

Municipality of Red Lake

2023

Annual Report

For the year ended December 31, 2023





LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We, the Municipality of Red Lake acknowledge that our foundation and the spaces in which we live and maintain are on the lands of the Anishinaapek of Red Lake; the traditional lands of Lac Seul and Wabauskang First Nations, and Treaty 3 Territory. As we are all Treaty people, we will continue to cherish the reciprocity of all our relationships on these sacred Lands and Waters.

Meet your Council



Mayor Fred Mota

AMO Board of Directors
Community Health Care Committee
KDMA Board of Directors
KDSB Board of Directors & Governance
Committee
NOMA Board of Directors
Red Lake Winter Carnival Committee
Truth & Reconciliation Committee



Deputy Mayor, Janet Hager

Community Health Care Committee
Planning Advisory Committee
Truth & Reconciliation Committee
ROMA Board of Directors



Councillor Warren Badiuk

Red Lake District Resource Management Advisory
Committee (LCC)
District of Kenora Home for the Aged



Councillor Debra Geary

Red Lake Public Library Board
Red Lake Regional Heritage Centre
Board



Councillor Jamie Kristoff

CCDC Board of Directors
Northwestern Health Unit Board of Directors
Red Lake-Ear Falls OPP Detachment Board



Student Councillor Raphael "Vitto" Janapin

Message from the Mayor



As we come together to reflect on the past year, it is with great pride and optimism that I address you in this annual report. It has been a year of challenges, resilience, and remarkable achievements for our municipality. Despite the obstacles, our municipality continued to make significant progress across various fronts. From infrastructure development to community engagement initiatives, each endeavor has been a testament to our collective dedication to building a brighter future for all.

It is important to recognize the contributions of all of Council and members of our local boards and committees. Your collaborative spirit, thoughtful insights, and unwavering advocacy have been instrumental in advancing our shared goals of a safe, vibrant, inclusive and sustainable community. Each of you brings a unique perspective and skill set to the table, enriching our discussions and driving innovation in our approach to governance.

As we look ahead to the future, we must remain persistent in our commitment to progress, inclusivity, and sustainability. Together, let us continue to work hand in hand, building upon the successes of the past year and charting a course toward an even brighter tomorrow.

Our Municipality is defined by the passion and dedication of its residents. From volunteering to participating in community events, your contributions make a difference every day. Together, we have cultivated a strong sense of civic pride that sets us apart and makes Red Lake a place we are all proud to call home.

I am immensely proud of what we have accomplished together, and I am confident that, with our continued collaboration and determination, we will overcome any obstacle and realize our shared vision for a thriving municipality. We are committed to building on our successes and addressing the challenges that lie ahead. By working together, we can continue to make our community a beacon of progress and prosperity for generations to come.

Mayor Fred Mota
Municipality of Red Lake

Message from the CAO

As we look back on 2023 and embrace what the future holds for our Municipality, I would like to express gratitude to our greatest asset – our employees. Their spirit of service, professionalism, and dedication is evident every day. Their passion for our community and unwavering determination to enhance the lives of the residents and visitors alike, is what makes our organization so great.

To them I say “Your hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed, and it is my honour to acknowledge and commend each of you for your service. The assistance to our community including countless behind-the-scenes tasks that keep our municipality running smoothly are deeply appreciated. Together, we have achieved remarkable milestones and laid the groundwork for a brighter future for our community and I thank-you.”

As stewards of our community's well-being, it is our commitment to our residents to uphold principles of continuous improvement, transparency, and fiscal responsibility in all that we do. We recognize the importance of these values in fostering trust, promoting accountability, and ensuring the sustainable growth and prosperity of our municipality. We are dedicated to continuously enhancing the services we provide to meet the evolving needs of our residents. Through ongoing evaluation, feedback mechanisms, and innovative solutions, we strive to optimize efficiency, effectiveness, and quality in all aspects of our operations. We are committed to fostering open communication, sharing information openly and proactively, and engaging in meaningful dialogue with our residents.

We recognize the importance of prudent financial management in safeguarding the resources entrusted to us. We are committed to exercising fiscal responsibility in all our budgetary decisions, ensuring that taxpayer dollars are allocated efficiently, effectively, and in alignment with the priorities and values of our community. Through sound financial planning, responsible budgeting, and strategic investment, we aim to achieve long-term sustainability and fiscal resilience, positioning our municipality for success both now and in the future.

Thank-you – may 2024 be a year of great progress and celebration.

Trilbee Stirling-Kattler
Chief Administrative Officer

Vision, Mission, Values & Beliefs

Vision

The Municipality of Red Lake is committed to providing an environment where citizens and businesses can thrive.

Mission

The Municipality of Red Lake will be a safe, vibrant, inclusive and sustainable community.

We Value...

Integrity - We will act in an honest, reliable and trustworthy manner in all our interactions with each other and the public. Our stakeholders can expect to be treated with consistency and fairness.

Transparency and Accountability - We will openly provide timely and accurate information about municipal strategies and actions, and measure and report results as stewards of the Municipality's resources.

Excellence - We strive to achieve the highest standards.

Respect - We treat our employees and community members with mutual respect and sensitivity, recognizing the importance of equality, diversity and inclusion.

We Believe in...

Leadership - We believe the Municipality has an important role in stimulating and supporting collaboration within our community and across the region to achieve our common goals.

Engagement - We believe in acknowledging our past, listening, joining and enabling conversations with the community and our regional, provincial, federal and global partners.

Flexibility - We believe our future depends on forward thinking and being adaptable - responding resourcefully to the changing environment.

Our Strategic Directions



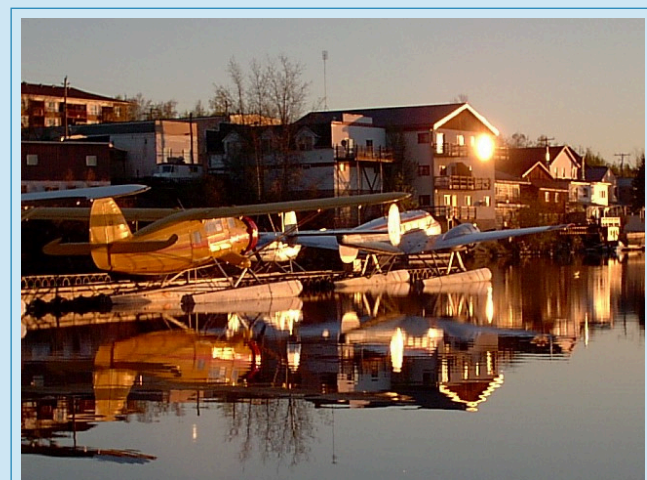
Towards a Responsive Regional Service Hub

- Prepare for Road South
- Expand Government Investment



Towards More People, More Investment

- Stimulate Economic Development
- Community Revitalization



Towards Modern, Efficient Operations & Infrastructure

- Targeted Investments in Infrastructure
- Efficient, Citizen Centred Services
- Expand Municipal Revenue

Our Strategies at Work

Strategy 1 Prepare for Road South



Completed:

- Signed Memorandum of Understanding with Pikangikum First Nation for the development of a new regional landfill site.
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism Policy adopted by Council.
- Education events hosted by Truth & Reconciliation Committee in partnership with High School and Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre including a presentation by Sara Mainville

To be completed in 2024:

- Issuance of RFP for assistance with EA process for new landfill.
- Develop road map for implementation of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism Policy.
- Expand engagement of Truth & Reconciliation to include events for National Indigenous Peoples Day.
- Undertaking a socio-economic and infrastructure gap study in partnership Chukuni Communities Development Corporation and Kenora District Services Board.

Our Strategies at Work

Strategy 2 Expand Government Investment



Completed:

- Travel to conferences to meet with Ministers, Parliamentary Assistants and other bureaucrats:
 - Rural Ontario Municipal Association 2023- 4 delegations.
 - Ontario Good Roads Association 2023 - 2 delegations.
 - Association of Municipalities Ontario 2023 - 6 delegations.
 - Rural Ontario Municipal Association 2024 - 12 delegations.
- Regular contact with Ministerial staff and provincial bureaucrats.
- Creation of Student Councillor position.

To be completed in 2024:

- Lobbying for a new resource revenue sharing model.
- Lobbying for a new funding model for Ontario municipalities.
- Funding approved and construction to begin on Kenora District Services Board transitional housing.
- Lobbying for increased energy capacity in the Municipality.
- Lobbying for increased health and community service resources (doctors, technology, facilities).
- Lobbying for unincorporated territory to contribute to Home for the Aged.

Our Strategies at Work

Strategy 3 Stimulate Economic Development



Completed:

- Received and approved 1 application under the Community Improvement Plan.
- Assist development opportunities by way of approving:
 - 3 Official Plan Amendments
 - 5 Zoning By-Law Amendments
 - 5 Consents
 - 2 Minor Variances
 - 3 Building Permit applications

To be completed in 2024:

- Working to increase serviceable land inventory.
- Reviewing Community Improvement Plan.
- Requested funding to re-establish a full-time Economic Development Officer.
- Funding application for expansion of the Red Lake Airport.
- Explore feasibility of a Business Improvement Area (BIA).

Our Strategies at Work

Strategy 4 Community Revitalization



Completed:

- Completion of the multi-purpose trail from High School to Hughes Crescent.
- Design for rehabilitation of Norseman Park in collaboration with the Truth & Reconciliation Committee.
- Rehabilitation of St. Paul's Bay boat launch.
- Clean up of McKenzie Island parking lot in Cochenour.
- Creation of the Age-Friendly program and recognition as an Age-Friendly Community in Ontario.
- Submitted funding application for infrastructure to support housing development.
- Two successful FoodCycler pilot projects to reduce waste.
- Drums Alive exercise program for seniors has started.
- Memorandum of Understanding with the High School to build a Community Greenhouse.

To be completed in 2024:

- Phase 1 of the Norseman Park rehabilitation to occur in summer 2024.
- Ongoing support for building private seniors' residence.
- Expansion of Age-Friendly program to include senior participation in the Community Greenhouse.

Our Strategies at Work

Strategy 5 Targeted Investment in Infrastructure



Completed:

- Upgrades at the Transfer Site including expansion of cell for construction material and rehabilitation of recycling buildings.
- Design for water and wastewater service expansion at the Red Lake Airport.
- Significant improvements to the Cochenour water, wastewater, and road network - on budget and on time.

To be completed in 2024:

- Moving forward on a new arena.
- Updates to Municipal Asset Management Plan to inform lowest lifetime costs for the building, maintenance and rehabilitation of all assets.
- Creation of a long-term infrastructure rehabilitation / renewal / maintenance plan.
- Engineering for improvements to Howey Street, Howey Bay bridge, and water and wastewater upgrades.

Our Strategies at Work

Strategy 6 Efficient Client, Centred Services



Completed:

- Funding application submitted to determine the feasibility of public transportation.
- Expansion of Canada Day celebration activities.
- Re-establishment of the Recreation Programmer position.
- Began digitization of municipal records to create efficiencies in service delivery.
- Implemented pre-authorized payments.
- New rescue unit for the Red Lake Fire Service received.
- Expanded the Red Lake Cemetery.
- New score clock, sound system, and electric Zamboni for the Cochenour Arena.
- Installation of a public EV charging station near the Red Lake Community Centre.
- Monetary, and in-kind donations provided to community events.

To be completed in 2024:

- Community Wildfire Protection Plan and FireSmart Community initiatives.
- Determine feasibility of an emergency services hub.
- Expansion of recreational programming.
- Assessing group insurance models with neighbouring municipalities to foster more stable, lower insurance rates.
- Continue digitization and integration of municipal services.

Our Strategies at Work

Strategy 7 Expand Municipal Revenue

Completed:

- Awarded provision of real estate services for marketing and sale of municipal property.

To be completed in 2024:

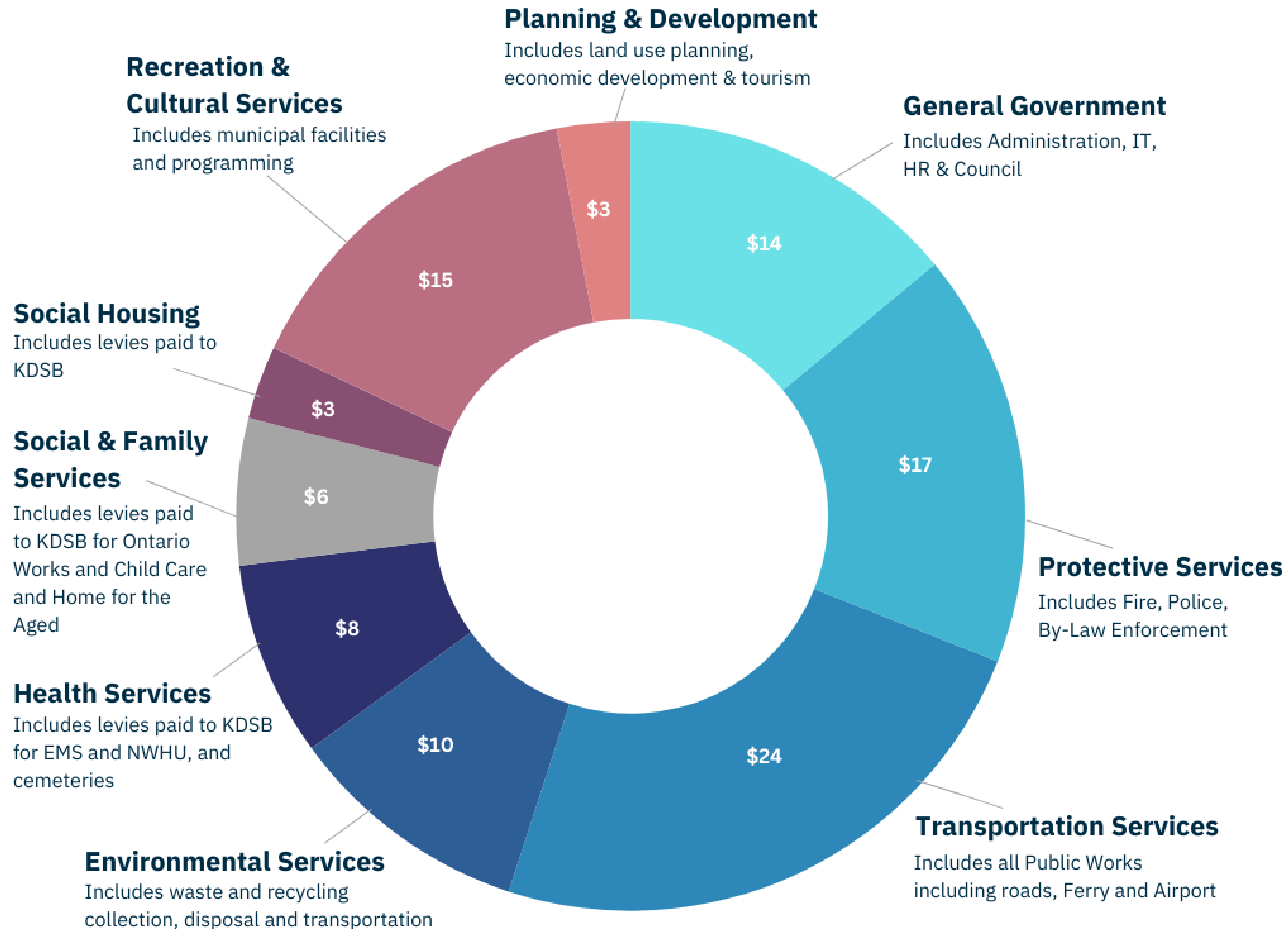
- Preparation of municipal lots to ready them for sale for residential and commercial development.

Financial Snapshot

- Invested over **\$7.1 million** into capital assets
- Received **\$2.5 million** in provincial and federal capital funding
 - Cochenour water, wastewater, road renewal
 - Paving of multi-purpose trail
 - Repairs to the McKenzie Island Fire Hall after 2022 flooding
 - Airport runway lighting improvements
- Utilized **\$2.1 million** in provincial and federal formula funding
 - Cochenour water, wastewater, road renewal
 - Road paving and improvements
 - Water and wastewater upgrades
- Utilized **\$875 thousand** in reserve funds
 - Doctor recruitment
 - New rescue unit for Fire Department
 - Finalize design for Norseman Park rehabilitation
 - Water and wastewater upgrades
 - Records digitization and internal system upgrades
- Paid down almost **\$500 thousand** of long term debt
- Transferred **\$705 thousand** to reserves
 - Purchase new equipment to improve efficiency and reduce maintenance costs
 - Fund legislated review and update to Official Plan and Zoning By-Law

Your Tax Dollars

Taxes go towards funding public infrastructure and services that benefit our community, such as roads, parks, facilities and health and safety services. This is a breakdown of the operating costs for every \$100 levied:



Contact Us



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www.redlake.ca

