

Town of Raymond

Annual Report

2 0 1 2





*Town Hall
P.O. Box 629,
15 Broadway South
Raymond AB, T0K 2S0
PH: 403-752-3322
FAX: 403-752-4379
www.raymond.ca*



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 *Mayors Message*
- 2 *Town Council*
- 3 *CAO Report*
- 4 *Administration*
- 5 *Strategic Plan*
- 8 *Community Development*
- 9 *Community Services*
- 11 *Public Works*
- 12 *Protective Services*
- 13 *Social Media*
- 14 *Audited Financial
Statements*



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The 2012 edition of the Town of Raymond Annual Report tells the story of a mid-sized, vibrant prairie Town that is successfully charting its own course. Whether you measure Raymond's progress in terms of growth, recreational facilities, or the strength of our arts and cultural life, our community is getting better every year.

Two new businesses began construction of their facilities during 2012 and will be positive additions to our commercial centre. The Raymond Pro Hardware Store has expanded to their new location and is building a 9900 square foot facility to better serve the community. Bright Futures Day Care has also begun construction on a new 2700 square foot facility that could provide child care services for up to 40 children.

Heritage Days 2012 was another huge success as we celebrated Canada's & Raymond's birthday! Thousands gathered in Town to enjoy the numerous activities and events that are enjoyed by all who attend. The 2012 Southern Alberta Summer Games were also held in our community and 1876 athletes demonstrated their love for sport and thousands of spectators made the games a tremendous success!

We especially would like to thank the hundreds of volunteers who selflessly give of their time and talents so these events can be a success year after year. It's a major reason why Raymond is the best place to call home!

*George Boime
Mayor*



Councillor *Councillor* *Councillor* *Councillor* *Chief Administrative*
Dustin Ralph *Jim Depew* *Greg Robinson* *Barry Wolsey* *Officer, Scott Barton*



Councillor *Mayor* *Councillor*
Doug Holt *George Bohne* *Cathy Needham*

The current Town Council was elected on October 18, 2010 and sworn in on October 26.

- Councillor Ralph was elected for his first term this past election.
- Councillor Robinson was elected for his first term this past election.
- Mayor Bohne has served on Council for 10 years spread over 4 terms.
- Councillor Needham has served on Council for 10 years spread over 4 terms.
- Councillor Holt has served on Council for 10 years spread over the last 3 terms.
- Councillor Depew has served on Council for 5 years. This is his 2nd term in office.
- Councillor Wolsey was elected in a by-election which was held in August 2008. This is his 2nd term in office.



The Corporation of the Town of Raymond provides the majority of the services citizens count on in their daily lives. Behind each dollar spent is a different Town service, and behind each Town service or program is a team of dedicated professionals delivering that service. Taxpayers have a vested interest in their municipal government and we recognize the community's demand for responsible management of their tax dollars and their entitlement to receive quality services for those dollars.

A census was conducted in 2012, which saw our population increase to 3,891 residents. With increased growth, comes increased challenges and Council is actively seeking to improve the quality of life for you, our residents. Street paving, sidewalk repairs, resurfacing the tennis courts, the Rotary picnic shelter, the new pond at the golf course, and a new potable water line to Town were some of the many capital projects that Council authorized Town crews to complete during the year.

We are excited about our future and are committed to doing our part in making Raymond the best place to call home!

Scott Barton
Chief Administrative Officer

Chief Administrative Officer - Scott Barton - scottbarton@raymond.ca

- Main Duties:
- Contract Management
 - Collective Agreements
 - Municipal Priority Management
 - Provincial Legislation
 - Council Planning Sessions

Chief Financial Officer - Martin Woolf - martinwoolf@raymond.ca

- Main Duties:
- Prepare Financial Statements
 - Operating Budget Preparation
 - Assist with Year End Audit
 - Grant Management & Accounting

Dir. of Operational Services - Randy Olson - randyolson@raymond.ca

- Main Duties:
- Sewer collection and treatment
 - Roadways
 - Water distribution
 - Storm water collection
 - Solid waste collection

Dir. of Community Services - Jeff Coppieters - jeffcoppieters@raymond.ca

- Main Duties:
- Parks & Facilities Maintenance
 - Social Programming
 - Community Special Events
 - Emergency Services

Dir. of Corporate Services - Kim Coppieters - kimromeril@raymond.ca

- Main Duties:
- Payroll & Benefits
 - Accounts Payable/Receivable
 - Property Taxation
 - Records Management
 - Insurance Coordination
 - Utility Administration

Dir. of Community Development - Ethan Gorner - ethangorner@raymond.ca

- Main Duties:
- Subdivision & Development Administration and Enforcement
 - Safety Codes Enforcement
 - Town Drainage/Storm Water Planning
 - Infrastructure Connections & Repairs Administration
 - Land Sales & Acquisitions
 - Economic Development

Mission

To preserve a lifestyle that facilitates community involvement, friendliness, and a government receptive to the needs and desires of the community; to be a progressive, fiscally responsible community promoting sustainable development and growth; and to provide facilities and services necessary to ensure a clean, attractive and safe community.

Values

As an organization, we value and support honesty, fairness, professionalism, and accountability, while focusing on exceptional service for our residents. We value our staff and their contributions of innovation, creativity, collaboration, and open communication. We feel these elements are vital to achieving our vision.

Vision



Strategic Priorities

The Town of Raymond wants to ensure that it is able to provide for the current needs of its residents while positioning itself to handle future challenges and growth. However, while accommodating future development, Council wants to preserve the high quality of life that its residents currently enjoy. In order to accomplish this, Council will focus its efforts on the 5 main dimensions of a Sustainable Community: Culture, Economic, Environment, Governance, and Social. For more details, check out the Municipal Sustainability Plan on the Town Website.

Strategic Priorities

SOCIAL GOVERNANCE ENVIRONMENT ECONOMIC CULTURE

How we will encourage respect and tolerance in our community for people from all backgrounds.



How our community will create a local economy, developing successful and adaptive businesses that move the community toward sustainability.



How our community will seek to improve our ecological stewardship and preserve the environment for future generations.



How our community will provide a transparent, inclusive, and fiscally responsible government to meet the needs and expectations of our residents.

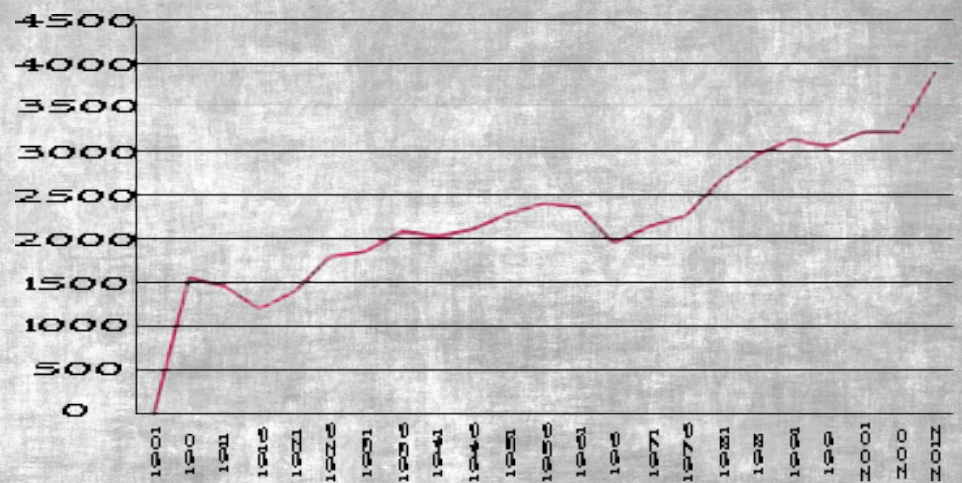


How our community will increase the quality of life of our residents by providing them with a diverse and improved selection of entertainment and volunteering options.

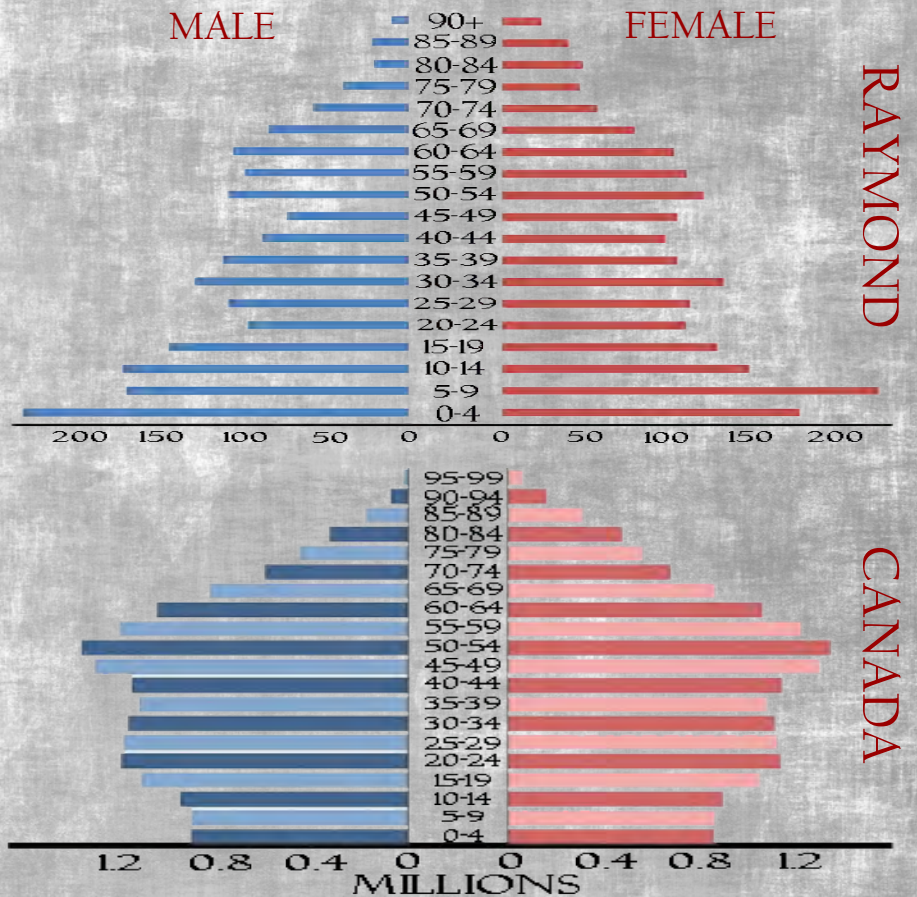


DEMOGRAPHICS

The Town had 0.7% growth from 2011 to 2012. In the past decade, the Town has seen the most growth since it was first settled in 1901. The 2012 population in Raymond was 3891.

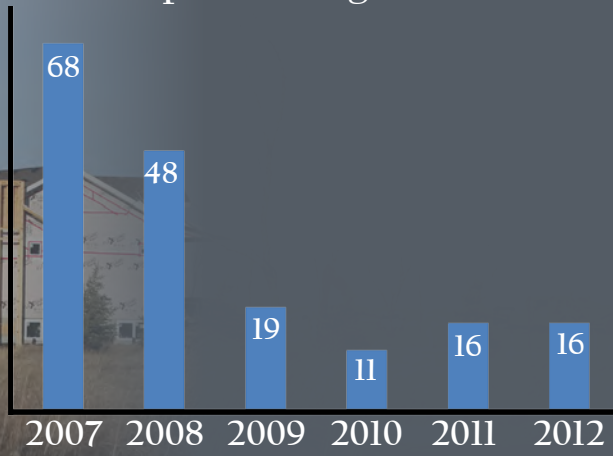


When comparing Raymond's age distribution (above) to Canada's (below) you can see a large difference in the proportion of children under 14 in Raymond. This indicates the large amount of young families in the Town.





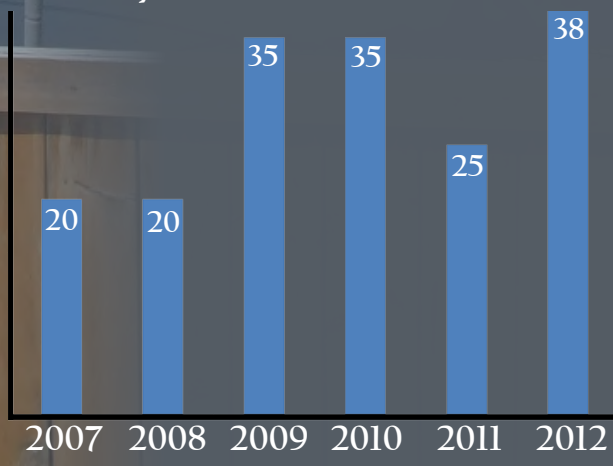
New Principal Building Permits Issued



During 2007 and 2008, there was a large increase in new homes because of new subdivision in Town. Since then, the new principal building permits have stabilized to about 16 per year from 2009 to 2012.



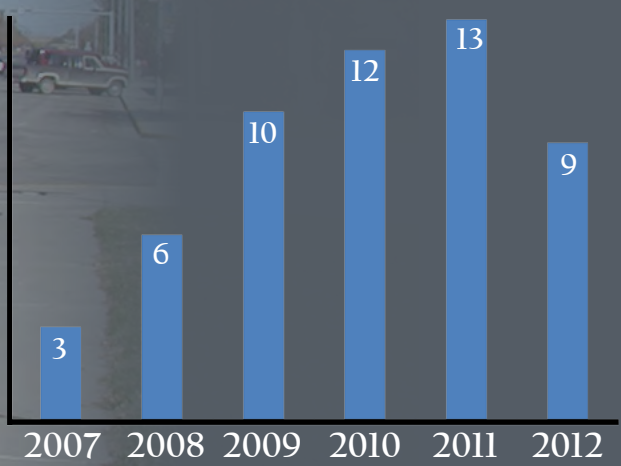
Accessory Structure Permits Issued



Accessory structures include things like decks, garages, home additions, and sheds. In 2012, Raymond had 38 applications for accessory structures. This was the most that the Town has seen in the last six years.



Home Business License Permits Issued



Home business license permits issued have been steadily increasing year after year since 2007. In 2012, there were 9 permits issued. This was the first year that these permits have decreased in number.

Community Services had a busy year in 2012 with many challenges and accomplishments. The following are a few of the major projects that the department participated in and completed throughout the year.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Heritage Days

Heritage Days were held from June 29 to July 2 this year. The event continues to grow each year with the most recent additions, the Chamber of Commerce Street Fair and Glow Golf becoming more and more popular. The historic Raymond Stampede celebrated it's 111th year. The Raymond Parade also continues to bring thousands of people to Town and is one of the biggest events of the year. Town crews take great pride working very hard leading up to the events to make the Town as attractive as possible and help to ensure that things run smoothly.

Golf Course Pond

After the 2012 golf season ended, a new pond was added to the Raymond Golf Course. It acts as a water retention pond for the nearby sub-division as well as a water hazard that enhances the overall look of the course. This will give the course more character and will hopefully help to attract more users to Raymond.



Southern Alberta Summer Games

The Town of Raymond hosted the 43rd annual Southern Alberta Summer Games. This was the 5th time that the Town has hosted it. The previous years were '73, '78, '88, '98.



The Town spent many months planning and preparing to host the games, which brought in a total of 1876 athletes along with their families and other spectators. 21 events were organized, most of which were held right in Town. This was a huge undertaking and was very successful. It could not have been achieved without the 400 individuals who volunteered their time and skills to help with the Games! Thanks to everyone who participated!



Resurfaced Tennis Courts

As part of the preparation for the Summer Games, Council decided to have the Tennis Courts resurfaced. They were in very poor condition and wouldn't have been able to host a tennis tournament. Since they were resurfaced, a Raymond Tennis Club has been organized which will help to utilize the courts into the future.

Beach Volleyball Courts

In addition to the resurfaced tennis courts, the Town also built new Beach Volleyball Courts to host the beach volleyball event. Two courts were built on the green space between the Raymond Aquatic Centre and Ice Arena. After the Games were over, one court was kept, while the other was restored back into grass.



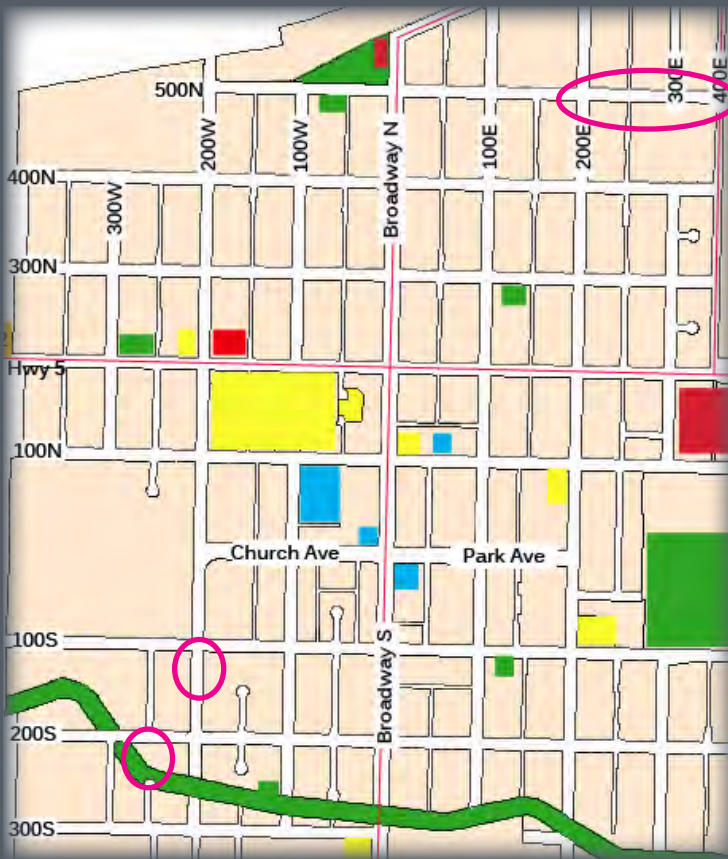
Rotary Pavillion

As a way to enhance the green space near the Raymond Aquatic Centre, Council partnered with the Raymond Rotary Club as well as Richardson Pioneer to construct a multi-purpose picnic shelter. This will be a great area for families and groups to gather or for individuals to get out of the sun. The Town encourages residents to use the facility as a place to eat and take a break from swimming or playing beach volleyball.



Infrastructure Projects

The Town's Public Works crew completed a few major infrastructure projects throughout 2012. In the north east corner of Town, 500N was opened between 200E and 400E. Also there was storm sewer installed in the south west corner near 250W and 200S as well as 200W and 100S. These projects will help with drainage concerns in those neighborhoods and enhance the overall look of the area.



PUBLIC WORKS

Rural Water Update

The Town began offering water to rural residents again in 2012 after coming to an agreement with the County of Warner #5. Since that time, there have been 14 new applications received and many other inquiries into the process. Currently we are providing rural water to 236 properties in the County of Warner #5, Cardston County and the County of Lethbridge.

Town of Milk River Wild Fire Evacuation

On Monday, September 10th, a grass fire started in the County of Warner south east of Raymond. The fire quickly spread towards the Town of Milk River and an evacuation order was called for the 850 residents. An evacuation centre was opened at one of the LDS Chapels in Raymond. The new Emergency Operations Centre was also put into action at Town Hall to help manage the situation. The Town was overwhelmed with the many volunteers who offered their homes, food, and time to help those who had to evacuate. Residents of Milk River were able to go back to their homes the following morning. These events are never hoped for, but it was a great example of the many kind and generous people who live in Raymond. Thanks again to the many volunteers who gave so generously of their time and resources!



Positive Ticketing Campaign







Each year, the newly formed Southwest Alberta Road Safety Society organizes a Bike Rodeo for all of the Communities that are a part of the Society. The Society is a combination of RCMP, Police, Peace, and other regulatory officers from Coaldale and Lethbridge all the way to Fort Macleod and Cardston County. A new program called the “Positive Ticketing Campaign” was developed this year to encourage kids to demonstrate the proper bicycle safety that they learn at the Bike Rodeos. Every time one of the Officers saw a youth riding their bike correctly, the Officer would pull over the youth and issue a “Positive Ticket”. This could then be cashed in at one of the local stores for a treat. They also got entered into draw for the Grand Prize, which was an iPad. This year, Leora Cornia (pictured above) was chosen from Raymond as the winner. There was a lot of positive feedback about the program and it is expected to continue and grow in following years. Thanks to all of the businesses who sponsor both the Bike Rodeo and Positive Ticketing Campaign. These programs could not happen without your support!



Westwind Weekly News photo courtesy of Hayley Tanner

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA

Social Media is a great way to interact with users and to share information quickly and frequently. The Town is taking advantage of these new technologies to reach out to residents and allow them different ways of interacting with the Town. Prior to 2012, the Town had a Facebook account and developed a new website. These have been very successful, and in order to compliment them and reach more people, a YouTube and Twitter account were added in 2012. YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook are some of the most used social media tools by many organizations. The following are some stats from throughout the year.

	Facebook 	YouTube 	Twitter 	Website 
JAN	1055 	Total Minutes Watched 3,621		
FEB				
MAR		Joined YouTube Mar 12		Time of Day Most Visited 11:00am
APR				
MAY	120 New Followers Added	Total Views 4,994		
JUN				Day of Week Most Visited Tuesday
JUL				
AUG		Most Views (173) Jul 30		
SEP			1st Tweet Sept 20	Top 3 Pages Visited 1. Community News 2. Recreation Facilities 3. Swimming Pool
OCT				
NOV		Most Time Watched (6hr, 58mins) Nov 12		
DEC	1175 			

Top Viewed YouTube Videos

1. Raymond Aquatic Centre
2. 2012 Southern Alberta Summer Games
3. Recreation Facilities



1,029 Views



829 Views



418 Views

*Audited
Financial
Statements*

