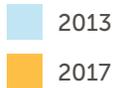


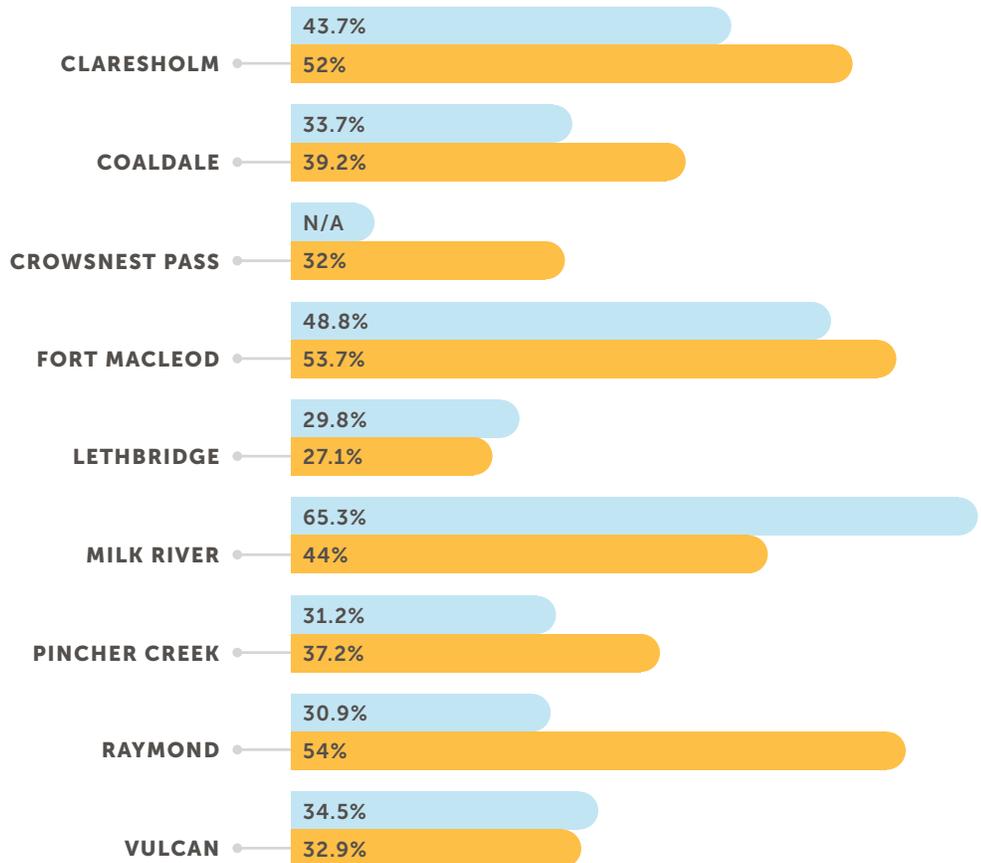


## Voter Turnout

Across Southwestern Alberta



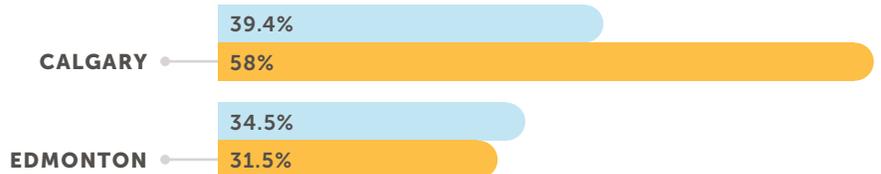
Alberta went to the polls in 2017 to elect new municipal governments. How many people actually voted? How engaged are we in the political process?



## Representation

In Counties and Municipal Districts

Southwestern Albertans residing in the eight counties or municipal districts within the region elect a combined total of 50 councillors. In 2017, 27 of the 50 council seats were acclaimed. No elections were held for councils in the MD of Ranchland or the County of Warner—each of those council seats was acclaimed.



\*Records on voter turnout for the 2017 Alberta Municipal Elections were not available for all municipalities.

## For Comparison

2015



### HOW THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HELPS

In 2017, the Community Foundation awarded \$76,630 in grant funding to ten organizations for projects focused specifically on enhancing quality of life within the Community Connections Impact Area.

## Southwestern Alberta in 100 People

Southwestern Alberta has a population of just under 200,000 people—199,764, according to data from the 2016 Census. But what would it look like if only 100 people lived here?



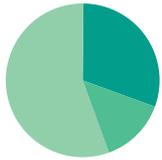
### EQUAL PARTS

An even number of women and men (Census results do not account for individuals who express a gender identity outside of the binary).



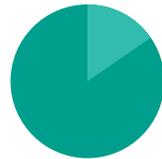
### PRIMARY LANGUAGE

81 people would speak English as their primary language; 1 person would speak French as their primary language, and 17 others would speak a non-official language.



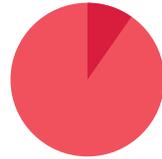
### EDUCATION

85 people would be high school graduates; 56 people would have gone to post-secondary.



### LOCATION

16 people would be residents of rural Alberta (i.e., not from a community of 1,000 or more).



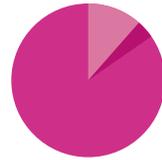
### ETHNIC ORIGIN

9 people would have Indigenous ethnic origins.



### INCOME

9 people would make less than \$10,000 annually; 6 people would make more than \$100,000 annually.



### IMMIGRATION

13 people would have immigrated to Canada—3 of them in the last five years.

## Reconciliation Lethbridge

Southwestern Alberta is located within traditional Blackfoot territory. According to the 2016 Census, 15,725 residents of Southwestern Alberta, or 7.9%, indicated they identify as Indigenous. (This percentage includes anyone who identifies as First Nations, Metis, or Inuit, anyone who is a Registered or Treaty Indian, or anyone with membership in a First Nation or Indian band.) This is higher than the provincial average of 6.5%.

According to Reconciliation Canada's 2017 National Narrative on Reconciliation Report, 62% of Indigenous Canadians and 46% of non-Indigenous Canadians believe there is a great need for reconciliation. A majority (61% Indigenous /64% non-Indigenous) believe that municipal, provincial, or federal governments are most responsible for "leadership in bringing about reconciliation."

Lethbridge's municipal government is the first in Canada to create a Reconciliation Implementation Plan. Assembled by a coalition of the Lethbridge Indigenous Sharing Network and the City of Lethbridge, the plan sets out specific responses to 18 of the 94 Calls to Action outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's final report. Five of these calls to action advocate direct municipal action; the other 13 encompass areas of society where community support can promote healing.

The Reconciliation Implementation Plan has influenced the City of Lethbridge's approach to urban planning. As a response to Call to Action 47, the City has incorporated engagement of Indigenous peoples and perspectives within the urban planning process. The City intends to seek Elder input into infrastructure placement, development, and helping in the preservation of historical Indigenous sites.

In 2017, Reconciliation Lethbridge held its inaugural Reconciliation Week. The event was commemorated with ceremonies and a flag-raising at City Hall, as well as events throughout the week organized by local community groups. In 2018, Lethbridge City Council granted the Reconciliation Lethbridge Advisory Committee's request for \$25,000 in funding for 2018, and gave approval for a further \$50,000 per year in funding for events, education, and research.



**Did You Know?** Nobleford became a town on February 28, 2018, 100 years to the date of its incorporation as a village.

