire Hall, the RM of Edenwold sponsored the Fired Up! Classic Car Show.

With support from the Pilot Butte 46ers, 50 cars were on display between the RM office and the Emerald Park Fire Hall. Kids enjoyed the bouncy castle, free face painting, and tours of the fire hall.



FIRED UP! CLASSIC CAR SHOW

A FREE FAMILY EVENT AT THE
EMERALD PARK FIRE HALL



RM'S INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The RM of Edenwold is unique as the municipality either borders or directly encapsulates a very significant amount of First Nation reserve land. The RM has six First Nations with lands within or directly adjacent to the RM. This includes Cowessess, Standing Buffalo, Muscowpetung, Piapot, Ochapowace, and Zagime Anishinabek (Sakimay) First Nations.

Together with Seedstone Strategies, Council and RM staff conducted a four-stage process from September to December 2023 that included the development of an approach framework, a pre-engagement consultation strategy, and the delivery of a formal Leadership and Management Engagement Forum on November 30th, 2023 at the Treaty 4 Governance Centre in Fort Qu'Appelle.

Building relationships with the Indigenous community will take time and will be achieved only as a result of building trust through sustained outreach and a genuine commitment to partnership. This is the underlying premise of the Spirit of Reconciliation.



(l-r) Paige Boha (Manager of Planning & Development), Clark Gates (Manager of Engineering & Public Works), Reeve Al Trainor & CAO Karen Zaharia

PARKS AND RECREATION HIGHLIGHTS

Supporting recreational opportunities for ratepayers, the RM and Communiskate sponsored over twenty free skating days. The RM resurfaced and improved the tennis/pickleball courts by resurfacing, new nets, posts, acrylic playing surfaces, and windscreens.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

2023 SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Source: RM of Edenwold Statement of Financial Position for the year ended December 31, 2023 (unaudited)

Financial Assets
(What We Own)

\$21,434,209



- Cash and Temporary Investments \$19,418,082
- Taxes Receivable – Municipal \$736,826
- Other Accounts Receivable \$1,100,473
- Long-term Investments \$178,828

-

Liabilities
(What We Owe)

\$10,530,134



- Accounts Payable \$320,304
- Accrued Liabilities Payable \$36,605
- Deferred Revenue \$55,061
- Other Liabilities \$1,264,151
- Long-term Debt \$8,854,012

=

Net Financial Assets

\$10,904,075



+

Non-Financial Assets

\$50,759,688



- Tangible Capital Assets \$47,788,261
- Assets Under Construction \$805,106
- Prepayments and Deferred Charges \$36,260
- Stock and Supplies \$2,130,061

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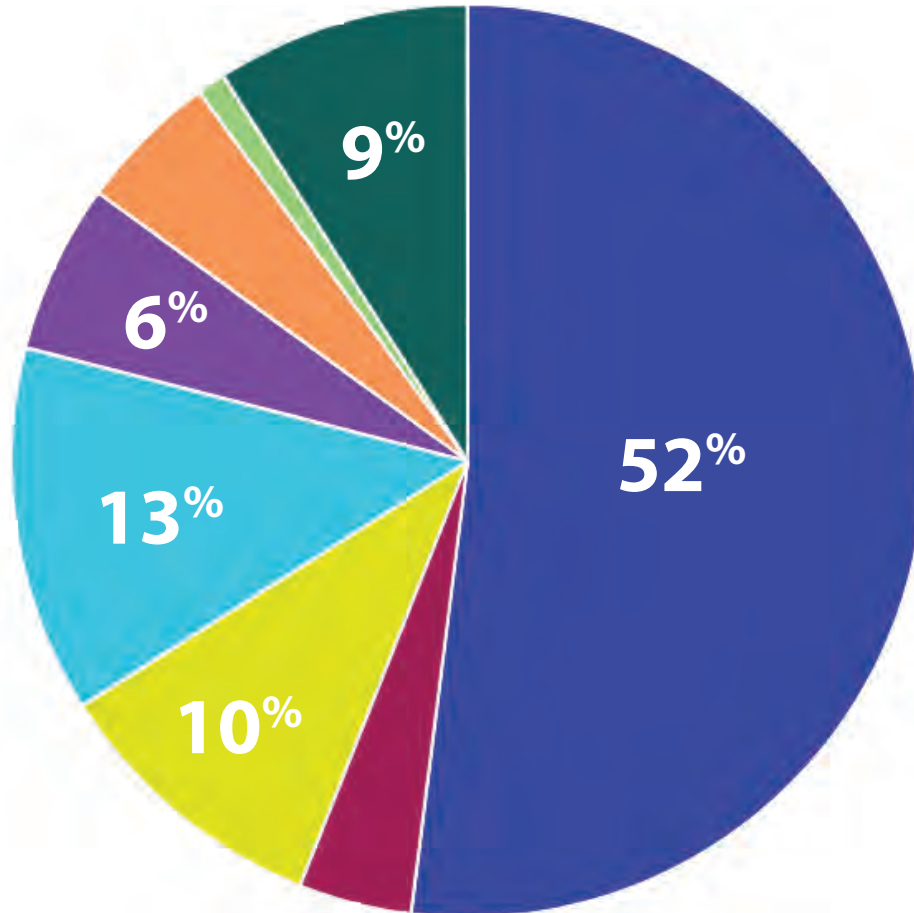
Accumulated Surplus

\$61,663,763



WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM: 2023 GROSS REVENUE

Source: RM of Edenwold Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended December 31, 2023 (unaudited)



Taxation	\$6,380,326	52%
Fees & Charges	\$431,314	4%
Maintenance & Development Charges	\$1,249,010	10%
Utilities	\$1,531,112	13%
Unconditional Transfers	\$780,832	6%
Conditional Grants	\$666,079	5%
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	\$74,331	1%
Loss of Sale of Capital Assets	\$24,561	0%
Investment Income & Commissions	\$1,036,825	9%
	\$12,174,391	100%



2023 EXPENSES BY FUNCTION

HOW WAS THE MUNICIPAL PORTION OF YOUR 2023 TAX DOLLARS INVESTED?

RM of **EDENWOLD**
158

17%
\$1,594,014
GENERAL
GOVERNMENT
SERVICES

45%
\$4,172,362
TRANSPORTATION
SERVICES

10%
\$962,973
PROTECTIVE
SERVICES

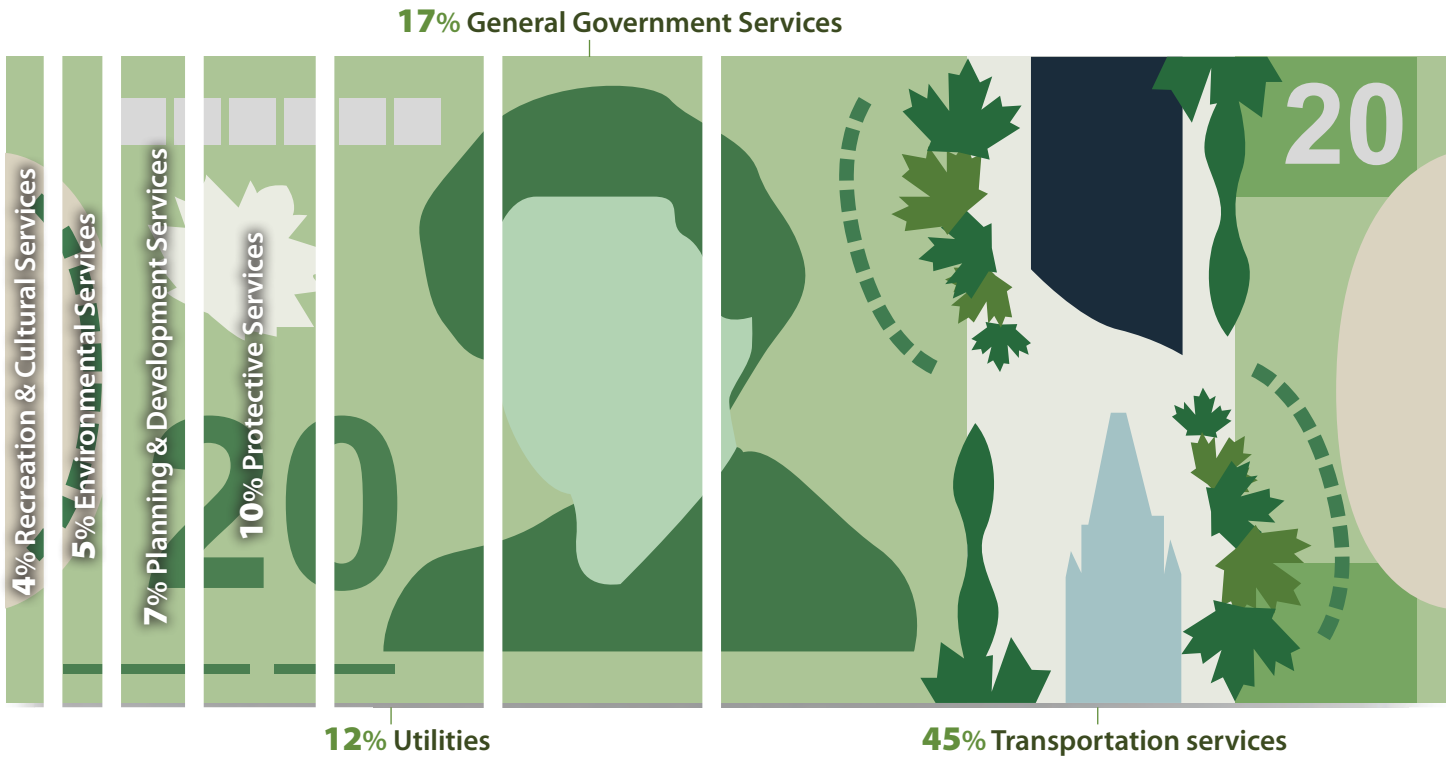
4%
\$343,875
RECREATION
& CULTURAL
SERVICES

5%
\$419,228
ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES

7%
\$643,270
PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES

12%
\$1,134,389
UTILITIES

WHERE DO MY TAXES GO?



RM of Edenwold No. 158

100 Hutchence Road
Emerald Park, Saskatchewan S4L 1C6

Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Statutory holidays

Primary Contact Numbers:

Front Desk: 306-771-2522

Fax: 306-347-2970

Community Safety Officers: 306-771-2522

Water/Sewer Utility After Hours Emergency: 306-791-5089

General Inquiries: info@edenwold-sk.ca

www.rmedenwold.ca



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