

# Olds

[www.town.olds.ab.ca](http://www.town.olds.ab.ca)

## Welcome

**Olds** really DOES have it all! Rolling hills, fertile farmland, a stable economy, a high standard of living and a short, pleasant drive to major cities...for what more could you ask?

Located in the heartland of central Alberta, Olds is a major service centre and regional market for over 20,000 people in the Mountain View County region. The friendly hospitality of Olds combined with fine schools, thriving industries, full recreation opportunities, and all the amenities associated with a city make Olds a prosperous community with a commitment to sustainable growth and the maintenance of a quality lifestyle. Our central location along the bustling Highway 2 corridor and our proximity to major centres also contribute to the continued growth and economic stability of Olds.

**IT'S OUR 100TH BIRTHDAY!** In 2005, both Olds and Alberta celebrated their 100th birthdays! This is truly cause for celebration - a time to reflect with pride on our past, and to look with anticipation to the future. Our official Homecoming Weekend Celebration activities were in July, but there are still lots of events and activities happening in our community as organizations, businesses and all of Olds celebrate 100 years. Information on Centennial activities and events is covered in the "Community Lifestyle" section of this profile.

**WE ARE A COMMUNITY IN BLOOM** We are proud to be annual participants in the **Communities in Bloom** program, a friendly competition that evaluates communities of similar size in the categories of Tidiness, Landscaped Areas, Turf Areas, Heritage Conservation, Urban Forestry, Floral Displays, Environmental Effort, and Community Involvement. Thanks to the efforts of the Communities in Bloom Committee and all citizens, we won Four Blooms in Provincial Competition in 2002, the highest award achievable. Olds achieved particularly high scores in the areas of Community Involvement and Heritage Conservation, with the judges commenting that "Olds is rich in heritage buildings ... and is in the forefront for environmental conservation." In 2003, we competed in National Competition, and were pleased to receive Four Blooms (out of a possible Five). In 2004 in National Competition, we were awarded Five Blooms. At the National Awards Ceremony on 24 September 2005, Olds was announced as the **BEST TOWN IN CANADA** in the 5,001 - 10,000 population category, receiving Five Blooms (out of a possible five)! Over 100 Canadian municipalities participated in National Competition, with 20 entered in International competition.

"The judges were most impressed with the involvement at all levels in the community. The pride, sense of community and feeling of accomplishment were most pleasant to note. The whole community excelled in all criteria: tidiness effort, urban forestry, landscaped areas, floral displays, turf and groundcover areas, environmental awareness, heritage preservation and community development." (quote from Communities in Bloom News Release, 26 Sept 2005)

Judges were also especially impressed with the town's new Bottle Recycling Facility, owned and operated by Accredited Supports to the Community, calling it a "clean, cheerful facility ... the atmosphere in the Depot was pleasant and calm; a model for operation of such a facility, and is very well-supported by the community."

**VISIT US ON THE WEB** Our website is one of the best sources of information on Olds. Take an on-line visit today at [www.town.olds.ab.ca](http://www.town.olds.ab.ca).

Please note that the businesses, facilities and organizations listed throughout this site are only those who have a current Town of Olds Business License and who have consented to public release of their information by the Town of Olds. Please refer to other sources for businesses or facilities not listed here.

## Area Overview

### **GREAT LOCATION!**

The Town of Olds is ideally located on the Calgary/Edmonton Highway 2 corridor, only 50 minutes north of the Calgary International

Airport. We are a bustling centre of 6700 people, and Olds is part of the fourth-fastest-growing area in Canada.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF OLDS

The year 1890 marks the beginning of the settlement that became the town of Olds. When the C & E rail line reached the sixth siding (Olds) out of Calgary, a section foreman named David Shannon arrived on an open handcar. Here he provided living quarters for his family and established squatter's rights to a quarter section of land, gaining them the distinction of being the earliest residents of Olds.

On 27 July 1891, the first through train made the trip from Calgary to south Edmonton. A committee of CPR officials, charged with selecting names for the points along the line, suggested "Shannon", but this honour was declined by David Shannon and the town site was instead named for a CPR traffic manager, George Olds. He was born in Gloucestershire, England in 1832. He came to Canada as a young man and worked for a number of railways in Canada and the United States, returning to Canada in 1886 to join Canadian Pacific as a General Traffic Manager. He held this position until his retirement 10 years later. Mr. Olds is buried in the Airdrie cemetery. It appears that even before he retired from employment with the CPR, he lived for a time in the settlement that was named for him, running a store.

For more history on Olds, please visit our [website](#).

**Town of Olds Vision** That all citizens of Olds enjoy excellent quality of life and a good standard of living in a safe, clean, progressive and caring rural community.

## Town of Olds Mission

To effectively and efficiently provide quality programs, services and facilities, and to create a healthy, flourishing community and a positive environment for growth.

## Town of Olds Logo

The Town of Olds logo "*Your Partner in Opportunities*" epitomizes our enthusiasm and commitment to making Olds "the most dynamic community in Alberta" and a terrific place in which to live and work!

- Wheat Sheaf - represents our strong agriculture base.
- Pump Jack - represents our oil industry.
- Cogs - represent the wheels of industry in our area.
- Tree - represents quality of life and awareness of our environment.



## Climate

In Olds, Alberta, expect lots of sunshine, no matter what the season. But be warned: being close to the mountains means weather can change at a moment's notice. So follow the lead of Albertans, and be prepared! Our climate is generally Continental, with cold winters and warm summers, but we enjoy regular seasonal warm weather fronts (Chinook Winds) in winter. Temperature ranges in summer (June to August) from 15° C to 23° C (60° F to 73° F). Temperature ranges in winter (November to February) from -8° C to -25° C (18° F to -13° F). We get about 1900 hours of sunshine annually.

To check out the current weather conditions in Olds and the surrounding area, [Click here](#).

- Elevation - 1040 metres (3412 feet) ASL
- Latitude - 51 Degrees / 46 Minutes North
- Longitude - 114 Degrees / 6 Minutes West

# Community Services

## **SMALL TOWN, BIG AMENITIES!**

As the "*Gateway to the Rockies*", Olds offers more than 100 acres of parks, playgrounds, picnic areas and golf courses. The beautiful Rocky Mountains and a myriad of recreation opportunities are within easy access from several convenient and scenic routes. Olds has one of the finest sports arenas in central Alberta, which is home to the Olds Grizzlys Junior A Hockey Club, and a spectacular new Aquatic Centre.

**Lots to see and do** Fun events such as the Olds Fair & Rodeo, Olds College Open House, Canada Day Festival, month-long Olds Fashioned Christmas festivities, and the Kiwanis Music Festival are just a few of the year-round activities from which to choose.

Click here to go to our website for a list of [Coming Events](#).

The information below is also listed in our Community Service Directory. Visit our website to view the Directory in a PDF format, or pick up a copy at Town Office.

**New! – Olds Aquatic Centre** Our spectacular Olds Aquatic Centre officially opened to the public in November 2002. This state-of-the-art facility features an 8-metre tall Waterslide, a five-lane, 25-metre Lane Pool, Whirlpool, Tot Pool with beach-type entry for children and the physically-challenged, and a Multi-Purpose Room, perfect for parties and meetings. The facility is also wheelchair accessible. Located at 5303 46 Ave south of Olds College, this facility is owned and operated by the Town of Olds.

**Olds Sportsplex** Located at 5133 52 Ave, this fine facility consists of an Arena with two ice surfaces and a Curling Rink with six sheets. The main ice surface (200' x 85') is used from approximately 1 May to 10 August for non-ice functions (dances, shows, banquets, graduation, etc.) and from mid-August to April for ice rentals. The Auxiliary ice surface (180' x 85') is used from 1 April to 15 October for non-ice functions and from September to 31 March for ice rentals. The upstairs Concourse is also available for rentals, dances, shows, meetings and other functions. Lockers are also available for rent. There is Public Skating at the Sports Complex several times a week during the winter season, sponsored by the Royal Canadian Legion. To book ice times or other facilities, please call the Sports Complex staff Administration office at 403-556-3244. This facility is owned and operated by the Town of Olds. Call 403-556-3876 for a recording of the Daily Events Schedule.

**Olds Grizzlys Hockey** This Junior A hockey club plays a 64-game season. Their 32 home games are played on the Main Ice Surface at the Olds Sports Complex. The Olds Grizzlys were the 1994 Centennial Cup Champions when Olds hosted the championship that year. Ticket Information - 403-556-1121 Website: [www.oldsgrizzlys.com](http://www.oldsgrizzlys.com)

**Mountain View Museum** Located in the historic Alberta Government Telephones building at the corner of 50th Street and 51st Avenue, the Museum tells the story of the settling of the Olds area through various displays. It is open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Friday from July 1 to August 31, and from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Tuesday to Thursday the rest of the year. Phone: 403-556-8464 Website: [www.telusplanet.net/public/ohschin](http://www.telusplanet.net/public/ohschin)

**Olds Municipal Library** In addition to a plethora of books, the Library has a good selection of periodicals, videos, audio tapes, and large print and multi-lingual media. Internet access is free (call first to book a computer). Throughout the year, the Library offers extensive pre-school story programs, a summer reading program and a large variety of programs for youth and adults. See the separate "Calendar of Events" for a schedule of upcoming programs. This facility is owned and operated by the Town of Olds. Phone: 403-556-6460 Website: <http://oml.prl.ab.ca>

**Olds Curling Rink** Located at 5133 52 St (Olds Sportsplex), the rink offers six sheets of ice, a lounge and a Concession. Call 403-556-3235 for information on curling leagues. This facility is owned by the Town of Olds and operated by the Curling Club under contract.

**Olds Recreation Centre** Owned and operated by the Town of Olds, this community hall located at 5205 52 St seats 150 people. There is also a smaller meeting room and limited kitchen facilities. Call the Sports Complex staff at 403-556-3244 to book this facility.

**Olds College Fitness Centre** Located in Frank Grisdale Hall (residence) of Olds College, this facility is open to the public, and offers weights, cycles, treadmills and stair climbers. Fitness classes are also offered throughout the year in the Gymnasium, and are listed in the Fall and Winter catalogues of the Mountain View Society for Lifelong Learning. Phone: 403-556-8217

**Mayfair Cinema** This historic theatre shows all the latest movies, featuring at least one new movie every Friday. At certain times of the year (e.g. Christmas) there are free children's matinees. Call the Movie Hot Line at 403-556-3218 for a recording of what's currently playing.

**New! - Trails System** The Town of Olds is in the process of developing a Trails System, incorporating paved and unpaved trails. Watch for "Trails" signs, stop at Town Office for a brochure / map, or visit our website.

**Olds Central Highlands Golf Course** This outstanding course offers challenges for the experienced golfer as well as the novice. Located 4 km east of Olds then 1 km north, this 18-hole golf course also offers a Driving Range, Lounge, Licensed Dining Room with Sun Deck, and a Pro Shop with power/pull cart and equipment rental. Call the friendly staff at 403-556-8008 to book tee times or for information on the many tournaments hosted there during the year.

**Baseball Diamonds** - Olds College - 1 diamond - 57 Ave at Imperial Drive - 2 diamonds - (to book these diamonds, call the Sports Complex at 403-556-3244) - 54 St, next to O.R. Hedges Park - 5 diamonds - (to book these diamonds, call the Sports Complex at 403-556-3244) - Deer Meadow School, 61 Ave - 2 diamonds

**Centennial Park** Centennial Park is the site of our Olds Fashioned Christmas Light-Up, held the last Saturday of November each year. The Gazebo and Cookhouse are available for private functions. Both facilities have electrical outlets, and full washroom facilities are located nearby. Call the Sports Complex staff at 403-556-3244 to book these facilities. An outdoor skating rink with benches is part of the Park amenities.

**O.R. Hedges Campground** 403-556-2299 (seasonal May to October only) This pleasant, full-service campground is located near downtown Olds, within easy walking distance of shopping, restaurants and recreation facilities. Located on 54th Street across from the Cow Palace, the campground offers 46 sites serviced with water and electricity. There are complete washroom and shower facilities, and a sewer dumping station is located at the south end of the campground. Each site has its own picnic table and fire pit. Weather permitting, O.R. Hedges Campground is open from the Victoria Day weekend to October.

The operation of the campground is leased to the Olds Lions Club. Effective 1 June 2003, the Lions Club has an on-site Manager at the campground. **Reservations accepted - call (403) 556-2299 (seasonal only).**

#### **Campground Fees - per site, per night:**

- \$20/site (power & water)
- \$15/site (overflow or no services)
- \$7/site for tents (no services)

Payment is collected by the on-site Manager at the entrance to the campground; after hours, payment is by self-registration.

#### **Horseshoe Pits**

Located at Centennial Park ... 50 Ave & 54 St

#### **Picnic Areas**

- Centennial Park - 50 Ave & 54 St - Washrooms, Gazebo, Cookhouse
- Hartman Green - 53 St

#### **Parks & Playgrounds**

- Handicap Access - Horizon School - 5401 - 53 St
- Centennial - 50 Ave and 53 St
- Hartman Green - 56 Ave and 53 St
- Frank Wong Memorial - Shannon Drive
- Beech Cres - 63 Ave and 53 St
- Craig's Corner Memorial - 48 Ave and Highway 27
- Ralph Maybank Memorial - 56 Ave and 50 St -
- Neil Leatherdale Memorial - 54 Ave and 43 St -
- Richards Cres - Richards Cres -
- Herb Samis Welcoming Gardens - 46 St and 50 Ave

#### **Skating Rinks - (outdoor - weather permitting)**

A word about outdoor rinks ... to make a successful outdoor rink, we need at least one week of cold weather (-10°C to -15°C). Rinks

will only be made when weather conditions are right.

- Centennial Park - 50 Ave & 54 St
- Deer Meadow School - 5411 - 61 Ave
- Neil Leatherdale Memorial Park - 54 Ave & 43 St

#### **Sports Fields (Soccer, Track)**

- Centennial Park - 50 Ave & 54 St
- O. R. Hedges Park - 54 St
- Deer Meadow School - 61 Ave
- Olds Elementary School - 5413 - 53 St
- Olds College - 46 Ave (Hwy 2A)
- Olds Jr/Sr High School (behind KFC) - 46 Ave (Hwy 2A)

#### **Tennis Courts**

- Olds College - 46 Ave (Hwy 2A) - Three fenced asphalt courts
- Olds Jr/Sr High School - 46 Ave (Hwy 2A) - Two Fenced asphalt courts

#### **Olds & District Evergreen Centre, 5237 52 Street**

The Evergreens are a senior citizens group (50 years and older) who meet during the week for activities such as card games, bingo, square dancing, carpet bowling, pool, shuffleboard, walking, 50+ exercises and day bus trips. This facility is owned by the Town of Olds. The hall is available for rent to the public.

Hall: 403-556-8515

#### **Royal Canadian Legion No. 105-5241 46 Street (Highway 27)**

The Legion is a veteran's club that is active in community affairs & service. The hall and boardroom are available for private and public functions. The Legion coordinates annual Remembrance Day Services on 11 November, and also contributes to and assists in minor sports of all kinds, senior citizens' activities and many recognized charities. Information regarding membership is available at the branch. Regular and satellite bingo is played every Wednesday night and food service is available in the lounge Monday to Saturday. Phone: 403-556-6406 Fax: 403-556-7288

#### **Olds Elks Hall**

The Elks Lodge is a national, fraternal and charitable organization promoting and supporting the community through volunteer efforts of the local lodges. Membership is open to men resident in Canada during the preceding six months. Currently there are about 92 members. The hall is available to rent. Location 5113 - 49 Avenue

Phone: 403-556-8848 (Hall)

Bookings: 403-556-3714 John Potiuk

For additional community halls and facilities, please visit our [website](#).



Beautiful O. R. Hedges Campground offers comfort and security, and is close to downtown shopping, entertainment and recreational facilities.



Kids just LOVE the Tot Pool and waterslide at our new Aquatic Centre!

## Community Lifestyle

### THE BEST OF URBAN LIVING IN THE HEART OF THE COUNTRY!

We've been told by new homeowners that they chose Olds because of quality of life issues. Our strong, stable economy means that young families move here, and potential industries can see that the labour base is going to meet their needs. Research shows that Olds is one of the fastest-growing communities along the Highway 2 Corridor between Calgary and Edmonton. Our location is perfect for those who want to be close to larger centres but enjoy the benefits of living in a smaller community.

**ENJOY THE GOOD LIFE IN OLDS** People in Olds love to eat, and we love to shop! For information on restaurants, accommodation and shopping, please visit our online [Business Directory](#) located on our website. **Small Town, BIG Amenities!** Used to the amenities of a big city? Don't be fooled by our size! Olds boasts all the facilities and activities usually found in much larger centres - arts and cultural clubs and classes, fitness centres, all indoor and outdoor sports, libraries, a museum, movie theatre, festivals, concerts, and a great selection of restaurants and accommodation - and Olds College has the perfect facilities and amenities for your convention group, large or small.

**It was our 100th birthday...** 2005 marked the 100th anniversary of Olds. In July we held our Centennial Homecoming Weekend. If you would like to see what we did to celebrate this milestone, visit the Centennial page on our [website](#).

**Activities for the Entire Family** With our many recreation facilities and opportunities, there's always something to do in Olds, rain or shine, winter or summer! [Click here](#) for a list of Coming Events on our website.

**Olds Aquatic Centre** This state-of-the-art facility officially opened to the public in November 2002. At the heart of the Centre is a five-lane, 25-metre competition-sized pool, which flows into a separate Tot Pool with a zero-depth, beach-type entry, allowing easy access for those with mobility difficulties. A Whirlpool is located adjacent to the main pool, and features wide stairs and a handrail for easy access. An eight-metre tall, 62-metre long Waterslide has been incorporated into the facility design, and has its own exit flume so that patrons of all swimming abilities may enjoy the slide safely and comfortably. A Multi-Purpose Room is available to rent for parties, meetings and other social functions. The facility is wheelchair accessible. For more information, please call (403) 556-POOL (7665).

**Trails System** The Town of Olds is in the continual process of developing a Trails System, incorporating both paved and unpaved trails. This system is environmentally-friendly, safe and accessible, contributing to the healthy quality of life of residents and visitors of all ages and abilities. Olds also features over 100 acres of parks, playgrounds and sports fields.

**Olds Central Highlands Golf Course** This outstanding 18-hole course offers challenges for the experienced golfer as well as the novice. The full range of facilities includes a Driving Range, Lounge, Licensed Dining room with Sun Deck, and a full Pro Shop with power/pull cart and equipment rental. Phone 403-556-8008.

**Winter Fun for Everyone** Home to the Olds Grizzlys Junior A Hockey club, the Olds Sportsplex features an Arena with two ice surfaces and a Curling Rink with six sheets. During the non-ice season, the ice surfaces and Concourse are available to rent for functions such as trade shows and dances. For more information, call (403) 556-3244.

**Home of Olds College** We are proud to be the home of Olds College, Canada's premier institute for agricultural, horticultural, land and environmental management learning. Established in 1913, the College has over 1400 acres of gardens, demonstration plots, a working farm, two restaurants, a gymnasium and fitness centre, a book store/souvenir shop, picnic and BBQ facilities, a three-hole pitch n' putt golf area, and tennis courts. Most College facilities are available for public use. Be sure to visit their new Botanic



Gardens!

**Olds Fashioned Christmas** For winter fun, be sure to take in some Olds Fashioned Christmas activities during November and December. At the annual "Light Up Festival" on the third Saturday of November, Centennial Park is transformed into a winter wonderland, featuring a spectacular light display, heritage village and skating pond (weather permitting), along with fireworks, free food, entertainment, and Santa Claus! The events in Olds during Olds Fashioned Christmas are proudly announced by our own Town Crier, Denis Patry (pictured below with Mayor Judy Dahl).

The job of Town Crier can be traced back as far as 1066, when news of Britain's invasion by King William of Normandy was passed from town to town by individuals employed to call out the King's proclamations. Edicts, laws and news were usually passed on to the general public by the Town Crier - the first (talking) newspaper. At that time, almost everyone was illiterate (including nobles and royalty), which is why information was disseminated orally, by heralds or town criers, who would of course, be able to read. "Oyez, Oyez" (roughly translated by "Hark" or "Listen") became a familiar call in town squares, markets, and public meeting places, a summons for the townspeople to gather and listen to news of plague, victories in far off lands, Royal births, and deaths by execution. Historically, people of standing in the community were chosen for this role. Denis is such a person, so be sure to watch for our Olds Town Crier at all the Olds Fashioned Christmas festivities.

Start your Christmas shopping early at the many incredible craft sales held in early November at Olds College and other venues throughout Olds. Passport to Christmas, Breakfast with Santa, Midnight Madness and free matinees at Mayfair Cinema all combine to make Olds a very cheerful, warm and festive place to be during the Christmas season. Visit the [Olds Fashioned Christmas page](#) on our website for history of OFC and more information.

**The Biggest Little Fair in the West** While you can experience our famous "Olds Fashioned Hospitality" all through the year, you will get an extra helping during the annual Olds Fair & Rodeo, held at the Olds Agricultural Society Fairgrounds, next year from 10-12 August 2007. This hugely popular event is attended by over 18,000 people every summer, and is a non-stop round of professional rodeo, chuckwagon and chariot races, top-notch entertainers, a midway, trade show, parade, pancake breakfasts, livestock shows, and the largest summer display of horticulture, photography, baking, and handicraft exhibits in the province.



A contest was held to design our Centennial Logo - this design was selected as the best from among the many entries!



Every year, over 18,000 people attend the Olds Fair & Rodeo, to experience four days of top-notch rodeo, entertainment, and an exhilarating midway!



Hartman Green is a spacious park located adjacent to schools, and features a frisbee golf course.



Shinny hockey in Centennial Park on a beautiful winter's day.



Town Crier Denis Patry receives a warming kiss from Mayor Judy Dahl during the Olds Fashioned Christmas festivities!

## Economic Base

Olds is uniquely and ideally situated for both residential and industrial development. Our prime location along the Highway 2 corridor between Calgary and Edmonton is an ideal place for industry and business looking for room to grow and a skilled employment base, but within easy distance of markets and suppliers. Experts say that the Highway 2 corridor will grow by one million people by 2013.

**YOU'RE IN GOOD COMPANY!** Apart from the central Alberta standards of oil and agribusiness, Olds is home to major industries and established manufacturers such as Banner Pharmacaps, Premier Horticulture, Transfeeder, Westeel, Childspace Playgrounds and Westward Products. A large new Extra Foods complex at the west end of town which includes a gas bar and liquor store is an exciting part of our business growth, attracting even more people from around the region to Olds.

Our skilled employment base and strong work ethic will ensure the success and stability of your business. In Olds you will find a full complement of skilled local tradespeople and suppliers to provide the technical and service support that your business needs. Zoned industrial areas allow plenty of opportunities for new development or expansion.

**WE LOVE OUR CUSTOMERS!** Olds has a large, loyal customer base, and popular events such as Olds Fashioned Christmas, Midnight Madness, Shop in Olds Christmas Passport, Toonie Madness, and other promotions add excitement and extra incentive for consumers. Our downtown core is expansive, yet all areas are easily accessible on foot. There is ample parking in and around



the downtown area. Extensive expansion is also taking place along the Highway 27 corridor through town.

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WORKS WITH YOU** The **Olds & District Chamber of Commerce** provides excellent networking and promotional opportunities for your business. They work closely with their members and other stakeholders to ensure that the business climate in Olds prospers.

**HOME OF OLDS COLLEGE** Olds College is approaching its 100th anniversary, and is Canada's premier institute for applied agriculture, horticulture, land and environmental management learning and applied research. The College offers two applied degree programs and many diploma and certificate level programs. Annually, Olds College enrolls around 1300 full-time students and 5300 part-time and Extension students. For more information on Olds College, visit its excellent website, at [www.oldscollege.ca](http://www.oldscollege.ca).

### **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

Our stable, diversified economy is ripe for your business location or investment! Outstanding business opportunities are available in the following sectors:

- Hospitality
- Entertainment
- Retail
- Personal Services
- Oilfield
- Construction
- Value-added Agribusiness
- Professional Services & Consulting
- Communications



## **Economic Facts**

Olds is home to many large and small industries. Our skilled employment base and strong work ethic will ensure the success and stability of your business. In Olds you will find a full complement of skilled local trades people and suppliers to provide the technical and service support that your business needs. Zoned industrial areas allow plenty of opportunities for new development or expansion. The Town of Olds is more than happy to meet with you personally to discuss your industry's particular requirements. Contact ["a href="mailto:hycha@town.olds.ab.ca">Darren Hycha](mailto:hycha@town.olds.ab.ca), Development Officer for more information or to set up an appointment.

**Commercial/Industrial activity** 2004 - \$2.17 million

**Residential activity** 2004 - \$11.75 million

### **Major products and industries in the Olds area**

- oil & natural gas
- pharmaceutical soft gel caps
- solar-powered water pumping systems
- playground equipment

- potting soil and other garden products
- wood shavings and other wood products
- post-secondary education (Olds College)
- peat moss
- farm feed systems
- lumber products
- compressed hay for export
- oilfield construction & maintenance
- animal feeds
- sheet metal products
- agricultural applications

To view a Development Summary for the past four years, [click here](#).

For more information on business and industry our community, please visit our on-line Business Directory, at [www.town.olds.ab.ca](http://www.town.olds.ab.ca).

## Education

Olds is currently served by four public schools, a special-needs school, an outreach school and two private Christian schools. We are also proud to be the home of Olds College, which since 1913 has offered programs in career and academic preparation, animal sciences, horticulture/landscaping, land use and environment, fashion, machinery/trades, agriculture, and applied business.

The organizations below are also listed in our Community Service Directory, available in PDF format on our [website](#), or available at Town Office.

**Chinook's Edge School Division** The Division office for our area is located in Innisfail, and is open from 8.00 am to 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday. Phone Toll Free 800-561-9229 or 403-227-7070 Fax 403-227-3652

### PUBLIC SCHOOLS

#### Olds Elementary School

5413 53 Street

Phone: 403-556-8477 Fax: 403-556-3858

Olds Elementary School (Kindergarten to Grade 4) offers many facilities that include a large library, a well-equipped two-station gym, playground with track and fitness centres, music room, computer lab, art room and kitchen centre. Many programs and services exist, including a Family School Wellness Coordinator, Special Education support (including Speech and Language assistance), Early Language Intervention, Grade 4 Core French, a Music program that promotes Orff musical instruments, and a Physical Education program that includes swimming, curling and skating. OES is a school dedicated to academic achievement and the positive personal development of children. It is staffed by a group of caring, talented personnel who are dedicated to the development of a learning community that recognizes and nurtures individual students. Throughout the school there is an atmosphere of energy and enthusiasm that attests to the fact that learning is fun!

#### Deer Meadow Middle School

5411 61 Avenue

Phone: 403-556-1003 Fax: 403-556-1063

Deer Meadow School provides education for Grades 5 to 7. Meeting space of various sizes, the gymnasium and playing fields are available for public use.

#### Olds Junior-Senior High School

5122 48 Street

Phone: 403-556-3391 Fax: 403-556-3375

Olds Junior/Senior High School is a Grade 8 to 12 school with a broad offering of

courses. Alternate program choices as well as traditional pathways are available to students.

### **Reed Ranch School**

19 km east of Olds on Highway 27

Phone: 403-556-2429 Fax: 403-556-2429

Reed Ranch offers excellent elementary school education. The gymnasium, kitchen and grounds are available for community use.

### **Olds Outreach School**

2, 5304 46 St

Phone: 403-556-8606 Fax: 403-556-8683

The Olds Outreach School is one of the many schools operated by Chinook's Edge

School Division No. 73. At Olds Outreach, students work on courses individually, not in a class. Students work with modules developed by Alberta Learning and get help from the teachers as needed. Teachers set deadlines for each module ranging from one to four weeks. Deadlines are dependent on the students' goals and current schedule. In this setting, students learn time management skills and how to take responsibility for their education. The Outreach School is designated for grades 10, 11 and 12 students. Adult students (age 20+) are also welcome. Students at Olds Outreach are upgrading marks for College and University entrance, picking up courses that do not fit into their timetables at the regular school, needing a flexible attendance schedule due to employment, parental responsibilities, health reasons, and serious sports commitments.

## **PRIVATE SCHOOLS**

### **Horizon School**

5401 53 Street

Phone: 403-556-6310 Fax: 403-556-1640

Horizon School is a private school for special needs students. Since 1971 it has provided an alternate program that stresses life/social/recreational skills and student integration into the community with as much independence as possible.

### **Olds Koinonia Christian School**

P.O. Box 4039

Phone: 403-556-4038 Fax: 403-556-8770

Olds Koinonia Christian School is an independent, inter-denominational Christian school offering, from a Christian perspective, a full academic program from Kindergarten to Grade 12. Almost 300 students have the opportunity to benefit from well-developed music, drama, art, athletic and Bible programs. The purpose of Olds Koinonia Christian School is to assist Christian families, in cooperation with local churches, in training their children intellectually, physically, socially and spiritually toward maturity and responsible independence.

### **Mountain View Christian School**

RR 1 Site 4 Box 5, Sundre, AB T0M 1X0 Phone: 403-556-1551 MVCS is a Christian day school accredited with the Province of Alberta, offering individual learning for ECS to Grade 12. We also offer home schooling.



## **Emergency Services**

**All Emergencies (Fire, Ambulance, Police) - 911**

### **Local Emergency Services**

- Olds Hospital - 403-556-3381

- Alberta One-Call (Electricity, Gas, Water / Sewer line location) - toll free 800-242-3447
- Shaw Cable (Cable line location) - toll free 866-DIG-SHAW (344-7429)
- Crime Stoppers - toll free 800-222-8477
- Poison Centre - toll free 800-332-1414
- Child Abuse Hotline - toll free 800-387-KIDS
- Kids Help Phone - toll free 800-668-6868
- Crisis Line - toll free 800-779-5057

### **POLICE - Royal Canadian Mounted Police**

The Olds detachment is located at 5110 65 Ave. There are currently 11 regular members, 3 administration personnel, a Victim Services Coordinator and Special Constable. The Olds detachment uses five marked police vehicles to patrol its area, which extends east to Torrington, north to Highway 587, west to Harmattan, and south to the Bergen Road. Detachment Commander: Sergeant Bob Phillips Emergencies - 911 Complaints - 403-556-3323 Administration - 403-556-3324 Fax - 403-556-1540

### **FIRE - Olds Fire Department**

The Fire Hall is located at 4829 50 St. The OFD responds to fires and emergencies from Torrington (east) to Dogpound Creek (west), and from the Red Deer County line (north) to the Amerada Road (south). The Town of Olds employs a full-time Fire Chief. All other firefighters (approx. 30) are volunteers. All firefighters are rigorously trained in Emergency Medical procedures and are capable of providing critical emergency care when required. A number of our firefighters are registered EMRs, EMTs and Paramedics (ACP). Before a volunteer is allowed on any fire fighting vehicle he/she must undergo 32 hours of Basic Training. Once they are qualified, all firefighters continue their basic and medical training in training sessions every Monday evening at the Fire Hall. Fire Chief: Lorne Thompson Emergencies - 911 Fire Hall Administration - 403-556-6178 Fax - 403-556-6175

### **AMBULANCE - Mountain View Regional Emergency Services (MVRES)**

This Commission was formed on January 1, 2001 and serves Mountain View County and the five municipalities within the County. The Commission office is located in Didsbury at the Mountain View County Office. The Board of Directors for the Commission consists of one elected representative appointed by each Municipal Council. The member municipalities are Olds, Didsbury, Sundre, Cremona, Carstairs and Mountain View County. MVRES employs 27 full-time, part-time and casual staff. There are 14 EMTs, 12 Paramedics (one of whom is the Executive Director), and one administration person. All staff are registered with the Alberta College of Paramedics. Acting Executive Director: Nick Thain Emergencies - 911 Administration - 403-335-4070 Fax - 403-335-9207

### **Olds Search and Rescue**

OSAR is a volunteer organization that trains for and responds to requests from the RCMP for assistance in handling search and rescue emergencies. Phone 403-556-3839 or 403-556-6617

### **Olds & District Community Policing Advisory Committee**

This committee works in partnership with the RCMP to proactively address community concerns and to implement strategies to improve crime prevention, enforcement and investigation through Community Policing initiatives. Volunteer representatives are involved from a wide cross-section of community organizations and the general public.

Phone (RCMP) - 403-556-3324

## **Health Care**

### **Fire, Ambulance and Police Emergencies - call 911**

**YOUR HEALTH NEEDS ARE IN GOOD HANDS** Olds has excellent health care facilities, and is close to major health centres in Calgary and Red Deer.

### **Olds Hospital & Care Centre - 3901 57 Ave**

The Hospital offers 24-hour emergency services. Programs and services include Acute Care, Continuing (long term) Care, Respite Care, Day Surgery, Birthing services, a Laboratory, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Recreation Therapy, Speech-Language Pathology, Volunteer Resources and X-Ray. A welcome equipment addition in 2002 was a Renal Dialysis Unit. Administration: 403-556-3381 Fax: 403-556-2199

### **Olds Community Health Centre - Unit 103, 5030 50 St**

The Health unit offers many services directly or through referrals from any Community Health Centre in the David Thompson Health Region: Clinics & Immunizations, Education, Consultation & Counselling, Community Care Services, Rehabilitation Services, and much more. Phone: 403-556-8441 Fax: 403-556-6842

For a comprehensive list of local **Health service providers**, please visit our [website](#).

### **SENIORS SERVICES**

#### **Mountain View Seniors Housing**

Mountain View Seniors Housing is a non-profit registered charitable organization providing assistance to seniors through lodges and self-contained apartments in Mountain View County. The Board also operates several community housing units throughout the county for low-income families who require subsidized housing assistance. The office is located in Didsbury. Office Phone: 403-335-8404

**Mount View Lodge - 5238 50 Street** Mount View Lodge in Olds provides food, lodging and other services to senior citizens who require a supportive living environment. The Lodge has a home-like atmosphere with home-cooked meals, activities and friendly staff. Phone: 403-556-3603 Fax: 403-556-1619

**Seniors Self-Contained Apartments - 5238 50 Street** Kiwanis Manor A & B - 16 apartments Kiwanis Manor North - 16 apartments Kiwanis Manor West - 30 apartments For applications, see the Manager at Mount View Lodge.

**Other Lodges in Mountain View County** Carstairs - Chinook Winds Lodge - 403-337-2999 Sundre - Foothills Lodge - 403-638-4833 Didsbury - Aspen Ridge Lodge - 403-335-9848

**Olds Continuing Care - 3901 57 Avenue** Located in the Olds Hospital, there are two areas for long term care. Continuing Care south - 403-556-7135 Continuing Care east - 403-556-3381 ext. 2201

**Sunrise Village - 5600 Sunrise Cres** Located south of the Olds Hospital, Sunrise Village is a unique retirement community providing health and home services to meet a continuum of seniors needs. We offer both assisted living apartments with 24-hour care by certified Personal Support Aides, and condominium units for those who desire more independent living. Building amenities include dining rooms with fireplaces, home-cooked meals prepared on-site, billiards, shuffleboard, a fitness room with equipment, computer and internet access, a hair salon, foot care, a library, recreation programs, underground parking and much, much more. They are always happy to provide a tour or answer any questions from interested individuals.

Phone: 403-556-3446

Fax: 403-556-3475



## **Key Contacts for Business Development**

### **Town of Olds Municipal Office**

Phone: 403-556-6981

Direct local call from Calgary: 262-7292

Fax: 403-556-6537



Mail: 4512 46 St, Olds, Alberta, T4H 1R5

Location: next to the Best Western Inn at the east end of Olds

E-Mail: [admin@town.olds.ab.ca](mailto:admin@town.olds.ab.ca)

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. MST - Monday to Friday, closed weekends and Statutory Holidays

### **Town Office - Key Contacts**

- Development Officer Darren Hycha
- Chief Administrative Officer Dale Withage
- Director, Operational Services Kurt Koester
- Director, Corporate Services Darryl Joyce
- Director, Community Services Stuart Ray
- Coordinator, Aquatic Centre Sandra McCurdy
- Coordinator, Parks & Facilities Pat McEvoy
- Fire Chief Lorne Thompson
- Human Resources Debbie Rogers

### **Town Council (October 2004 to October 2007)**

- Mayor Judy Dahl 403-507-4114
- Councillor Kris Bojda 403-556-8618
- Councillor Ben Coates 403-556-8714
- Councillor Scott Dundas 403-556-3234
- Councillor Elaine Taylor 403-556-6116
- Councillor Warren Smith 403-556-3565
- Councillor Harvey Walsh 403-556-8525

### **Town of Olds Recreation Facilities**

- Olds Aquatic Centre: 403-556-POOL (7665)
- Olds Sports Complex - Administration, Ice & Facility Bookings: 403-556-3244

### **Member of Legislative Assembly**

Richard Marz

MLA for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills

Constituency Office

P.O. Box 3807

#3, 4530 - 49 Avenue

Olds, AB

T4H 1P5

Phone: (403) 556-3132

Fax: (403) 556-3120

[oldsdidsbury.threehills@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:oldsdidsbury.threehills@assembly.ab.ca)

Legislature Office

#639 Legislature Annex

9718 - 107 Street

Edmonton, AB

T5K 1E4

Phone: (780) 415-0994

Fax: (780) 415-0951

### **Member of Parliament (Wild Rose)**

Myron Thompson

Parliamentary Address  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6  
Telephone: (613) 996-5152  
Fax: (613) 947-4601  
E-Mail: [Thompson.M@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Thompson.M@parl.gc.ca)

Constituency Address  
213 Main Street, Bay 3, P.O. Box 3816  
Airdrie, Alberta  
T4B 2B9  
Telephone: (403) 948-5103  
Fax: (403) 948-0879 TTY:  
E-Mail: [ThompM1@parl.gc.ca](mailto:ThompM1@parl.gc.ca)

**Alberta Economic Development**

2nd Floor, Provincial Building  
4920 - 51 Street  
Red Deer, Alberta  
T4N 6K8  
Tel: 403-340-5300  
Fax: 403-340-5231  
Andre Tremblay, Regional Manager  
[andre.tremblay@gov.ab.ca](mailto:andre.tremblay@gov.ab.ca)

**Central Alberta Economic Partnership (CAEP)**

#201, 4920 - 51st Street Provincial Building  
Red Deer, AB T4N 6K8  
Telephone: (403) 340-5300 Facsimile: (403) 340-5231

**Parkland Community Planning Services**

#404, 4808 Ross Street  
Red Deer, AB T4N 1X5  
Telephone: (403) 343-3394 Facsimile: (403) 346-1570

## Location

Olds is located in the heart of south-central Alberta. We are 5 km west of Provincial Highway 2 at a well-marked junction, 90 km north of the city of Calgary, and 59 km south of the city of Red Deer.

Two other highways also provide easy access to Olds. Provincial Highway 27 (called 46 Street within town limits) is the east-west road that runs through Olds. Take this highway to reach Sundre and the Rockies (west), and Trochu, Torrington and Three Hills (east).

Provincial Highway 2A (called 46 Avenue within town limits) is the north-south road that runs along the east side of Olds past Olds College. Take this highway as an alternate route to get to Bowden and Red Deer (north), and Didsbury, Carstairs and Calgary (south).



## Post Secondary Education

### **OLDS COLLEGE - APPROACHING 100 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE**

Since 1913, Olds College has been Canada's premier institute for education and training in agriculture, horticulture, land and environmental management, agribusiness and rural entrepreneurship. Olds College is now reaching beyond Canada's borders, by taking a lead role in international education, providing student exchanges, and opportunities for faculty and staff to participate in international projects. Annually, Olds College is involved in more than 30 projects in 13 or 14 countries.

With an emphasis on hands-on training, the College features programs in agriculture, horticulture, environment, land management, animal sciences, applied business, fashion, mechanics and academic upgrading. Olds College offers two applied degree programs and many diploma and certificate level programs. This year, the College enrolled about 1300 full-time students.

For part-time and continuing education students, Olds College Extension Services offers a wide range of evening courses, short courses and home study programs. This year, the College enrolled approximately 5300 part-time and extension students.

The Olds College School of Innovation (OCSI), located on the campus in the Rob Turner building, works closely with government and industry partners in applied research, and product and business development. Many College facilities may be enjoyed by the public, including the Library, dining facilities, gymnasium, fitness centre and the Botanical Gardens. Conference Services caters to functions large and small. The new Olds Aquatic Centre, located just south of Olds College and owned and operated by the Town of Olds, opened to the public in November 2002.

The beautifully-landscaped campus also features a working farm with beef, equine and sheep operations, a riding arena for rodeo and horse events, computer-operated greenhouses, the Bank of Montreal Landscape Construction Pavilion, the John Deere Training Centre, an Industry Training Centre, and much more. There is also a bookstore/souvenir shop, barbeque facilities, a pitch n' putt golf course, and beach volleyball and tennis courts.

### **Olds College Botanic Garden**

Phase II of this multi-phase project officially opened in July 2002. This living laboratory consisting of 13 specialty gardens will enhance and reinforce training of students in horticulture, agriculture and environment programs. Phase III involves the development of a 40-acre teaching wetland in biodiversity, water safety, plant trials and applied research. Priorities include the reduction of water contamination, reducing soil erosion and other risks to soil health, and improving the use of environmental farm planning tools and management systems.

556-4630 Book Store Kathleen Ridley

556-8330 Conference Services Andrea Leffler

556-8209 Counseling Services Dr. Russ Guthrie

556-4677 Extension Programming Nancy Latimer

556-8217 Fitness Centre Sandy Horne-Price

556-4600 Library Robin Minion  
556-4641 Office of Advancement – Fund Development Doug Pearce  
507-7710 Office of Advancement – Marketing & Govt. Relations Kerry Moynihan  
556-8258 School of Agriculture, Business & Technology Dick Thomson  
556-8337 School of Animal Science Robert Wilson (Acting)  
556-4739 School of Applied Arts & Career Studies Terry Males  
556-4761 School of Horticulture Carole Calenso-Fair  
556-8337 School of Innovation Robert Wilson (Acting)  
556-4619 School of Land Joel Gingrich

For more information on Olds College, please visit their excellent website at [www.oldscollege.ab.ca](http://www.oldscollege.ab.ca).

## Taxation

With Olds' strong, stable and diversified economy, you can have confidence that your home or property purchase is a sound investment.

### Assessment & Tax Information

Assessments on properties within town limits are done in January and February by our contract Property Assessor, KCL Consulting. Your home or property is assessed at Market Value (+/- 10%). Town Council meets in April or May each year to set the municipal Residential and Commercial Taxation Rates for the current year. Council sets the municipal Tax Rates based on Town budget requirements for the current year. Municipal taxes are calculated using the following formula:

Assessment x Municipal Tax Rate = Property Taxes

The tax amount on your combined Assessment & Tax Notice (usually mailed by mid-May) is for taxes levied from January to December of the current year. Your Assessment & Tax Notice includes three separate tax levies taxed at different rates that make up your Total Property Taxes:

- Total Municipal Levy - this amount is paid directly to the municipality (Town of Olds) and pays for municipal infrastructure, facilities, services and programs.
- Total School Levy - this amount is collected by the Town of Olds and paid directly to the Province of Alberta, for maintenance and development of the public school system. The amount of School funds paid by each municipality is based on population and the tax base. All municipalities must collect and forward these funds to the Province.
- Senior Housing - this amount is collected by the Town of Olds and paid directly to the Mountain View Seniors Housing Foundation, and helps pay for senior housing in our area. All municipalities must collect and forward these funds.

### Payment Deadlines & Penalties

You have until 30 June to pay your current taxes without penalty. Penalties are incurred on the outstanding balance of current taxes at the following times: 1 July (5%); 1 Sept (6%); and 1 Nov (7%). Penalties are also incurred on the outstanding balance of arrears taxes at the following times: 1 Feb (3%); 1 April (3%); 1 Aug (3%); 1 Oct (3%); and 1 Dec (3%).

**Appeal Process for Assessments** If you disagree with your property assessment, you have 30 days from the date of mailing to appeal your assessment through the Town of Olds Assessment Review Board (ARB). This is the only time of year you may submit an appeal (per the Municipal Government Act), and you may only appeal the Assessment, not the tax amount. The only parties authorized to change Assessments are the Town of Olds Assessor, the Assessment Review Board (ARB), and the Municipal Government Board (MGB). No Town of Olds staff member or member of Town Council has the authority to change Assessments.

NOTE: Before your appeal will be considered, you are required to pay the Town of Olds an Appeal Fee of \$30.

The Appeal Fee will be refunded if one of the following conditions applies:

- the complainant's assessment is changed by the Assessor (under the authority of Section 305 of the Municipal Government Act); OR
- an Assessment Review Board (ARB) hearing is required and the complainant attends this hearing; OR
- the complainant does not attend the Assessment Review Board (ARB) hearing but the Board changes the complainant's

assessment; OR

- the complainant's assessment is not changed by the Assessment Review Board (ARB), but the complainant appeals to the Municipal Government Board (MGB) and has his/her assessment changed by the Municipal Government Board (MGB); OR
- that representation at the Assessment Review Board (ARB) or Municipal Government Board (MGB) is by letter or agent.

### Taxation Rates

Town Council meets in April or May each year to set the municipal Residential and Commercial Taxation Rates for the current year. Council sets the municipal Tax Rates based on Town budget requirements for the current year.

2005 Residential Combined Taxation Rate - 0.0114022

2005 Non-residential Combined Taxation Rate - 0.0166167

2005 Total Assessment - \$542,961,260

2004 Residential Combined Taxation Rate - 0.0120651

2004 Non-residential Combined Taxation Rate - 0.0169102

2004 Total Assessment - \$640,1101,980

2003 Residential Combined Taxation Rate - 0.0120589

2003 Non-Residential Combined Taxation Rate - 0.0164670

2003 Total Assessment - \$598,464,360

2002 Residential Combined Taxation Rate – 0.0126487

2002 Non-Residential Combined Taxation Rate – 0.0167133

2002 Total Assessment - \$550,677,890

### Access to Information

Under the Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) Act, property owners have unlimited access to their own property information, including assessments and tax information. The Assessment Roll is public information, and is available for viewing upon request at Town Office.

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	<u>Residential/Farmland</u>	<u>Non-Residential</u>
<b>2005</b>		
Municipal Tax Rate	7.1736	9.1736
Education - Alberta School Foundation Fund Tax Rate	4.0851	7.2996
Seniors Lodge Accommodation Tax Rate	.1435	.1435

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One of the stately heritage homes that grace 50th Street.

## Transportation

Olds is located in the heart of south-central Alberta. We are just 90 km north of the city of Calgary, and 59 km south of the city of Red Deer. Simply turn 5 km west at the well-marked Highway 2 junction, and you can't miss us!

Two other highways also provide easy access to Olds. Provincial Highway 27 (called 46 Street within town limits) is the east-west road that runs through Olds. Take this highway to reach Sundre and the Rockies (west), and Trochu, Torrington and Three Hills (east).

Provincial Highway 2A (called 46 Avenue within town limits) is the north-south road that runs along the east side of Olds past Olds



College. Take this highway as an alternate route to get to Bowden and Red Deer (north), and Didsbury, Carstairs and Calgary (south).

For information on Traffic Volume, contact Alberta Transportation at (780) 427-2731.

### Accessibility by Air

The Olds-Didsbury Airport was built in 1983 by the Alberta Government, and is known as one of Alberta's best small airports in the under 4000 ft runway category. It is owned and operated by Mountainview County, phone 335-3311 for information. There is a terminal building with washrooms.

Location - 6 km south of Olds on Hwy 2A

Accessibility - 24-hours

Runway - 3650 ft, night-lit (ARCAL), GPS Approach

Elevation - 3360 ft ASL (1040 m)

Fuel may be purchased through the Olds-Didsbury Flying Association:

Contact Ruf May 335-3723

Alternate Bob Jackson 556-7378 or 335-3616

Alternate Jerry Bakken 556-6738

Alternate Phil Stevens 556-1016

Hangar space (short term): Ruf May 335-3723 or Bob Jackson 335-3616 Olds/Didsbury Flying Association Website: [groups.msn.com/odfa](http://groups.msn.com/odfa). Olds/Didsbury Flying Association E-Mail: [odfa@groups.msn.com](mailto:odfa@groups.msn.com).

### Accessibility by Rail

Canadian Pacific Railway phone(800) 766-7912 Community Connect Line

### Ground Transportation

For a list of local **Freight Haulers**, please refer to those listed in our online [Business Directory](#).

The following **Courier companies** deliver to and from Olds:

- Greyhound Canada 403-556-3268
- Loomis (DHL) 877-456-6647 - drop off/pick up located at Dunrite Printing (556-1400)
- Purolator 800-387-3027 - drop off/pick up located at Vista Travel (556-6361)
- FedEx 800-463-3339
- UPS 800-742-5877

### Olds Sunshine Bus

This wheelchair-accessible bus service, funded by the Town of Olds and FCSS, provides transportation around town for seniors (50+) and disabled persons of any age. The bus runs from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm, Monday to Friday. Rides are by appointment only. Volunteers take bookings between 9.00 am and 11.30 am, Monday to Friday. A service fee is charged per ride. Books of tickets are available from the bus driver or at Town Office. Phone: 403-556-8003

For a list of **Taxi Services**, please see our on-line [Business Directory](#).



The busy Highway 27 (46 Street) corridor is one of the main connectors between Olds and the west country.

## Utilities

The Town of Olds provides water, wastewater (sewer), garbage, composting and recycling services. Olds and the surrounding communities receive their water from the Red Deer River, from the Anthony Henday Water Treatment Plant at Innisfail. Olds has its own Waste Water Treatment Plant, located north of the Olds EcoSite, which is one km west of Olds on Highway 27, and ½ km north. As the Olds Waste Water Treatment Plant is around 20 years old and is reaching the end of its lifespan, the Town of Olds is investigating options to replace it.

**Current Residential Utilities Rates** (rates are subject to change by Council motion) Water - \$7.19 base rate plus \$1.31/m<sup>3</sup> of water usage Wastewater - \$9.50 base rate plus 66¢ per m<sup>3</sup> of water usage Garbage/Compost - \$14.71 flat rate TOTAL minimum monthly charge: \$31.40 per month (plus water/wastewater consumption per rates above)

**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle** Growth requires careful and responsible planning. Waste management is a particular challenge for many cities and areas where there is a steady growth in population. In 1995, the Town of Olds took control of the situation by implementing a composting system in partnership with the Olds College Composting Technology Centre, to complement the garbage system and reduce the amount of waste trucked to landfills. Almost all residences in Olds are now on the Roll Out Bin Collection System, where each household has a black roll out bin for garbage, and a green roll out bin for compostable materials. By using a second bin for compost and alternating collection weeks, the Town of Olds can reduce its disposal costs by up to 30%. Community Grass Bins help residents compost yard waste. We also take recycling seriously - there are two depots in town for recycling cardboard, paper, cans, glass and plastic, which further reduce the amount of waste trucked to landfills. By recycling as much as possible, residents are helping the Town of Olds divert 540 tonnes of waste a year from landfills!

#### **OTHER LOCAL UTILITY PROVIDERS**

CABLE television

Shaw Cable Systems Alberta Inc. (403) 340-6400

ELECTRICITY

Epcor toll free in Alberta 310-4300

Enmax toll free in Alberta 310-2010

Direct Energy Essential Services toll free (866) 374-6299

NATURAL GAS

Direct Energy Regulated Services toll free (866) 420-3174

Alberta Energy Savings L.P. toll free in Alberta 310-2372

TELEPHONE

Telus toll free in Alberta 310-2255

POST OFFICE

Canada Post (403) 556-8822

For additional information on utilities and other local services, please visit our website at [www.town.olds.ab.ca](http://www.town.olds.ab.ca).

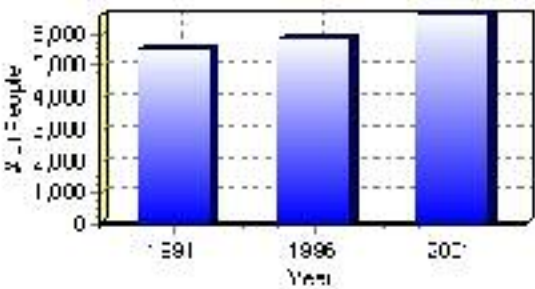
# Population

## Total Population

Population 2004*	6,607
Population 2003*	6,607
Population 2002*	6,607
Population 2001**	6,605
Population 2000*	6,230
Population 1996**	5,815
Population 1991**	5,542
Population % change 1991-1996	4.69%
Population % change 1996-2001	11.99%

\* Source: Official Population List, Alberta Municipal Affairs  
\*\* Source: Statistics Canada 1991, 1996, & 2001 Census

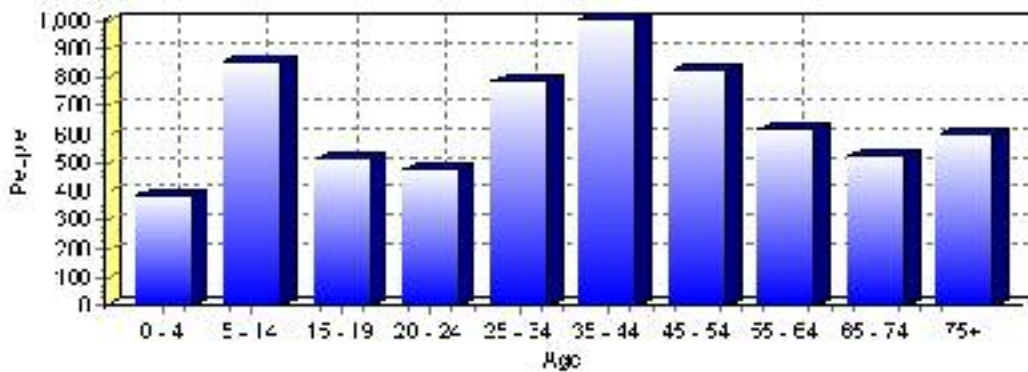
## Total Population 1991-2001



Population by Age and Gender	1996 Male	1996 Female	1996 Total	2001 Male	2001 Female	2001 Total
Age 0 - 4	205	155	360	210	180	390
Age 5 - 14	405	450	855	440	420	860
Age 15 - 19	220	230	450	245	265	510
Age 20 - 24	195	185	380	240	235	475
Age 25 - 34	360	410	770	410	380	790
Age 35 - 44	440	445	885	470	535	1,005
Age 45 - 54	335	350	685	385	435	820
Age 55 - 64	245	240	485	310	305	615
Age 65 - 74	205	265	470	240	290	530
Age 75 and older	160	305	465	220	380	600
Total All Persons	2,765	3,050	5,815	3,170	3,435	6,605

Source: Statistics Canada 1996 & 2001 Census (numbers may not add up due to rounding)

### Olds Population by Age Group (2001)

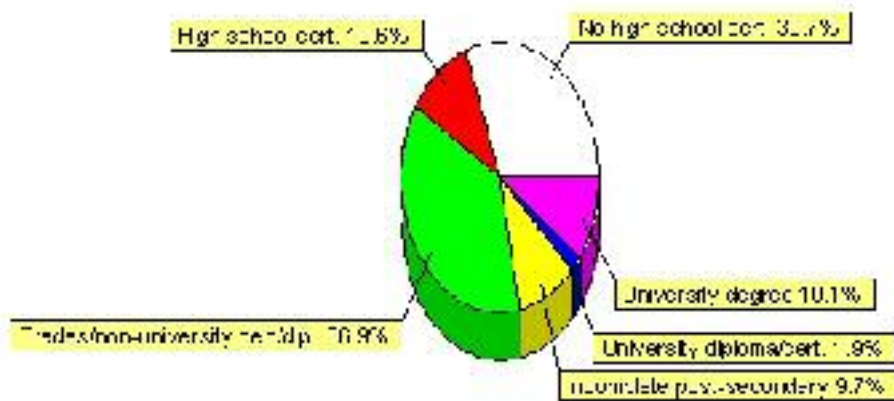


## Education Statistics

Highest level of schooling for Population 20yrs and older	2001	%
People without high school certificates	1,440	30.74%
People with high school certificates	495	10.57%
People with trades or non-university certificate or diploma	1,730	36.93%
People with post-secondary education (not completed)	455	9.71%
People with university diploma/certificate	90	1.92%
People with university degree	475	10.14%
Total Population 20 years and older	4,685	100.00%

Source: Statistics Canada 2001 Census (numbers may not add up due to rounding)

### Olds Highest Level of Schooling 2001



Population with Post Secondary Qualifications	1996	%	2001	%
Agriculture and biological sciences	105	6.27%	285	12.34%
Commerce, management and business administration	315	18.81%	480	20.78%
Educational, recreational and counseling services	270	16.12%	260	11.26%
Engineering and applied science tech. and trades	470	28.06%	570	24.68%
Engineering and applied sciences	30	1.79%	30	1.30%
Fine and applied arts	90	5.37%	95	4.11%
Health professionals, science and technologies	235	14.03%	350	15.15%
Humanities and related fields	50	2.99%	90	3.90%
Mathematics and physical sciences	20	1.19%	25	1.08%
Social sciences and related fields	100	5.97%	115	4.98%
Other and/or no specialization	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Total people with post secondary qualifications	1,675	100.00%	2,310	100.00%
Females with post-secondary qualifications	830	49.55%	1,145	49.57%
Males with post-secondary qualifications	845	50.45%	1,165	50.43%

Source: Statistics Canada 1996 & 2001 Census (numbers may not add up due to rounding)



## Labour Force

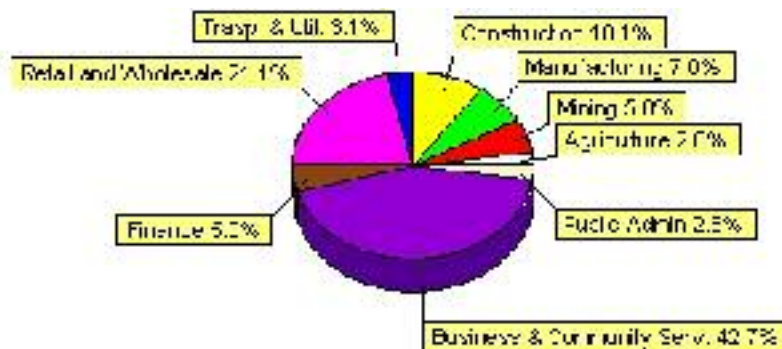
Labour force by activity	1996	2001
In the labour force, both sexes	3,015	3,555
Not in the labour force, both sexes	1,465	1,635
Total population 15 and over	4,480	5,180
Employed, both sexes	2,805	3,360
Unemployed, both sexes	215	190
Participation rate, both sexes	67.00%	69.00%
Unemployment rate, both sexes	7.00%	5.00%

Source: Statistics Canada 1996 & 2001 Census (numbers may not add up due to rounding)

Labour Force by Industry Division	1996	% of total	2001	% of total
Agriculture	100	3.33%	90	2.55%
Mining	260	8.67%	205	5.82%
Manufacturing	245	8.17%	245	6.95%
Construction	280	9.33%	355	10.07%
Transportation. & Utilities	125	4.17%	110	3.12%
Retail and Wholesale	615	20.50%	745	21.13%
Finance	175	5.83%	175	4.96%
Business & Community Services	1,055	35.17%	1,505	42.70%
Public Administration	60	2.00%	90	2.55%
Total All Industries	3,000	100.00%	3,525	100.00%

Source: Statistics Canada 1996 & 2001 Census (numbers may not add up due to rounding)

### Olds Labour Force By Industry - 2001



Labour Force by Major Occupational Groups	1996	%	2001	%
Management occupations	300	10.00%	450	12.77%
Business, Finances and administrative occupations	545	18.17%	560	15.89%
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	140	4.67%	130	3.69%
Health occupations	180	6.00%	170	4.82%
Occupations in social science; education; government and religion	180	6.00%	245	6.95%
Occupations in art; culture; recreation and sport	40	1.33%	90	2.55%

Sales and service occupations	725	24.17%	860	24.40%
Trades; transport; equipment operators and related occupations	470	15.67%	625	17.73%
Occupations unique to primary industry	185	6.17%	215	6.10%
Occupations unique to processing; manufacturing and utilities	245	8.17%	190	5.39%
Occupations not elsewhere classified	15	0.50%	30	0.85%
Total - All Occupations (major groups)	3,000	100.00%	3,525	100.00%
Females - All Occupations	1,385	46.17%	1,670	47.38%
Males - All Occupations	1,615	53.83%	1,860	52.77%

Source: Statistics Canada 1996 & 2001 Census (numbers may not add up due to rounding)

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## Income

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<b>Family Income (Number of Families)</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>%</b>
less than \$19,999	120	8.42%	120	7.97%
\$20,000 - \$39,999	310	21.75%	525	34.88%
\$40,000 - \$59,999	395	27.72%	425	28.24%
\$60,000 and over	600	42.11%	505	33.55%
Total number of families	1,425	100.00%	1,575	104.65%
Average family income	\$57,776		\$60,128	
Median family income	\$54,769		\$52,927	

Source: Statistics Canada 1996 & 2001 Census (numbers may not add up due to rounding)

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<b>Household Income (Number of Households)</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>%</b>
less than \$19,999	570	25.22%	395	15.25%
\$20,000 - \$39,999	505	22.35%	755	29.15%
\$40,000 - \$59,999	490	21.68%	530	20.46%
\$60,000 and over	225	9.96%	915	35.33%
Total number of households	2,260	100.00%	2,590	100.00%
Average household income	\$47,342		\$54,272	
Median household income	\$41,583		\$45,966	

Source: Statistics Canada 1996 & 2001 Census (numbers may not add up due to rounding)

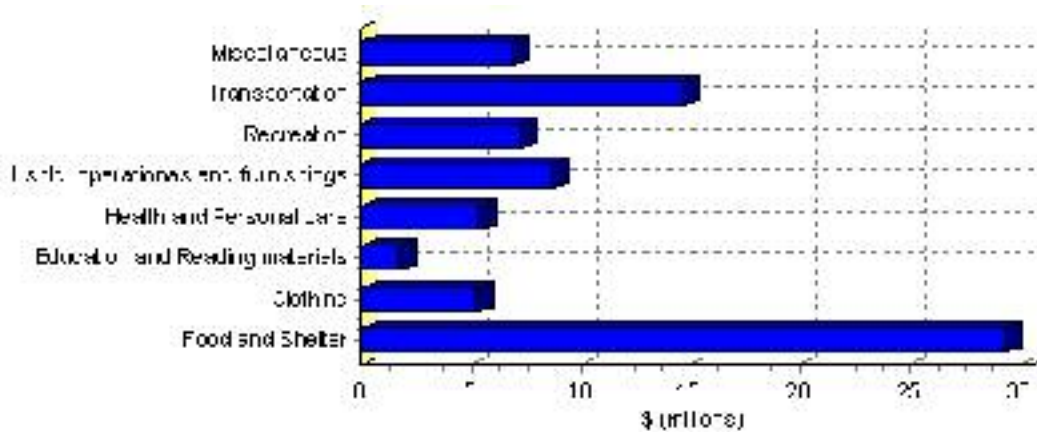
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# Family Expenditure

Expenditure Category	1992	% of total	1996	% of total
Food and Shelter	\$24,170,175	36.82%	\$29,377,299	36.98%
Clothing	\$4,583,665	6.98%	\$5,274,147	6.64%
Education and Reading materials	\$1,467,180	2.24%	\$1,719,747	2.16%
Health and Personal care	\$4,047,255	6.17%	\$5,426,942	6.83%
Hshld. operations and furnishings	\$7,254,275	11.05%	\$8,788,617	11.06%
Recreation	\$5,588,110	8.51%	\$7,273,667	9.16%
Transportation	\$13,380,140	20.38%	\$14,696,333	18.50%
Miscellaneous	\$5,129,120	7.81%	\$6,891,307	8.67%
Total Current Consumption	\$65,637,925	100.00%	\$79,448,059	100.00%
Total # of Households	2,085		2,264	
Average Consumption per Household	\$31,481		\$35,092	

Source: Statistics Canada Family Expenditure Survey 1992 & 1996 (numbers may not add up due to rounding).

## Olds Family Expenditures (1996)

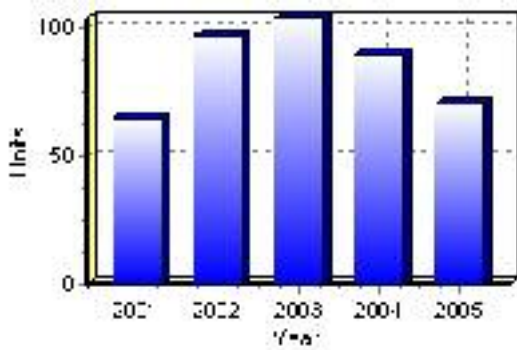


# Building Permits

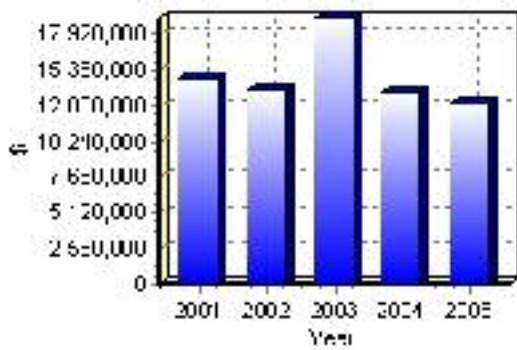
Total Building Permit Values	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Building Permits Value, Commercial	\$4,322,000	\$1,823,000	\$6,511,000	\$1,776,000	\$1,023,000
Building Permits Value, Industrial	\$2,400,000	\$417,000	\$965,000	\$0	\$594,000
Building Permits Value, Institutional	\$35,000	\$108,000	\$2,086,000	\$0	\$50,000
Building Permits Value, Residential	\$8,073,000	\$11,516,000	\$9,504,000	\$12,002,000	\$11,226,000
Building Permits Value, Total	\$14,830,000	\$13,864,000	\$19,066,000	\$13,778,000	\$12,893,000
Total Housing Starts	65	97	104	90	70

Source: Statistics Canada 2000-2004 Building Permits (numbers may not add up due to rounding)

## Total Housing Starts



## Value of Building Permits



## Dwellings

<b>Occupied Private Dwellings by Type</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>% of total</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>% of total</b>
Apartments	325	14.35%	285	11.00%
Detached Duplexes	15	0.66%	30	1.16%
Movable Dwellings	120	5.30%	140	5.41%
Other single attached house	0	0.00%	5	0.19%
Row and semi-detached house	220	9.71%	385	14.86%
Single-detached house	1,590	70.20%	1,745	67.37%
Total number of occupied private dwellings	2,265	100.00%	2,590	100.00%
Private dwellings, owned	1,600	70.64%	1,870	72.20%
Private Dwellings, rented	660	29.14%	715	27.61%

Source: Statistics Canada 1996 & 2001 Census (numbers may not add up due to rounding)

<b>Private Dwellings by Period of Construction</b>	<b># of Dwellings</b>	<b>% of total</b>
Period of construction, before 1946	190	7.35%
Period of construction, 1946 - 1960	260	10.06%
Period of construction, 1961 - 1970	400	15.47%
Period of construction, 1971 - 1980	685	26.50%
Period of construction, 1981 - 1990	475	18.38%
Period of construction, 1991 - 2001	575	22.24%
Total number of private dwellings constructed	2,585	100.00%

Source: Statistics Canada 2001 Census (numbers may not add up due to rounding)



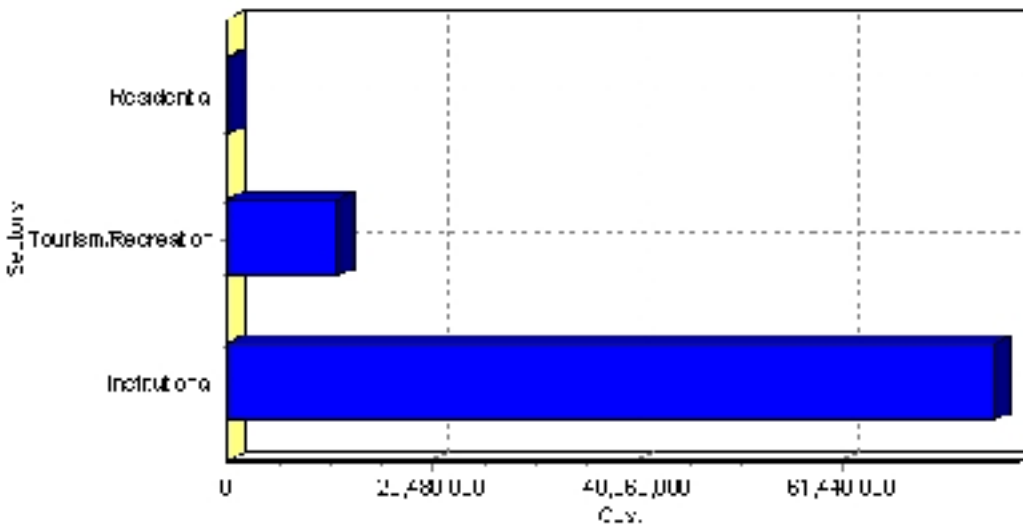
# Projects

## Summary of Projects in Olds as of September 2006

Project Sector	Number of Projects	Project Cost
Institutional	4	\$76,700,000
Tourism/Recreation	1	\$11,000,000
Residential	1	\$200,000
Total	6	\$87,900,000

This inventory lists projects in Alberta that have recently been completed, are under construction, or are proposed to start construction. Not all projects are listed due to reasons of confidentiality and/or due to information not being available at the time of printing. Project data is obtained from public information sources, where possible, this data has been verified with the project proponent/developer, users of the Inventory may wish to confirm project data with the proponent/developer. The inventory does not breakdown project expenditures by any given year. The cost of a project is the value of expenditures expected over all phases of project construction, which may span over two or more years. Cost of projects listed in the Inventory are estimated values only. Source: Alberta Economic Development, 2004.

## Value of Projects by Sector (as of September 2006)



Project Status	Number of Projects	Project Cost
Announced	2	\$52,200,000
Proposed	3	\$17,500,000
Under Construction	1	\$18,200,000
Total	6	\$87,900,000

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## Largest Projects in Olds as of September 2006

Company Name	Project Description	Project Location	Project Cost	Construction Schedule	Status
Olds College / Chinooks Edge School District / Olds High School	Community Learning Campus, Olds College	Olds	\$52,000,000	2006-2008	Announced
Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation*	Replacement School	Olds	\$18,200,000	2006-2007	Under Construction
Olds Agricultural Society	Multi - Phase Facility Expansion	Olds	\$11,000,000	-	Proposed
Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation*	NEW STARTER SCHOOL	Olds	\$4,000,000	-	Proposed
Olds and District Municipal Library	Building Renovation / Expansion	Olds	\$2,500,000	-	Proposed
Mountain View Seniors' Housing	Mountview Lodge - Repair / Maint.	Olds	\$200,000	2006-2006	Announced

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