

# FIRST QUARTER REPORTS: 2024



CITY OF  
**CHILLIWACK**



# FIRST QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY JANUARY - MARCH, 2024



## New Business Licenses

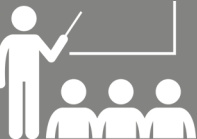


## Building Permits



## Bylaw Complaints



 **16** Emergency Operations Centre staff completed a Community Evacuations Course

**19** Paid on-call firefighters graduated recruit program



**1,400** Residents utilized the Celebration and Activity Grant



**7**

Crosswalks chosen for Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons



**1,158**

Calls for Fire Department service

**529**

People attended the free Family Day skates at the arenas



53 media inquiries



51 new e-newsletter subscribers



16 print ads placed in the local paper



4 press releases issued





**ENGINEERING**  
**UTILITIES**  
**TRANSPORTATION**  
**DRAINAGE**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

**FIRST QUARTER REPORT, 2024**



# ENGINEERING UTILITIES



## LINEAR UTILITIES UPGRADES

This project combines upgrades to seven water mains and two sanitary sewers. They have been combined to increase scope and economy of scale.

The water main upgrades will increase fire flows, protect water quality and provide capacity to meet future demand. The sanitary sewer upgrades will replace aging infrastructure and increase capacity to support development.

Construction began in September 2023 and the Sandpiper Contracting / Wedler Engineering design-build team has already completed water main upgrades on Ashwell Road / Wellington Avenue and Wells Road (Vedder Road to Rochester Avenue).

Upcoming works include:

- Andrews Avenue water main upgrades
- Candow Street / Henley Avenue / George Street
- Chilliwack Mountain Road water main upgrades
- Knight Road sewer main upgrades
- Nowell Street water main upgrades
- Reece Avenue water main upgrades
- Schweyey Road sewer force main upgrades
- Wells Road water main upgrades

## NONLINEAR UTILITIES UPGRADE PREDESIGNS

Predesigns are underway for a new concrete reservoir at Chilliwack Mountain, including the replacements of one existing reservoir on Marble Hill and a water pressure reducing valve at Sunrise Drive.

The redesigns will evaluate different design options and provide cost estimates for recommending the most feasible solution. The objective is to provide adequate water demand flexibility, redundancy and reliability within the water distribution system.

The pre-designs are due to be completed by May 2024.

## WWTP BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT SYSTEM EXPANSION

The current Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) relies on biological treatment to meet federal and provincial effluent quality. The City's WWTP biological treatment process requires the use of a trickling filter. This piece of infrastructure is at the end of its service life.

The design-build team of Trittech Group Ltd. / Stantec Consulting Ltd. has been selected to complete the Biological Treatment System Expansion project to upgrade the biological treatment process at a cost of \$36 million. The project is due to be completed by March 2026.



# ENGINEERING UTILITIES



## WWTP OUTFALL REHABILITATION PROJECT

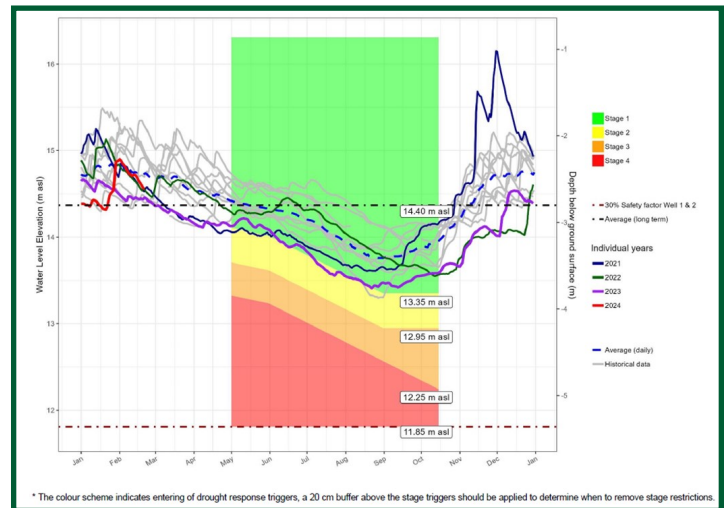
The WWTP outfall is critical infrastructure that must be maintained to ensure that the WWTP remains in compliance with legislation governing its discharge. A Bathymetric survey and concurrent follow up dive inspection in November 2023 confirmed that a section of the outfall in the Fraser River was broken.

Jakes Construction was hired to replace 160m of the existing steel pipe with HDPE pipe and rock armoring from the grassy bar to the diffusers. The work is permitted through the federal and provincial government under emergency work. Jakes Construction is actively replacing the outfall so work is completed before peak freshet season begins.



## WATER CONSERVATION PLAN UPDATE

On March 19, 2024, Council approved the updated Water Conservation Plan. The annual water restrictions period will now start on May 1 instead of June 1, to mitigate the increasing risk of drought. The City also changed its watering restrictions stages to a four-stage system instead of a five-stage system to align with other municipalities in the Lower Mainland.





# ENGINEERING TRANSPORTATION & DRAINAGE

## TYSON - KEITH WILSON DESIGN-BUILD PROJECT

This project includes two separate urbanization projects to provide enhanced safety, more efficient vehicular movements and increased pedestrian and cyclist facilities.

During the first quarter vegetation clearing and fence removal occurred on Keith Wilson Road and Tyson Road to prepare for the road widening. Detailed design works and utility relocation design continues.



## RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACONS PROGRAM

Installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) began in March and work will be completed in April. There are seven crosswalk locations where rectangular rapid flashing beacons will be installed:

- 7256 Chilliwack River Rd. (S.A.Y. Lands Office)
- Chilliwack River Rd. at Edna Lane
- First Ave. at Nowell St.
- Yale Rd. at Hazel St.
- Yale Rd. at Kipp Ave.
- Young Rd. at Lewis Ave.
- Young Rd. at Reece Ave.

## RAILWAY CROSSINGS

CN Rail, in collaboration with the City, completed the rebuild of the tracks, ties, ballast and surface panels for their railway crossings on Upper Prairie Road and Yale Road this quarter. The next location for repair will be Lickman Road, scheduled for April 2024.



## ASPHALT REHABILITATION

Road paving continued when weather allowed. Lickman Road from Luckakuck Road to Sumas Central Road was paved and widened to add bike lanes. Uplands Road from Promontory Road to 46419 Uplands Road was paved and widened with minor drainage improvements.



# ENGINEERING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

## BAILEY LANDFILL LINER EXTENSION PROJECT

The design-build team of Metric Civil Contractors Ltd. and Sperling Hansen Associates substantially completed a liner extension project at the Bailey Landfill. The project involved:

- Importing soil fill material to provide a smooth and consistent ground base over the liner extension area.
- Installing a liner system and leachate collection pipes on top of the base.
- Rerouting some of the existing leachate collection pipes and groundwater and stormwater pipes within the area.

The fill plan for the Bailey Landfill involves the commencement of filling in the new area with commercial and residential refuse likely sometime during the summer of this year.



## 2023 ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD

The City of Chilliwack sponsors the Environmental Stewardship Award as part of the Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce's Business Excellence Awards event. The winner of the 2023 Environmental Stewardship Award is Platinum Electric.

Platinum Electric strives to provide products and services that save energy and create renewable energy. In their recent work, they joined forces with other contractors at Dicklands Farms for a biogas project that uses anaerobic digestion to produce renewable natural gas using the manure from the farm's dairy cows and other organic waste. Platinum Electric is passionate about continuing to develop similar biogas plants locally and advocating for all renewable energy solutions. In addition, they are committed to sustainable business practices in their every day operations such as installing an energy-efficient lighting system, optimizing waste reduction and promoting biking to work to their staff.





# ENGINEERING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

## GO BY BIKE WEEK

The City partnered with Cycle Chilliwack and Go By Bike BC to promote Go By Bike Week from February 5 – February 11. The event aimed to encourage residents to leave their cars at home for their personal health, the health of our community, and the health of the environment. To encourage residents to Go By Bike, the City contributed three \$100 gift cards from local bike shops for residents to win.



## CHRISTMAS TREE COMPOSTING

The City's annual curbside Christmas tree collection program started off the new year with Emterra Environmental collecting trees from curbside customers for composting. Residents also dropped off 110 trees for free composting at the Parr Road Green Depot.

Combined, these two annual options provide Chilliwack residents with convenient ways to compost Christmas trees and help to reduce illegal dumping and burning.





**PUBLIC WORKS,  
PARKS, &  
UTILITY  
OPERATIONS**

**FIRST QUARTER REPORT, 2024**



# PARKS



## WEEDEN PARK

The City's Greenspace Plan identifies park services levels throughout the city. Weeden Park is part of the park service levels outlined in the Greenspace Plan for Promontory. It is across the street from the new Crimson Ridge Park. Weeden Park playground was specifically designed for children 2-5 years of age. This playground area was completed with two guardian areas equipped with benches for supervision. Moreover, it seamlessly integrates with the larger Weeden Park and trail system, linking sections of the neighbourhood that are separated by hilly terrain to this playground area.



## YARROW PIONEER PARK

During this period, the renovation project at Yarrow Pioneer Park was completed. The project involved the removal of an existing play structure and its replacement with a new accessible playground area with a pour-in-place rubber surface. This initiative aligns with the objectives of the Mayor's Task Force on Accessibility, Diversity, and Inclusiveness Action Plan to enhance accessibility in the city's community and sub-community parks.



# PARKS



## ORNAMENTAL PLUM TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

The City of Chilliwack undertook its first tree planting program in 1985 and 1986. This consisted of planting approximately 650 Ornamental Plums (*Prunus cerasifera 'Pissardii'*). These trees previously lined many streets and boulevards in downtown Chilliwack. They were planted in landscape boxes of 3x3 feet or in small concrete planters and under power lines. Plum trees have not done well in this urban setting and they are coming to the end of their safe useful life expectancy. Every year, many of these trees are removed and replaced due to defects or failures. The replacement trees are then inventoried and scheduled for regular maintenance. The City has applied for a Community ReGreening Grant to support the continued replacement of these trees with the appropriate species for the planting site. This grant will assist the City in bringing this program near completion.





# UTILITY OPERATIONS



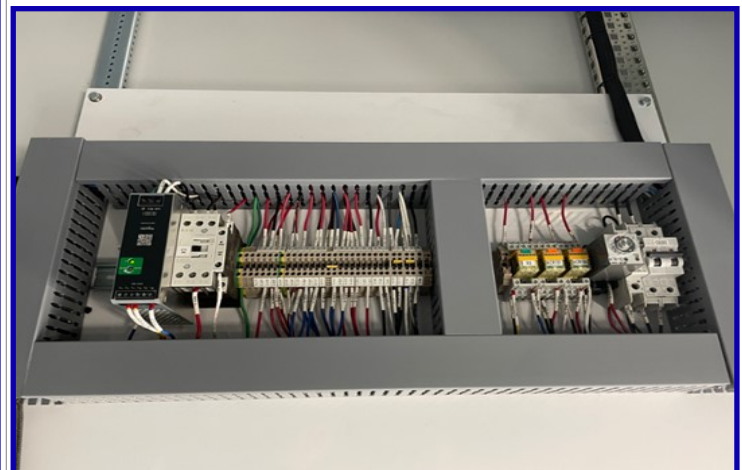
## SEWER MANHOLE REHABILITATION

Sewer manhole rehabilitation programs offer numerous benefits to both municipalities and utility systems. It is not uncommon, in high ground water conditions, for manholes to begin showing signs of water penetration through cracks and seams. In order to prevent ground water from entering sanitary sewer manholes, the Underground Utilities Department recently purchased equipment to seal manholes when ground water is present. This equipment uses an injection pump and a two-part expanding foam to prevent water from entering. From there, staff drill and insert injection ports to the internal surface of the manhole, where unwanted ground water is entering, and then pump a water stop foam into the side wall. The flexible foam expands 30 to 40 times its volume and fills voids within the concrete and on the outer wall of the manhole. Manhole rehabilitation initiatives increase system longevity, saves money on costly repairs and reduces treatment costs while minimizing disruptions to daily operation.



## MCGILLIVRAY PUMP STATION

McGillivray is the biggest of four drainage stations within the City of Chilliwack. Built in 1974, it was designed to drain all of the Greendale area's waterways and drainage ditches back to the Vedder Canal and pump into the Fraser River. The pumping is accomplished by two 600 horsepower 600 volt vertical axial flow style pumps that are run through two variable frequency drives (VFDs) that give the pumps the ability to run at variable speeds. The VFDs were recently replaced to improve reliability at this critical station for years to come.





**RECREATION &  
CULTURE**  
COMMUNITY EVENTS  
FACILITIES  
PROGRAMS

**FIRST QUARTER REPORT, 2024**



# RECREATION & CULTURE COMMUNITY EVENTS

## CELEBRATION AND ACTIVITY GRANT

- Three community events supported.
- 1,400 residents impacted.
- \$1,391 in funding provided.



## RECREATION FACILITIES

- Received an additional \$56,250 grant, for a total grant of \$112,500, towards a new energy efficient dehumidifier for the Sardis Sports Complex. Construction to start June 2024.
- Both arenas held Family Day skates.
  - 211 people attended at the Chilliwack Coliseum.
  - 318 people attended at the Sardis Sports Complex.
  - 132 cups of hot chocolate were handed out at the Sardis Sports Complex.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

- One special event supported: Ann Davis' Coldest Night of the Year.



# RECREATION & CULTURE FACILITIES & PROGRAMS

## GREAT BLUE HERON NATURE RESERVE

Programs held included:

- Free events: The annual Salmon, Cedar and Water event, with Tourism Chilliwack supporting the event by creating flags and a sign for the Education Pavilion. Two waterfowl programs, two heron walks and the two-day Family Nature Festival.
- 33 school programs, two preschool programs, 13 community programs and spring break camps were held.
- Conservation/research projects: salmonberry phenology, amphibian egg mass surveys, amphibian trapping, fedderwatch, heron colony monitoring and temperature log data collection.



## CHEAM & LANDING LEISURE CENTRES

- Swimming lessons this quarter:
  - 92 lessons with average 826 participants weekly at Landing Leisure Centre.
  - 79 lessons with average 488 participants weekly at Cheam Centre .
- Family Day toonie swim held at both locations.
- Facility hours increased to 108 hours per week at both locations.
- Successful second term of Graham Y program.





# RECREATION & CULTURE FACILITIES & PROGRAMS

## HERITAGE PARK

Programs held included:

- Homeshow.
- Taste of the Valley.
- Dog Shows.
- Outdoor Show.
- Historical Arms Show.
- Women's Show.



## CHILLIWACK MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

- Archive visitors—114.
- Museum visitors—877.
- Feature exhibits:
  - ◇ "Our Journey for Inclusion: 70 Years of Innovation". In partnership with Chilliwack Society for Community Living and Inclusion BC.
  - ◇ "Woven Together". Commemorated the Chilliwack Spinners and Weavers' Guild's 50th anniversary.
- Collaborated with the UFV on 3 courses: History 301, History 440 and the TASK program.
- Teachers from School District #33 visited the Museum and Archives as a Pro-D Day activity as an introduction to the Museum and Archives for teachers that are new to the district. A second visit is scheduled for April 26, 2024.
- Archives have extended hours to include Saturday research and donation appointments by request.
- Hosted a successful vintage pop-up market with Bobbypin's Curiosities. A second market is planned for April.

# RECREATION & CULTURE FACILITIES & PROGRAMS



## FRASER VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARIES

### Chilliwack Library Programs

- “Freedom to Read” week in February.
- Very popular “Dog Man”, with the Chilliwack RCMP and their police dog Knox and other therapy dogs in attendance to socialize with the crowds.



### Yarrow Library programs:

- Children’s programs, including family story time and make and take’s for children.
- Scavenger hunts held for Family Literacy Day, Valentine’s Day and Spring Break.



## FRASER VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARIES (CONT’D)

### Sardis Library Programs:

- Streams Foundation Canada hosted a Coffee with Seniors event.



- The Director & Chair of the Climate Change Action Group shared about initiatives the Rotary Club of Chilliwack is participating in, including tree planting programs and climate change kits for schools.
- “Bee Mine” was a popular theme for the kids encouraging them to earn stickers when they told staff about their favorite bee.
- Interactive displays remain popular. Visitors shared their favorite book titles or authors, as well as Valentine’s colouring pages.



# RECREATION & CULTURE FACILITIES & PROGRAMS

## COMMUNITY SCHOOL PROGRAMS

### Yarrow Community School Society (YCSS)

- Family Day free skate at Sardis Sports Complex had 50 skaters of all ages enjoying themselves.
- Super Science Club introduced primary age kids to high quality science fun. Taught by UFV students.
- Two great dads in the Yarrow community ran free youth floor hockey twice a month. Thirty kids attended each session.

### Greendale Elementary Community School Society (GECSS)

- Students and staff participated in the 'Coldest Night Challenge' in support of Ann Davis Transition Society.
- Held an eight-week after school acting program that ended with a performance of Annie's Orphans performed to standing room only.



### Rosedale Traditional Community School Society

- Spring break camps featuring themes such as: band, space, and art. Activities held during the camp were crafts, food art, game and science experiments.
- A variety of programs offered such as piano and guitar lessons, and kids' programs such as science, home alone, babysitting training, and cooking lessons.



### Promontory Heights Elementary Community School Association (PHECSA)

Programs delivered included:

- Ceramics and crafts workshops
- Baking classes
- Floor hockey
- Basketball
- Hatha yoga
- Zumba & karate





# RECREATION & CULTURE FACILITIES & PROGRAMS



## CHILLIWACK CULTURAL CENTRE

- New \$36,184 complete digital sound board was installed at the Cultural Centre.
- Received a \$40,000 grant towards a theatre lighting upgrade project.
- Hosted Spring Break art camps.
- Welcomed the Year of the Dragon and celebrated the Lunar New Year.



## CHILLIWACK AND DISTRICT SENIORS RESOURCES SOCIETY

- Awarded the Not For Profit of the Year from the Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce.
- Free Income Tax program offered again this year. Thank you to the volunteers and trainers.
- Funding from Reaching Home assisted the food hamper program by adding fresh produce and meat monthly.
- Various trips/outings scheduled, including local and day trips that provide learning, socialization, and fun for all.





# FIRE DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATION  
FIRE OPERATIONS  
FIRE PREVENTION  
TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



FIRST QUARTER REPORT, 2024



# FIRE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION



## PERSONNEL

### Career Staff:

#### Retirement:

**Fire Chief Ian Josephson**

March 2024



Chief Josephson began his fire service career with Langley City Fire Department in 1995. He was hired as Assistant Chief, Fire Prevention for the Chilliwack Fire Department in 2001, and in 2013 was appointed to the role of Fire Chief. We thank Chief Josephson for his 23 years of dedicated service, leadership, and commitment to our department and community.

#### New Appointment:

**Andrew Brown**

Fire Chief

March 2024



#### New Appointment:

**Jordan Nicol**

Firefighter

March 2024



Retirement, Fire Chief Ian Josephson



### Paid on-Call (POC) Firefighters:

Nineteen recruits graduated from the department's POC Recruit Training Program in March. Our department's new POC firefighters will begin serving our community at their respective fire halls in April 2024 as follows:

Hall 1, Downtown	- 1 new firefighter
Hall 2, Rosedale	- 4 new firefighters
Hall 3, Yarrow	- 3 new firefighters
Hall 4, Sardis	- 7 new firefighters
Hall 5, Ryder Lake	- 2 new firefighters
Hall 6, Greendale	- 2 new firefighters



POC Recruit Training Program



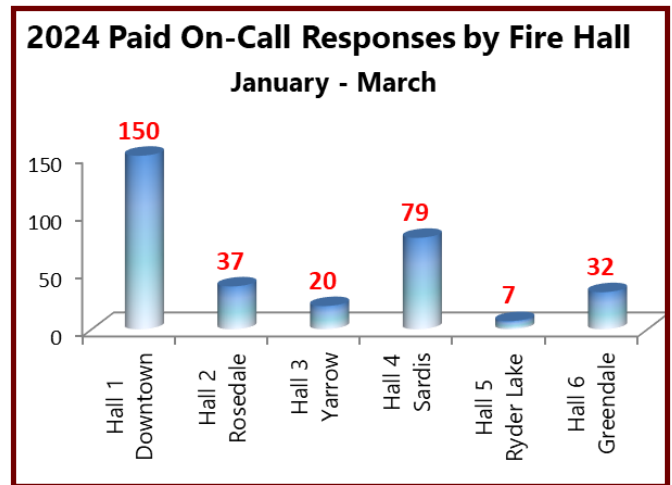
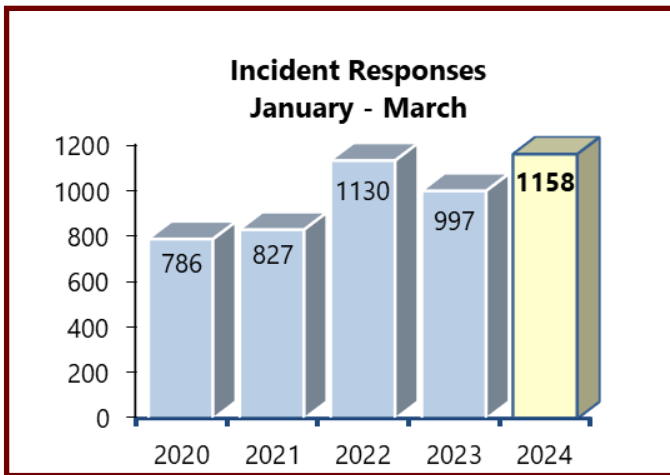
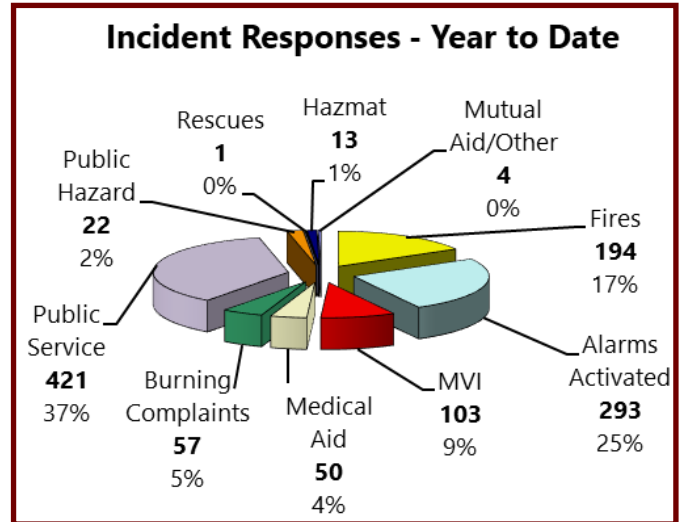


# FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE OPERATIONS

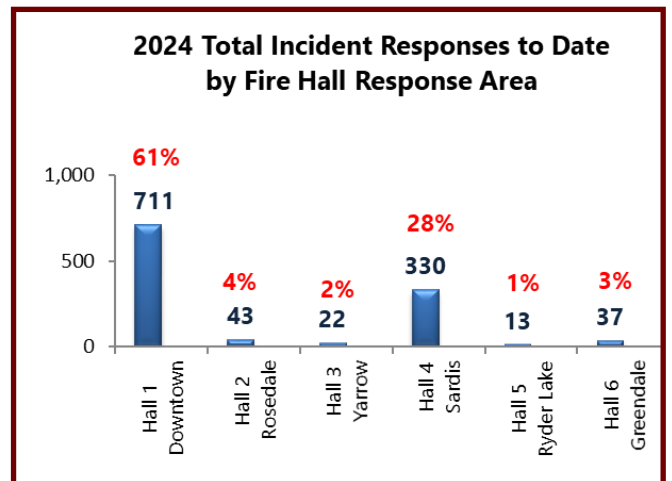


## INCIDENT RESPONSES

The department responded to 1,158 calls for service in the first quarter. This is an increase of 161 calls compared to this time in 2023. Incidents for this quarter included 194 fires, 103 motor vehicle incidents, 57 burning complaints, and 50 emergency medical aid calls. So far in 2024, the three leading calls for service were public service, alarms activated, and fire incident responses. These three incident response types accounted for 908 incidents or 79% of the total calls responded to date. Of the total incidents for this quarter, 89% occurred in Fire Hall 1 and Fire Hall 4 response areas.



Vehicle Fire Incident, Yale Road  
March 2024



# FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE OPERATIONS



## INCIDENT RESPONSES

	Monthly Summary			Totals – 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	
<b>FIRES</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>194</b>
Structures	12	8	13	33
Vehicle	5	3	7	15
Outdoor / Other	36	55	55	146
<b>ALARMS ACTIVATED</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>293</b>
Single family residential	33	41	43	117
Multi-family residential	43	20	28	91
Non-residential	39	30	16	85
<b>MVI (NO FIRE)</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>103</b>
Auto extrication	0	0	2	2
Provide medical care	20	18	18	56
Routine cleanup / No injuries	17	14	9	40
Cancelled / Fire not required	3	0	2	5
<b>EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>BURNING COMPLAINTS</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>57</b>
Illegal	7	17	24	48
Legal	2	1	6	9
<b>PUBLIC SERVICE</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>421</b>
Investigate safety complaints and hazards	37	19	38	94
Assist other agencies (BCAS, RCMP etc.)	76	84	103	263
Home smoke alarm/Carbon monoxide alarm	13	4	6	23
Post fire recheck / Post fire investigation	1	1	0	2
Trapped in elevator	3	1	2	6
Assist with lift or entry (non-medical/private)	3	4	3	10
Assist with water issue	14	3	1	18
Other	1	1	3	5
<b>PUBLIC HAZARD</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>RESCUES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>MUTUAL AID</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>1,158</b>

### Previous Years:

2023  
2022  
2021  
2020  
2019

1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr	Annual Totals
997	4,591
1,130	4,570
827	4,136
786	3,470
725	3,218



# FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PREVENTION



## FIRE SAFETY & PRE-CONSTRUCTION INSPECTIONS

The Prevention Division has been hard at work in the first quarter, completing 238 fire safety and pre-construction inspections. From the early stages of new building construction to tenant improvements, the team collaborates closely with the Building Department, providing subject matter expertise. Furthermore, inspectors review Short-Term Rental applications and conduct business and complaint-driven inspections, including special event and Health & Safety Bylaw Inspections.

As the weather warms up, staff are preparing for increased mobile food truck inspections in partnership with the Greater Vancouver Fire Chiefs Association. Chilliwack leads the charge in ensuring food truck safety in the Lower Mainland. Meanwhile, suppression crews continue to conduct company level inspections, further fortifying our commitment to safety.

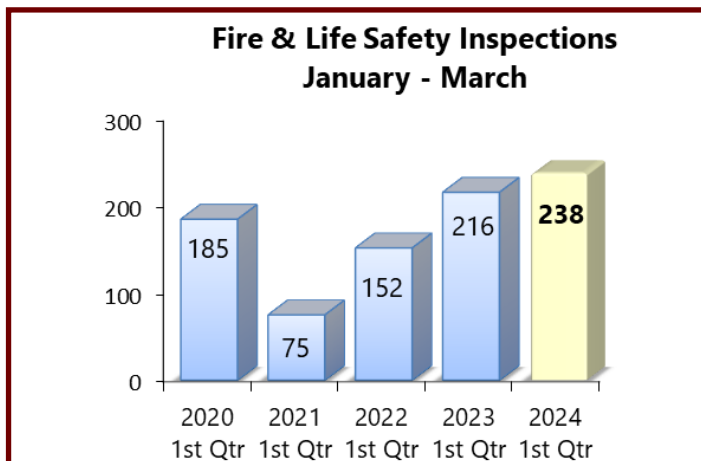
Exciting changes are on the horizon as staff prepare to onboard a new data management system. This upgrade will not only boost efficiency, but will also enhance the department's capacity to serve our community.

## FIRE & LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION

Due to COVID-19, the Prevention division faced a backlog from restricted site inspections. Staff have restructured public education efforts, prioritizing large-scale events like the Home & Garden Expo to aid in addressing this backlog. To date in 2024, nine sessions educated 1,051 residents in fire and life safety, and emergency preparedness. Notably, the Fire Department's social media presence has seen a significant boost, with Facebook reach surging from 7.2k to 38k compared to last year. Leveraging this platform, staff aim to promote fire safety education, acknowledge staff efforts, and highlight member contributions.

## FIRE INVESTIGATIONS/LOSSES

Fire losses for the first quarter were \$1,397,890. There were eight civilian fire related injuries during this quarter. A total of 33 dollar loss structure fires occurred this quarter with 26 (79%) occurring in residential occupancies. Of the 33 dollar loss structure fires that occurred this quarter, 30 (91%) occurred in the Fire Hall 1 (Downtown) and Fire Hall 4 (Sardis) response zones. Fire origin and cause investigations were completed to identify fire loss trends and focus education efforts to prevent future losses.



Chilliwack Home, Leisure, and Outdoor Living Expo  
January 2024

# FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING AND EDUCATION



## TRAINING

The department continually strives to improve the services and programs it provides to the citizens of the community. The year began with the continuation of the busy winter session.

### Paid on-Call (POC) Recruit Training Program

- The fall POC Recruit Training Program concluded this year with a live fire training session at the Justice Institute of British Columbia. The 300 plus hour training program meets the Office of the Fire Commissioner provincial training requirements for the Interior Firefighting Level of Service and First Responder Level III. In March, 19 new recruit firefighters completed the program and are now proudly serving our community. The success of the Recruit Training Program would not be possible without the assistance of paid on-call and career members, with over 40 members participating.

### Career Recruit Training

- One new career firefighter began an intense recruit training program focusing on firefighting, rope rescue, vehicle rescue, confined space rescue, medical aid, etc. The training program builds off their paid on-call training.

## Education:

- **Pre-Hospital Care** is a large component of the training curriculum and includes regularly scheduled CPR, AED, and FR 3 classes that are taught by in-house instructors. All firefighters are certified in this program through the Ministry of Health.
- **Rapid Intervention Training (RIT)** – RIT teams are required as a rescue team for firefighters in the event of a catastrophic event at a structure fire injuring or trapping fire crews.
- **Topic of the Month** – All career firefighters participated in refresher training in pre-determined topics of the month. During this quarter the topics were: RIT/Mayday, Confined Space, and Vehicle Rescue.

## Education (continued):

- **Chainsaw Training** – All paid on-call firefighters participated in refresher chainsaw training and safety practices.
- **Responding to Interface Fires** – 125 firefighters from six fire departments participated in a training program designed to enhance candidates' knowledge, skills, and abilities in mitigating interface fires.
- **Firefighter Youth Camp** - During spring break, 15 students from Chilliwack high schools participated in a six day, 48-hour Firefighter Youth Camp. Students participated in both theory and practical sessions in program skills, including First Aid, Fire Behaviour, Fire Extinguishers, Hoses, Ropes & Knots, Ladders, Personal Protective Equipment, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus, and Fire Prevention and Education.
- **Emergency Scene Management II (ESM)** – Safely mitigating an incident requires knowledge, skills, and systematic processes and procedures. 16 career firefighters participated in 40 hours of theoretical and practical training in ESM in accordance with NFPA 1021.

### Career Recruit Training, Vehicles into Water



### Responding to Interface Fires (RTI Training)





# FIRE DEPARTMENT

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



### EMERGENCY PROGRAM UPDATE

In the first quarter, staff continued to focus on reviewing the new BC Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA) and proposed regulations. Staff submitted comments on proposed changes to Emergency Management Regulations, including proposed revisions to the Disaster Financial Regulation. It is anticipated that regulations to support EDMA will be developed and implemented by the Province of BC over the next 12-24 months. Staff continue to stay well-connected to the regulation development process. This quarter, staff began planning for an in-house workshop for public information officers as part of skills development and seasonal readiness initiatives.

On March 11, staff took part in a Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Assessment workshop with Sqwá First Nation. Extreme weather events, wildfires, and structure fires were discussed, with an overall goal of the assessment being used to inform emergency mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts for the community.

On March 18, the City hosted the Justice Institute of B.C. "Community Evacuations" course, which provides skills in evacuation planning as well as conducting evacuations of community members during an emergency incident. Sixteen members of Chilliwack's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) team successfully completed this course, which was provided free of charge by the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness.

The Chilliwack Emergency Support Services (ESS) team was activated four times in the quarter to support residents displaced from residential structure fires. ESS volunteers were heavily active in training and exercises in the quarter, with team members taking part in the following courses/exercises:

- Reception Centre functional exercise (with Abbotsford, Mission, and Langley ESS teams)
- Introduction to ESS (with the Leq'á:mel First Nation)
- ESS Registration and Referrals (with the Leq'á:mel First Nation)
- Evacuee Registration and Assistance Tool (delivered in-house)

The continued dedication and efforts of our ESS team's leadership and volunteers contributes to a high level of readiness and maintains Chilliwack's reputation as a "go-to community" to support evacuees from large scale events throughout the province.



**Structure Fire, Broadway  
February 2024**



**LEGISLATIVE  
SERVICES  
VANDALISM TO  
CITY FACILITIES**

**FIRST QUARTER REPORT, 2024**



# LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

## VANDALISM TO CITY FACILITIES



### VANDALISM REPORT SUMMARY TABLE

CITY OF CHILLIWACK													
2024 First Quarter - Vandalism Report Summary													
January, February, March 2024													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to Date
Public Works and Parks	\$ 1,289	\$ 3,814	\$ 4,001										
Recreation Facilities	\$ 350	\$ 1,189	\$ 250										
Civic Facilities	\$ 135	-	-										
Engineering - Wire Theft	\$ 2,883	-	-										
Fire	-	-	-										
<b>2024 TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 4,657</b>	<b>\$ 5,003</b>	<b>\$ 4,251</b>										<b>\$ 13,911</b>
<b>2023 TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 14,624</b>	<b>\$13,075</b>	<b>\$ 21,125</b>	<b>\$ 12,771</b>	<b>\$ 11,543</b>	<b>\$ 11,818</b>	<b>\$ 17,421</b>	<b>\$ 8,076</b>	<b>\$ 14,490</b>	<b>\$12,053</b>	<b>\$ 8,361</b>	<b>\$18,163</b>	<b>\$ 163,520</b>





# LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

## VANDALISM TO CITY FACILITIES



### PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS

Month	Item	Cost
<b>January</b>	Graffiti	\$674.00
	Vandalism	\$615.00
<b>February</b>	Graffiti	\$1,484.00
	Vandalism	\$2,330.00
<b>March</b>	Graffiti	\$1,881.00
	Vandalism	\$2,120.00
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$9,104.00</b>

### RECREATION FACILITIES

Month	Item	Cost
<b>January</b>	Graffiti	\$350.00
	Vandalism	\$0.00
<b>February</b>	Graffiti	\$320.00
	Vandalism	\$869.00
<b>March</b>	Graffiti	\$250.00
	Vandalism	\$0.00
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,789.00</b>

### CIVIC FACILITIES

Month	Item	Cost
<b>January</b>	Graffiti	\$135.00
	Vandalism	\$0.00
<b>February</b>	Graffiti	\$0.00
	Vandalism	\$0.00
<b>March</b>	Graffiti	\$0.00
	Vandalism	\$0.00
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$135.00</b>

### STREETLIGHTING—WIRE THEFT

Month	Item	Cost
<b>January</b>	Vandalism / Wire Theft	\$2,883.00
<b>February</b>	Vandalism / Wire Theft	\$0.00
<b>March</b>	Vandalism / Wire Theft	\$0.00
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,883.00</b>

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

There were no significant acts of vandalism to the Fire Department this quarter.





# **MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT**

**PLANNING  
BUILDING  
LAND DEVELOPMENT  
BYLAW ENFORCEMENT**

**FIRST QUARTER REPORT, 2024**

# MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT

## ECONOMY AND HOUSING MARKET STARTS

According to Central 1 Credit Union, Canada's housing market held steady in March with national home sales and average prices unchanged from the previous month. Despite softer sales, the national average home price remained steady at \$665,000. At a national level, the pace of new home construction climbed 14% in February compared to January, but then decreased 7% in March compared to February, according to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). In spite of this drop, major Canadian cities of Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary saw an increase in total housing starts with record-high levels of apartment construction.

Chilliwack and District Real Estate Board (CADREB) and Fraser Valley Real Estate Board (FVREB) statistics indicate an increase in home pricing throughout the Fraser Valley, despite high interest rates and slow sales activity. Compared to March 2023's benchmark prices, CADREB reports the current benchmark price for a single-detached dwelling (two storey) increased 5.7% (\$1,005,300), townhomes increased 6.9% (\$620,200), and apartments increased 8% (\$414,700). In communities to the west (Abbotsford, Langley, Mission, North Delta, Surrey, and White Rock), the FVREB reports the current benchmark price for a single-detached dwelling increased 8.8% (\$1,517,100), townhomes increased 7.2% (\$846,900), and apartments increased 6.9% (\$555,000), compared to March 2023.

Residential building permits in Chilliwack are trending higher for the first quarter of 2024 compared to the same period last year. Chilliwack's total new residential building permit units are 216 (44 single detached and 172 apartment units) compared to 76 residential units for the same period in 2023. No new residential units for duplexes or townhouses have been issued so far this year. Sources: Central 1 Credit Union, City of Chilliwack Building Permit Records, Chilliwack & District Real Estate Board, CMHC, Fraser Valley Real Estate Board

## IMPLEMENTING NEW PROVINCIAL HOUSING LEGISLATION

Planning staff have been working towards complying with the Provincial deadlines for Bills 44 and 47 for Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing (SSMUH) and Transit-Oriented Areas (TOA). Through inter-departmental workshops and discussions, a draft approach will be presented to various Council Committees during the second quarter of 2024. Planning staff also prepared and circulated four Request for Proposals/ Quotations: 1) 2050 Official Community Plan Review, 2) Design Guidelines Review & Update, 3) Heritage Conservation Area Creation Project, and 4) Residential Development Financial Analysis. The closing dates, consultant contract agreements, and project initiations are planned throughout the second quarter of 2024. Opportunities for public engagement will be announced when these projects are underway.

## CITY & NEIGHBOURHOOD PROFILES

Progress continues on completing the City-wide and neighbourhood demographic profiles and ten-year community trends report, using data from the 2011, 2016, and 2021 Census years. The project is on track to be presented to Council during the second quarter of 2024.

## HERITAGE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN: NEXT STEPS

In January 2024, Council endorsed the new Heritage Interest Inventory, identifying 92 heritage resources that remain from a list first prepared in 1991. This updated list will be used to further implement the Heritage Strategic Action Plan. Following this, Planning staff met with the City's Heritage Advisory Committee in March to review and discuss those next steps. Topics of discussion included the proposed work plan for creating a community heritage register as well as explore creating a heritage conservation area in the "Village Walk" area.



# MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT



## PLANNING APPLICATION SUMMARY – 2023

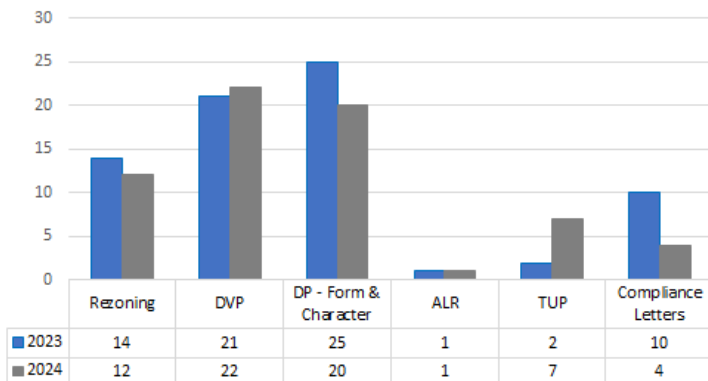
APPLICATION	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Q1 Totals	2023 YTD Totals
Rezoning	7	3	4										14	14
DVP	9	5	7										21	21
DP - Form & Character	8	6	11										25	25
ALR	0	0	1										1	1
TUP	2	0	0										2	2
Compliance Letters	5	1	4										10	10
New Business Licences	35	77	38										150	150

## PLANNING APPLICATION SUMMARY – 2024

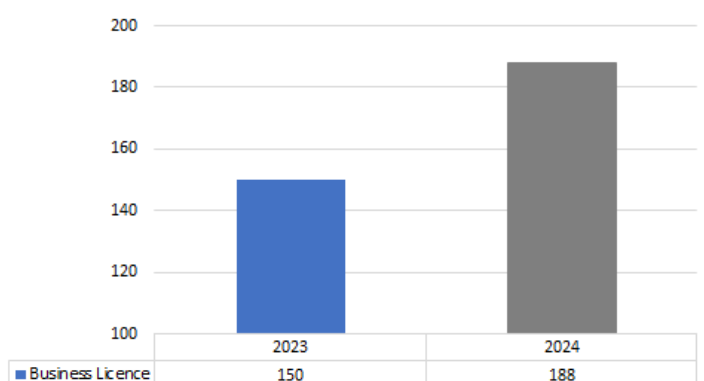
APPLICATION	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Q1 Totals	2024 YTD Totals
Rezoning	1	4	7										12	12
DVP	8	2	12										22	22
DP - Form & Character	5	5	10										20	20
ALR	1	0	0										1	1
TUP	3	4	0										7	7
Compliance Letters	2	0	2										4	4
New Business Licences	58	63	67										188	188



1st Quarter - 2023/2024 Comparison



1st Quarter - 2023/2024 New Business Licence



# MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING DEPARTMENT



## APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY NEIGHBOURHOOD - 1st QUARTER

	Rezoning	Development Variance Permits	Development Permits Form & Character	ALR	TUP	*Business Licences
Fairfield		1				7
Little Mountain						2
Chilliwack Proper	6	10	9		3	82
Chilliwack Mountain		1				5
Cattermole						
Village West	1	3	2		1	10
Sardis	1		2			23
Vedder	2	1	1		2	43
Greendale						13
Greendale Area		1		1		
Yarrow	1		1			5
Promontory		1			1	20
Ryder Lake						3
Majuba Hill						3
Eastern Hillside		1	1			8
Rosedale			1			2
Valley North	1	3	3			12
Valley South						2
Non Resident Businesses						39
<b>TOTAL APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>279</b>

\*Note: Business Licences include new, change of address, ownership changes and non-resident.





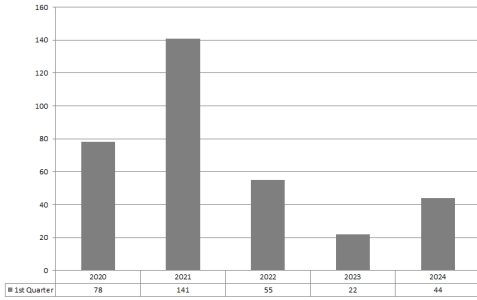


# MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BUILDING & LAND DEVELOPMENT

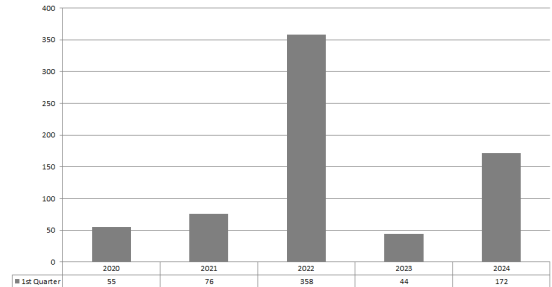


## BUILDING PERMIT INFORMATION

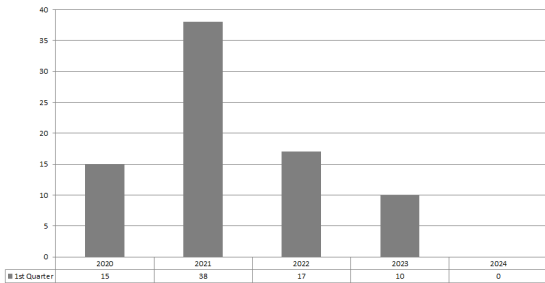
**Single Family**  
1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison



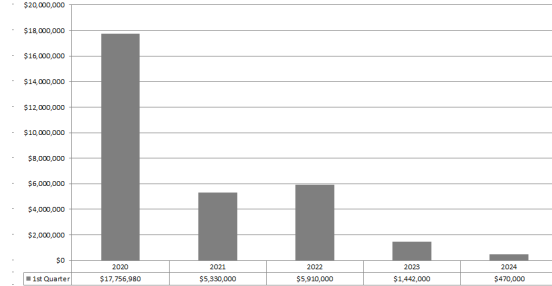
**Multi-Family Apartments**  
1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison



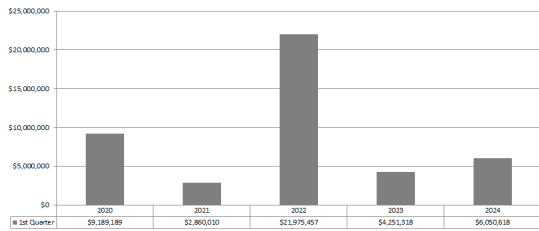
**Townhouses**  
1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison



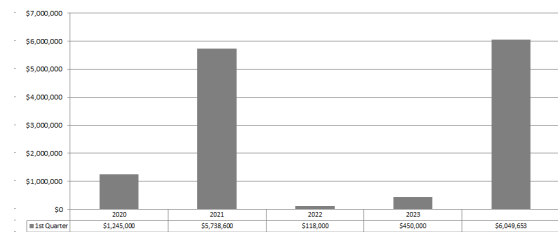
**Industrial**  
1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison



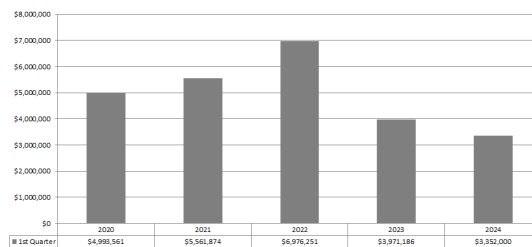
**Commercial**  
1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison



**Institutional**  
1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison



**Agricultural**  
1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison



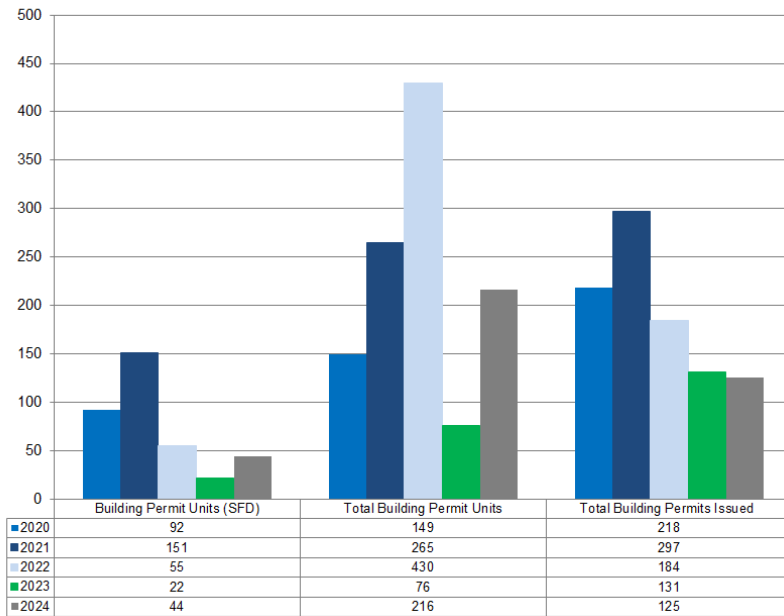


# MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BUILDING & LAND DEVELOPMENT



## BUILDING PERMIT INFORMATION

1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison  
Building Permits



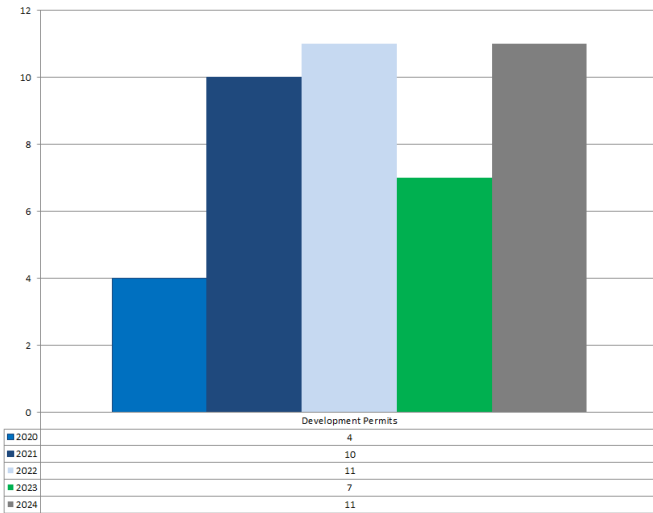


# MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BUILDING & LAND DEVELOPMENT

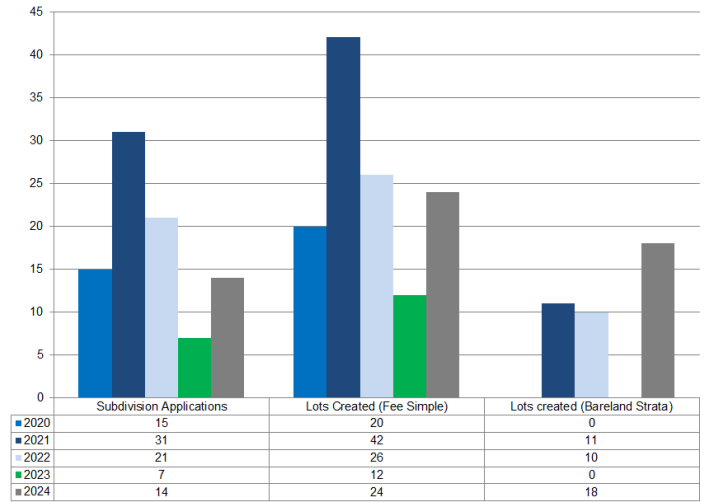


## LAND DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION

1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison  
Development Permits



1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison  
Subdivision



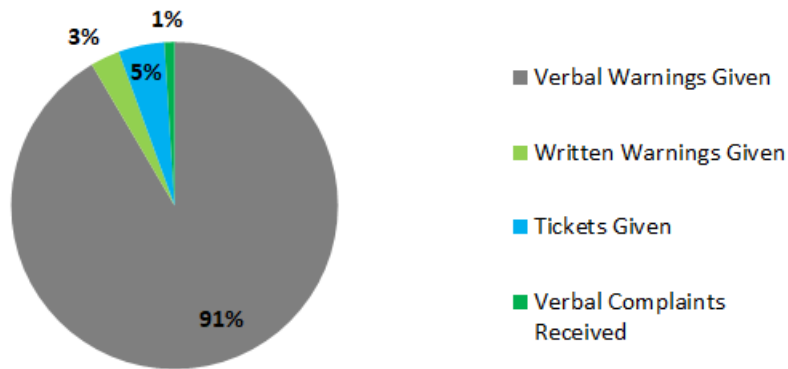


# MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BYLAW ENFORCEMENT

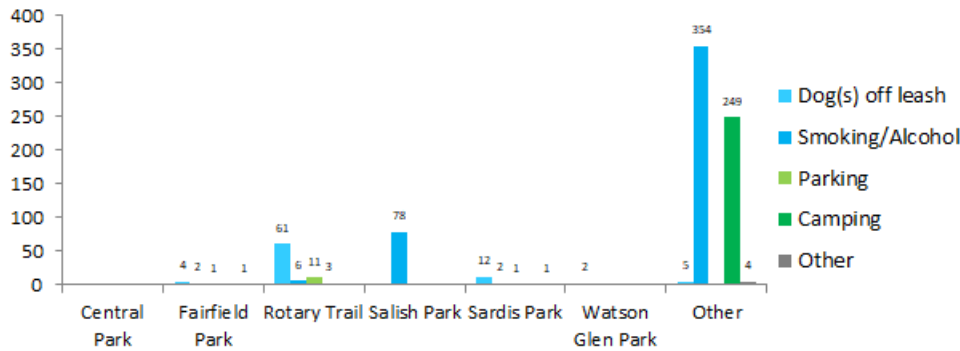


## BYLAW BIKE PATROL INFORMATION

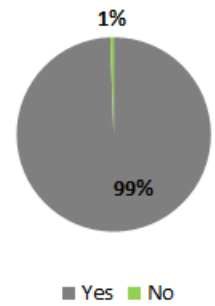
### Total Monthly Stats



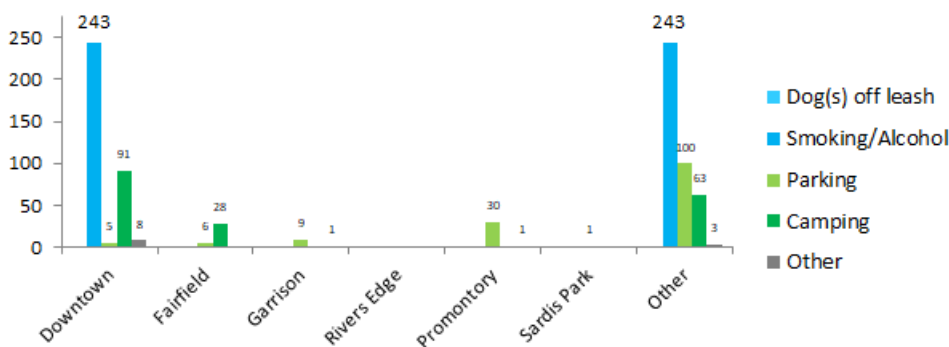
### Verbal Warnings (Parks)



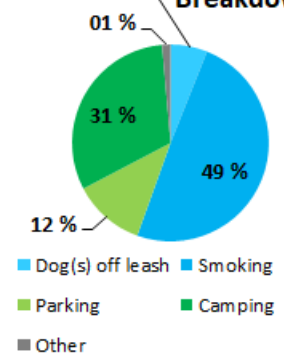
### Verbal Warning - Compliance Achieved



### Verbal Warnings (Neighbourhoods)



### Verbal Warning Breakdown

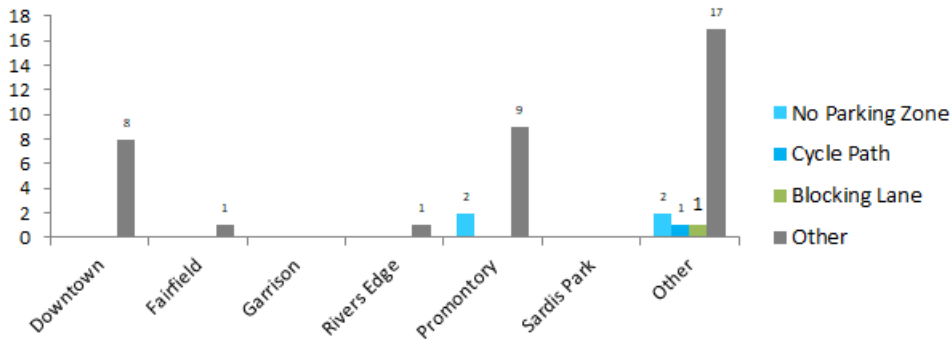


# MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BYLAW ENFORCEMENT

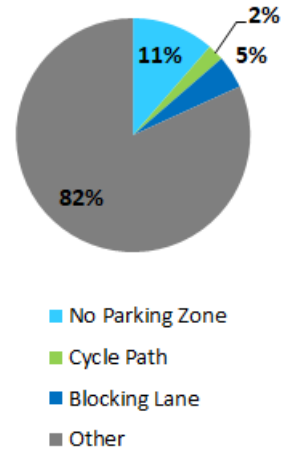


## BYLAW BIKE PATROL INFORMATION

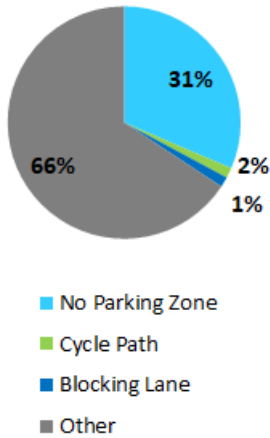
### Written Warnings (Neighbourhoods)



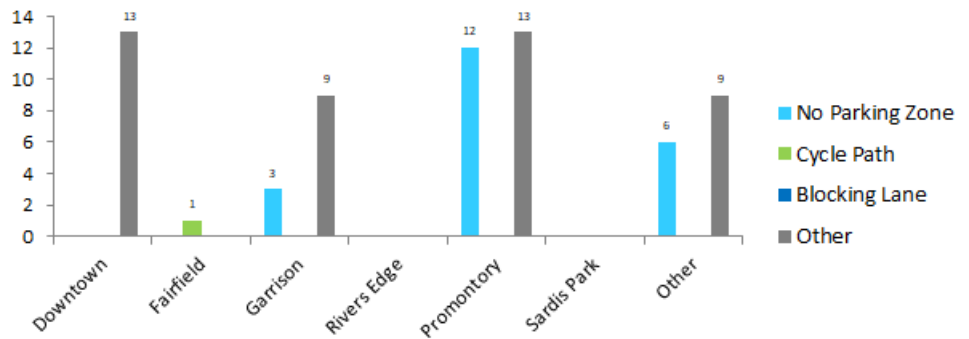
### Written Warning Breakdown



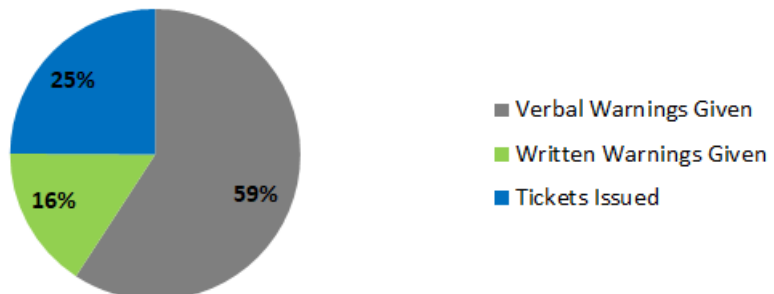
### Ticket Breakdown



### Tickets Issued (Neighbourhoods)



### Parking Enforcement Type



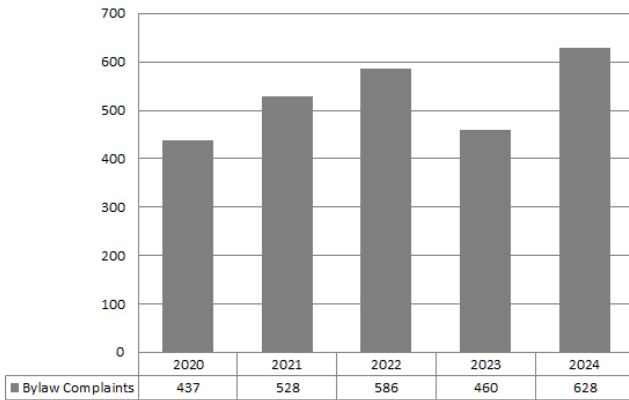


# MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT BYLAW ENFORCEMENT

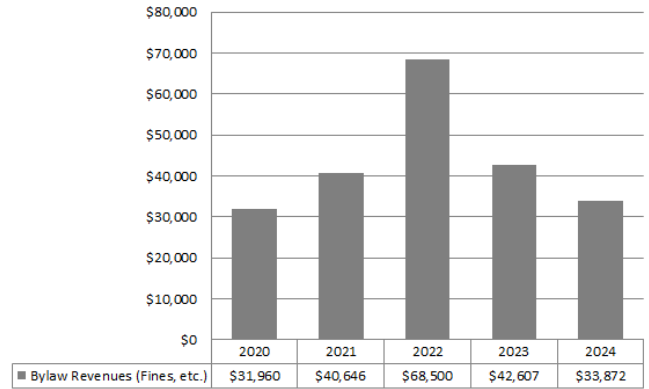


## BYLAW ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION

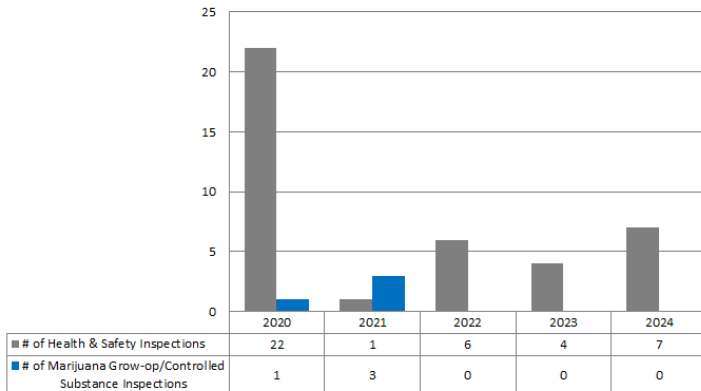
Bylaw Enforcement  
1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison Complaints



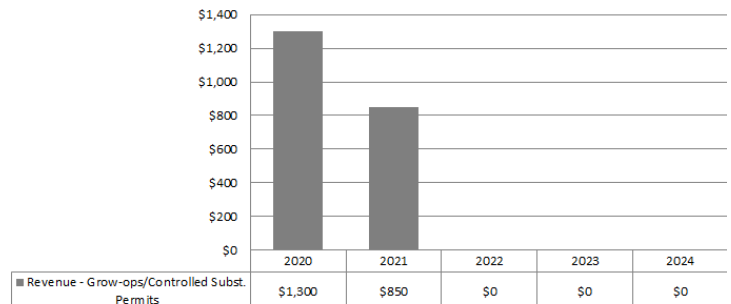
Bylaw Enforcement  
1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison Revenues



Health & Safety Enforcement Inspections  
1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison



Health & Safety  
1st Quarter 5-Year Comparison Revenues



A woman with long dark hair, wearing a white shirt, is holding a large, clear glass sphere. The sphere reflects a street scene with buildings and trees. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a building.

# **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN  
HOMELESSNESS ACTION PLAN  
REACHING HOME  
CHILLIWACK HEALTHIER  
COMMUNITY**

**FIRST QUARTER REPORT, 2024**



# SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

## COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

Through the first quarter of 2024, significant work continued to support implementation of the Chilliwack Community Safety Plan. The Community Safety Governance Committee met in February to review objectives, actions, and opportunities to increase momentum on projects that have struggled to advance. Focus group meetings will be scheduled with subject matter experts to review the various items in the plan that require further collaboration with a focus on Corrections including, discharge planning, detox and treatment services, youth programming, and early interventions.

Highlights for this quarter include:

### Street Based Outreach

- **Pacific Community Resources Society** made 1,052 contacts, accompanying the Community Response Team's daily patrols; and 651 contacts during daily outreach.
- **Cyrus Centre** supported 90 youth with an average of 10-25 contacts daily. Staff made 150 referrals to outside agencies and 100 food hampers were distributed.

Through this work, individuals experiencing homelessness are connected to services such as health services, housing and residential treatment. Funding will continue in 2024-2025, with a focus on a more collaborative and coordinated approach. The contract for this work was awarded in March to Pacific Community Resources Society (PCRS) in partnership with Cyrus Centre to provide services to youth and adults seven days a week.

**Case Management**—Continues in conjunction with daily Community Response Team/outreach patrols, as well as through weekly Situation Table (CIRT) and bi-weekly Shop Talk meetings. A Case Management Services Sub-Project was awarded to PCRS—Housing Hub.

**Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC)** – Continued to meet monthly.

### Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and Car 67 –

The Mobile Integrated Crisis Response (MICR) team has continued working in the community through a partnership between the RCMP and Fraser Health. Efforts to advocate for an ACT team by the Community Safety Governance Committee are ongoing.

**Early Interventions** — A focus group will be scheduled in quarter two to gain a better understanding of the issues affecting young people and identify future opportunities for next steps.

**Funding for Indigenous Homelessness** – Reaching Home funding continued to provide the following supports to Indigenous peoples experiencing homelessness:

- Indigenous Housing Support Facilitator (Housing Hub)
- Indigenous shelter staff (Wellness Centre)
- Indigenous Youth Outreach

### Culturally Appropriate Outreach and Training/

**Collaboration** – Historical Impact Training was provided on two occasions by Kelowa Edel, from Stó:lō Service Agency. 33 staff from local service agencies attended these two day sessions. Given the great feedback and growing waitlist this will be held again in quarters two and three.

**Mobile Health Supports** – Fraser Health's Integrated Homelessness Action Response Team (IHART) and Intensive Case Management (ICM) Team remain active in Chilliwack. Team members are connected and collaborating with RCMP and local service providers and continue to provide mobile, on-call outreach, including medical and mental health supports. IHART operationalized a mobile treatment centre (van) which is operating in Chilliwack two days a week. Services include wound care, harm reduction, testing and care for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), foot care, etc.

# SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT HOMELESSNESS ACTION PLAN

## HOMELESSNESS ACTION PLAN

In this quarter, the following actions were taken by the City, Province, and non-profit partners to implement objectives of Chilliwack’s Homelessness Action Plan:

**Develop and Implement Housing First:** Housing Hub, operated by PCRS, receives funding from Reaching Home for two Housing Support Facilitators that work to house and support individuals and families that are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. They were awarded funding in 2024-2025 to continue this work. The Housing Support Facilitator has a caseload of 22 participants with 12 attached children. A highlight for Housing Hub this quarter was a participant graduated from the program and is slated to move to new affordable housing at the Paramount. The Indigenous Housing Support Facilitator has a caseload of 14 with 8 attached children.

**The CHC Housing First Task Team** meets regularly to discuss shelter and housing services, vacancies, opportunities and challenges. At the meetings in quarter one, challenges included toxic drug supply, complex care issues, the high rate of illness amongst people experiencing homelessness, and lack of doctors to assist participants in the Persons with Disabilities (PWD) application process. Opportunities included a super clinic for participants to receive assistance with getting new ID, taxes and Income Assistance (IA) and PWD applications, new dental supports for seniors, a mobile health clinic, rental subsidies through BC Housing and enhanced supports for immigrants that may be experiencing, or are at imminent risk, of homelessness.

**Wellness Centre:** open from 7 am to 7 pm daily, provides a safe space to rest, eat, do laundry, and get help with Income Assistance applications, identification, minor medical care, and housing applications. This quarter, the Wellness Centre had 8,048 unique visits. In quarter one, it was determined that BC Housing will fund the Wellness Centre, with Lookout Housing and Health Society taking over operations on April 1.

**Increase coordination amongst agencies to prevent homelessness:** weekly Chilliwack Interagency Response Team (Situation Table) meetings continue to take place, providing partners with an update regarding vulnerable individuals with immediate high risks. Seven individuals were supported, including three youth referrals from School District 33 and four adult referrals from PCRS, PearlLife Renewal and the Chilliwack General Hospital Peer Program.

Bi-weekly Shop Talk meetings continued, where front-line staff meet. This meeting is facilitated through a partnership with the City and PCRS and supported by Reaching Home funding. In quarter one, Shop Talk members presented 60 individuals experiencing homelessness and had the highest attendance rate to date at the February 8 meeting, with a total of 28 front line staff participating.

The following agencies participate in this meeting on a regular basis:

- Connective Support Society
- PCRS
- Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (MSDPR)
- Rain City Housing Society
- Chilliwack Probation
- RCMP
- Chilliwack Community Living BC
- Fraser Health—IHART, Rapid Access to Additions Care (RAAC) and, Intensive Case Management (ICM)
- PearlLife Renewal
- Ann Davis Transition Society (ADTS)
- Cyrus Centre
- Salvation Army
- Wilma's Transition Society
- Canadian Addiction Treatment Centres

Shop Talk Stats	
Females	20
Males	40
< 20	0
20's	16
30's	29
40's	12
50's	1
70's	2
Indigenous	35
Use Substances	59
Mental Health	57
Cognitive Impairment	25



Photo of February 8 Shop Talk meeting



# SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

## REACHING HOME

### REACHING HOME—CANADA'S STRATEGY TO END HOMELESSNESS

**Reaching Home** – is a community-based, federally funded program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness by providing direct support and funding to designated communities. In 2020, Chilliwack became a designated community. A contract renewal was received in quarter one to extend the program for a minimum of two years. An additional two years may be provided pending implementation of Coordinated Access and HIFIS.

The 2023-2024 funded programs included a Housing Support Facilitator, Indigenous Housing Support Facilitator, Street Outreach, Indigenous Youth and Youth Outreach and Prevention and Diversion and the Wellness Centre. These successful programs concluded on March 31, 2024.

In quarter one, the Community Advisory Board determined the 2024-2025 funding priorities. Requests for Proposals (RFP) were posted and submissions were evaluated. The following sub-projects were successful in receiving funding:

- PCRS and Cyrus Centre—Coordinated Community Outreach
- Chilliwack and District Seniors' Resources Society—Prevention and Diversion
- Wilma's Transition Society—Prevention and Diversion
- PCRS—Housing Hub—Case Management Services

Photo: Coldest Night of the Year Walk on February 24



**Coordinated Access (CA)** – Staff continued to meet with service providers, Infrastructure Canada, HPD and BC Housing regarding federal and provincial alignment on CA and HIFIS implementation during the first quarter. Significant steps have been made to advance HIFIS implementation including:

- Training for Governance Committee members
- Attendance at a 3-day conference on CA/HIFIS
- Staff testing the HIFIS sandbox environment
- Shared administration documents such as the Project Charter, Privacy Impact Assessment, User Manual, Data Flow Map, Data Sharing agreement, Integrated Program Agreement and Client Consent Forms

**Winter Funding Top-Up**— Infrastructure Canada notified the City of available top up funds in the amount of \$298,933 to address winter unsheltered homelessness. A winter funding investment plan was submitted in January and the following sub-projects were awarded funding:

- Chilliwack and District Seniors' Resources Society—Prevention and Diversion and Rental Supplements.
- Salvation Army—Prevention and Diversion and Food Insecurity.
- Wilma's Transition Society—Prevention and Diversion.
- Ruth and Naomi's—shelter bathroom renovation and 50 shelter mats.
- PCRS—Wellness Centre and Indigenous Clinical and Treatment Services.
- Cyrus Centre—bunk bed mats for the youth shelter—see photo below.



# SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

## CHILLIWACK HEALTHIER COMMUNITY



### CHILLIWACK HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

#### Regular CHC Partner and Task Team Meetings -

Hybrid in-person/virtual bi-monthly partner meetings took place the fourth Tuesday in January and March.

In the spirit of collaboration, the bi-monthly meetings provide a platform to celebrate successes, tackle challenges and identify opportunities brought forward by appointed task team and working group leaders. Through discussion, shared insights and fresh perspectives, the partnership continues to support the work of CHC.

The CHC Coordinator met regularly with task teams and working groups, supporting new initiatives and ongoing business.

#### First Quarter Highlights

The **Poverty Reduction Task Team** continued to work closely with Urban Matters on the development of a localized poverty reduction plan for Chilliwack. Engagement activities included CHC stakeholder discussions with the Healthy Aging and Housing First Task Teams, and the Chilliwack Food Council.

A second round of public engagement, for people with lived and/or living experience, took place on February 7 and 8. The four focus group sessions were held in an effort to capture a better sense of how poverty impacts local residents. The populations that were engaged included:

- Families and single parents.
- Individuals experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness.
- Older adults (those aged 55 years or older).
- Urban and Indigenous people living away from home.

Sessions were well attended, with a total 38 participants. Urban Matters strategically gathered concrete information to better understand strengths, gaps and opportunities in relation to poverty alleviation in Chilliwack. Moving into the second quarter, next steps will include drafting the Plan and coordinating a presentation for the April 23 CHC Information and Networking Event.

The **Chilliwack Food Council (CFC)** finalized their 2024 version of the Free Food Programs in Chilliwack resource. The directory of food providers is publicly available on the CHC website. Monitoring and evaluating improvements in food insecurity remains one of the CFC's key priorities, therefore the resource will undergo a rigorous review and updates on a bi-annual basis or as needed.

Both the **Substance Use Continuum of Care Working Group** and **Opening Doors Task Team** wrapped up the first quarter by tackling important updates to their resource cards. The 2024 versions will soon be printed and uploaded to the CHC website. A waitlist for hardcopy rack cards continues to be maintained by the Coordinator.

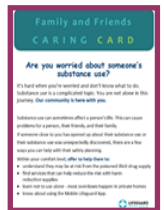
The **Sexuality and Gender Equity Working Group** completed work in researching, compiling and reviewing content to create a resource card for 2SLGBTQIA+ people, their allies, and community.

The **Healthy Aging Task Team** embarked upon planning for the 2024 Aging Well Expo. The free event, slated for the middle of October, is intended to connect, inform and empower older adults in the community with a wide range of services, as well as provide information and products to support the aging process. Monthly meetings will continue to focus on actionable work to support strategic planning. More details will be provided in the second quarter report.

#### Community Events

The Coordinator attended several community events and engagement opportunities throughout the first quarter including, but not limited to:

- Chilliwack Child & Youth Committee Strategic Planning Day.
- National Mental Health and Substance Use Health Summit.
- Community conversation with Dan Levitt, provincially appointed seniors advocate.
- RAN Talk – presentation by Jennifer Hawkins and Kim Friesen.
- Every Door is the Right Door Workshop and panel discussion with Chilliwack Channeling Youth Voices





# SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

## CHILLIWACK HEALTHIER COMMUNITY



### CHILLIWACK HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

#### CHC/CYC Friday Mailout –

CHC continues to send out weekly newsletters every



Friday, updating and connecting partners and organizations on what is happening in the community including information on local events, grant programs, continuous learning opportunities and employment postings. The weekly mailout reaches almost 900 subscribers.

#### Information and Networking Breakfasts -

The February 27 Information and Networking breakfast event introduced the topic of Inclusion, Diversity and Accessibility. Participants were guided through an interactive workshop geared towards people who have at least one disability, or know colleagues, family, friends, program participants or clients who do.

The presenters challenged attendees to:

- Think about prominent perceptions and norms.
- Learn about “supporting actions” that lead to inclusion and accessibility.
- Identify what individuals, organizations and businesses can do better.



An engaged audience of 37 people included representation by local service providers, government and community members. Event evaluations and feedback reflected an interest in CHC offering additional professional development on the topics of both Gender Diversity and Workplace Diversity & Inclusion.

