

Federal Gas Tax Fund – 2018 Outcomes Report



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1) Executive Summary

The 2018 Federal Gas Tax Fund Outcomes Report provides an overview of preliminary results achieved under the 2014-2024 Federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) agreement between the Government of Canada and the Province of Alberta, signed on July 2nd, 2014. The results presented in this report are intended to demonstrate the degree to which Alberta municipalities' investments under the GTF support achievement of the national program objectives: productivity and economic growth, clean environment, and strong cities and communities. The outcomes report supports accountability and quantifies overall results for the period between 2014 and 2016 (inclusive) using a series of indicators. Results for 2013 are also provided as an attachment.

Between 2014 and 2016, Alberta received \$636,384,135 in GTF funding from Canada. Of this, \$312,841 or 0.05 per cent was used by Alberta for administrative costs. Alberta is permitted under the GTF agreement to use 0.3 per cent of its annual allocation to cover administrative costs. Unused administrative funding allocations are carried over to the next year. In 2014-15 Alberta carried over its entire allocation of \$625,952. Alberta used \$89,853 of its \$625,952 allocation in 2015-16 and \$222,988 of its \$657,249 allocation in 2016-17¹. Administrative funds cover costs associated with delivering the program on behalf of the federal government, including review and approval of projects, fulfillment of reporting requirements, and provision and maintenance of the IT system used to administer the GTF.

The total GTF contribution towards projects completed between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2016 was \$339,508,878. The total cost of all GTF-funded projects completed between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2016 was \$715,854,401².

Notable benefits resulting from grant allocations for January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016 include:

- 619,326 metres of drinking water distribution lines constructed or repaired;
- 42,491 metres of wastewater collection lines constructed or repaired;
- Over 1,841 kilometres of local road constructed or rehabilitated;
- Over 124 kilometres of bridge constructed or rehabilitated;
- 99 new public transit vehicles purchased, 17 of which were designed to be barrier-free; and
- 12 amateur sports facilities (including seven new facilities) benefitted from investment.

¹ This information is being provided on a fiscal-year basis, as outlined in the business case that Alberta submitted to Infrastructure Canada.

² As submitted by recipient. Some recipients report the same amount for total project cost and amount of GTF contribution because they are not required to report additional project costs under the GTF. Numbers are not directly comparable to those reported in Municipal Affairs' Annual Expenditure Reports because the basis of reporting is different.

2) Background

a. Program context

The Federal GTF is a 10 year program, introduced in 2014, as part of the New Building Canada Plan. It is an extension of the 2009 GTF agreement and the original 2005 New Deal for Cities and Communities. The GTF provides predictable, long-term funding for Canadian municipalities to help them build and revitalize their local public infrastructure, while creating jobs and long-term prosperity. Under the program, funding is provided to provinces and territories, which in turn flow this funding to municipalities. In Alberta the GTF is administered by the ministry of Municipal Affairs (MA).

b. Administration and Delivery

On April 1, 2014, the responsibility for GTF administration was transferred from Alberta Transportation (AT) to MA, to align with other grant program changes stemming from Alberta's results-based budgeting process. Since the transfer, municipalities have continued to submit project applications through AT's grants management system. MA approves project profiles, allocates funding to municipalities, collects and approves reporting from municipalities, and maintains responsibility for provincial reporting to Canada.

c. Alberta's GTF Recipients

Alberta's GTF funding goes to its 351 local governments including Métis Settlements and the Townsite of Redwood Meadows (collectively referred to as 'municipalities' in this report), which provide services such as road maintenance, water and wastewater utilities, waste management, and emergency management to their residents. Local governments vary widely in capacity and sophistication, and are categorized as either rural (87 municipalities) or urban (264 municipalities). Within the rural and urban categories, municipalities are further divided into cities, towns, villages, summer villages, specialized municipalities, municipal districts, improvement districts, Métis Settlements, the Townsite of Redwood Meadows and one Special Area. Further information regarding each municipality type is provided in **Appendix A**.

d. Other Grant Funding and Grant Stacking

Municipalities may receive funding through a number of other federal and provincial grant programs. Grant programs that support objectives similar to those of the GTF are described in Table 1.

In some cases grant funding from more than one provincial and/or federal grant program can be applied to the same project. This is referred to as "stacking". Stacking is commonly used where programs have a cost-sharing requirement and/or so applicants can acquire more grant funding for a single project. Under certain conditions, the GTF can be stacked with some of the programs noted in Table 1. More information about municipal grants and grant stacking is available in the [Municipal Grants Web Portal](#).

Table 1: Other Grants

Grant Program Name	Administering Ministry	Program Description
Alberta Community Partnership Program	MA	Designed to improve the viability and long-term sustainability of municipalities by providing funding to support new or enhanced regional municipal services, improved municipal capacity to respond to municipal and regional priorities, and effective intermunicipal relations through joint activities.
Alberta Municipal Water Wastewater Partnership (AMWWP)	AT	Assists eligible municipalities with the construction of water and wastewater facilities. The AMWWP is a cost-sharing program with project-based capital grants awarded through a competitive process.
Federal Clean Water and Wastewater Fund	Federal Government and AT	Contributes to the rehabilitation of water treatment and distribution infrastructure, wastewater and storm water treatment systems, collection and conveyance infrastructure, and initiatives that improve asset management.
Federal Small Communities Fund	Federal Government and MA	A competitive program that assists communities with populations under 100,000 to complete infrastructure projects that contribute to economic growth, a cleaner environment and stronger communities.
Green Transit Incentives Program (GreenTRIP)	AT	A competitive program that provides capital funding for new and expanded public transit projects.
Municipal Sustainability Initiative-Capital (MSI Capital)	MA	Provides allocation-based funding to all municipalities in Alberta including Métis Settlements and the Townsite of Redwood Meadows. MSI Capital funds the acquisition, construction, betterment, rehabilitation or non-routine maintenance of capital assets in a variety of project categories.
Federal Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (PTIF)	Federal Government and AT	Supports the rehabilitation of public transit systems, planning of future system improvements, enhanced asset management, and system modernization. Alberta has also committed funding to support PTIF projects through GreenTRIP.
Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program	AT	Provides financial assistance to municipalities for project-specific investment in capital construction and rehabilitation of local transportation infrastructure such as roads, bridges, community airports and resource roads. Funding is granted on a competitive, cost-shared basis.
Water for Life	AT	Supports the development of new regional water and wastewater systems. Available for new regional water or wastewater systems, or new extensions to existing regional water or wastewater systems. Funding is available to groups of two or more municipalities and regional commissions.

3) Outcomes Measurement - Methodology

a. Data Collection

When responsibility for the administration of the GTF was transferred from Alberta Transportation to MA in 2014, Alberta Transportation's Municipal Grants Management Application system (MGMA) was used in the interim until MA could develop its own grant management system for the GTF. There were impacts on the collection and analysis of data for this report because of MA's reliance on the legacy database. For example, MGMA does not collect precise project end-dates, only the year of completion. As a result, MA was only able to separate projects by calendar year. MGMA does not support the implementation of any new (i.e., GTF-specific) performance measurement frameworks, and projects had been entered under a variety of descriptors. For this report, MGMA project data was sorted into categories that align with the GTF investment categories, to form a coherent framework.

b. Baseline Data

Baseline information was not collected from municipalities and since targets for individual municipalities' infrastructure investments are not established by MA, the ministry does not have an overall baseline for GTF outcomes.

c. Data Analysis and Performance Measurement

Project information in MGMA is collected from municipal recipients at the project application stage. As MGMA does not support collection of results following project completion, these intended project results are used as proxies for actual results.

Metrics were available for all projects but inconsistencies in the way information was stored in MGMA made categorizing some projects challenging. For example, project data may include, as a metric description, the number of pumps to be purchased by a municipality while another project in the same category, which also includes the purchase of one or more pumps, may provide the number of kilometres of waterline to be installed as the project metric. To mitigate this challenge, the indicators provided in a draft Infrastructure Canada Performance Measurement Strategy document released in October 2017 were applied where more granular reporting was not possible. As a result, the number of assets receiving GTF investment were counted where a more descriptive indicator was not available. When very large projects have multiple components over multiple years and span more than one investment category, the metric for the component that received the highest percentage of the total project cost was counted.

d. Performance Measurement Going Forward

To make it easier for Alberta municipalities and MA to manage project applications and reporting, MGMA will be replaced by the Gas Tax Fund Online system in spring 2018. The structure of GTF Online will provide the flexibility needed to collect GTF-specific performance measurement information, thus enhancing MA's ability to report on outcomes in the future.

4) Program Results

The GTF has three overarching national objectives: productivity and economic growth, clean environment, and strong cities and communities. The national objectives are further divided into project categories. Table 2 summarizes how Alberta's GTF recipients invested their funding under each of the national objectives and project categories. Tables 3 through 5 speak to the beneficial impacts of completed projects.

Table 2: Summary of Completed Projects (January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2016)

Productivity and Economic Growth			
Project Category	# Completed Projects	Total Cost of Completed Projects	Total Federal GTF Contribution
Local roads and bridges	611	\$364,795,459	\$187,072,832
Public transit	49	\$169,280,326	\$55,911,736
Regional and local airports	2	\$925,770	\$925,770
Short-line rail	2	\$170,640	\$170,540
Broadband connectivity	1	\$250,001	\$250,000
Total	665	\$535,422,196	\$244,330,878
Clean Environment			
Project Category	# Completed Projects	Total Cost of Completed Projects	Total Federal GTF Contribution
Drinking water	158	\$70,849,340	\$33,432,477
Wastewater	150	\$65,398,251	\$36,907,709
Community energy systems	18	\$7,901,176	\$6,926,601
Solid waste	13	\$6,917,237	\$6,483,695
Brownfield redevelopment	1	\$65,726	\$50,650
Total	340	\$151,131,730	\$83,801,132
Strong Cities and Communities			
Project Category	# Completed Projects	Total Cost of Completed Projects	Total Federal GTF Contribution
Sport infrastructure	12	\$24,147,922	\$8,328,297
Capacity building	8	\$822,336	\$516,942
Recreational infrastructure	7	\$2,400,137	\$817,406
Cultural infrastructure	5	\$1,474,028	\$1,258,171
Disaster mitigation	2	\$456,052	\$456,052
Total	34	\$29,300,475	\$11,376,868
Grand total	1029	\$715,854,401	\$339,508,878

Table 3: Beneficial Impacts of Completed Projects - Productivity and Economic Growth (Jan. 1, 2014-Dec. 31, 2016)

Program Objective: Productivity and Economic Growth				
Project Category	Description	Indicator	Result (new/enhance/rehab-where applicable)	Immediate Outcome
Local Roads and Bridges	Road construction	Kilometres receiving investment	1,841 (263/0/1,578)	Improved road infrastructure
		# of Assets receiving investment	99 (27/0/72)	
	Bridges	Kilometres receiving investment	124 (14/0/110)	
		# of Assets receiving investment	4 (2/0/2)	
	Sidewalks and pedestrian pathways	Kilometres receiving investment	75 (59/0/16)	
		# of Assets receiving investment	15 (13/0/2)	
	Intersections	Square kilometres receiving investment	10 (4/0/6)	
	Noise attenuation	# of Assets receiving investment	1 (0/0/1)	
Ancillary works (incl. traffic lights, signals, manholes)	# of Assets receiving investment	165 (99/0/66)		
Public Transit	Bus stops	# of Assets receiving investment	5	Improved capacity and quality of public transit
		# of Bus stops receiving investment for barrier-free service	1	
	Public transit buildings, park and ride, terminals and garages	# of Assets receiving investment	5	
	Public transit vehicles	# of Transit vehicles receiving investment	82	
		# of Barrier-free public transit vehicles receiving investment	17	
LRT improvements incl. LRT lines	# of Projects receiving investment	3		
Regional and Local Airports	Runway and taxiway infrastructure	Square kilometres receiving investment	41 (0/0/41)	Improved air infrastructure
Short-line rail	Rail crossing	# of Assets receiving investment	2(0/0/2)	Improved rail infrastructure
Broadband Connectivity	Fibre optic cable	Kilometres of cable	3.2	Improved broadband connectivity

Table 4: Beneficial Impacts of Completed Projects - Clean Environment (Jan. 1, 2014-Dec. 31, 2016)

Program Objective: Clean Environment				
Project Category	Description	Indicator	Result	Immediate Outcome
Drinking Water	Water metres	# of Water metres funded	4,968	Increased capacity to treat and manage drinking water
	Distribution systems	Metres of waterline	619,326	
		# of Assets receiving investment	28	
	Treatment facilities incl. water storage	# of Assets receiving investment	46	
	Water monitoring e.g., SCADA	# of Assets receiving investment	7	
Fire mitigation	# of Hydrants funded	25		
Wastewater	Wastewater treatment facilities incl. pumps and lift stations	# of Assets receiving investment	42	Increased capacity to treat and manage wastewater and stormwater
	Wastewater collection systems	Metres of pipe	42,491	
		# of Assets receiving investment	23	
Storm water ponds	# of Assets receiving investment	8		
Community Energy Systems	Energy efficiency retrofit-building	# of Assets receiving investment	16	Increased energy efficiency
	Lighting retrofit	# of LED lightbulbs installed	11,105	
Solid Waste	Landfill	# of Assets receiving investment	4	Increased capacity to treat and manage solid waste
	Diversion	# of Assets receiving investment	6	
	Transfer station	# of Assets receiving investment	3	
Brownfield Remediation	Remediation of brownfield site within municipal boundaries	Square metres remediated	600	Reduced or remediated pollutants

Table 5: Beneficial Impacts of Completed Projects - Strong Cities and Communities (Jan. 1, 2014-Dec. 31, 2016)

Program Objective: Strong Cities and Communities

Project Category	Description	Indicator	Result (new/enhance/rehab- where applicable)	Immediate Outcome
Sport Infrastructure	Amateur sport facilities	# Assets receiving investment	12 (7/0/5)	Improved access to and increased quality of sport infrastructure
Capacity Building	Long-term infrastructure planning	#Asset management plans updated	4	Increased capacity to develop asset management plans
		# New asset management plans created	4	
Recreational Infrastructure	Trail systems	Kilometres receiving investment	14 (12/0/2)	Improved access to and increased quality of recreational infrastructure
	Playgrounds and equipment	# Assets receiving investment	1 (1/0/0)	
Cultural Infrastructure	Community centres	#Assets receiving investment	5 (3/0/2)	Improved access to and increased quality of cultural infrastructure
Disaster Mitigation	Flood mitigation infrastructure	# Assets receiving investment	2 (2/0/0)	Increased structural and natural infrastructure to adapt to climate-related impacts, natural disasters, extreme weather events

5) Predictability of GTF Funding

The GTF is a permanent source of funding provided up front, twice-a-year to provinces and territories, which in turn flow this funding to municipalities to support local infrastructure priorities. Municipalities can pool, bank and borrow against this funding, providing significant financial flexibility. Three performance indicators are presented in Table 6 to help illustrate the benefits of predictability.

Table 6: Predictability

Indicator	Description	Result	Outcome
Cumulative amount of interest earned by municipalities (2014-2016)	Municipalities are permitted to bank any portion of their annual allocations and may be more likely to do so knowing ahead of time what their allocation will be and the potential earnings in interest. The banking option also allows municipalities to plan larger projects for the future.	\$6.1 million ³	Enhanced impact of GTF as a predictable source of funding
Number of projects approved beyond current years' allocation (2018-2022)	The willingness of municipalities to submit applications for projects beyond the current year demonstrates they are planning according to the funding they expect to receive through future GTF allocations.	89	
Number of municipalities with projects approved beyond current years' allocation (2018-2022)	The willingness of municipalities to submit applications for projects beyond the current year demonstrates they are planning according to the funding they are expected to receive through future GTF allocations.	33	

6) Incrementality

The 2014-2024 GTF agreement between Canada and Alberta specifies that GTF funding is not intended to replace or displace existing sources of funding for local government tangible capital expenditures. It is meant to be incremental; provided in addition to funding sources which already exist. The agreement requires average annual tangible capital expenditures by local governments from 2014-2018 must be more than a base amount of \$970 million. The base amount is calculated as the average amount of annual tangible capital spending for the period from 1999 to 2003 (excluding federal and provincial capital transfers). Table 7 demonstrates Alberta and its municipalities have met this requirement for 2014, 2015 and 2016. Since spending and transfer amounts for the previous calendar year are reported by municipalities each May, incrementality for 2017 and 2018 will be demonstrated in the 2023 outcomes report.

³Based on information from Statements of Funding and Expenditures submitted and certified as of March 1st, 2018.

Table 7: Demonstration of Incrementality (in millions)

Year	Municipal Spending ⁴	Provincial and Federal Capital Transfers	Municipal Spending Excluding Transfers	Base Amount	Municipal Spending Excluding Transfers Minus Base Amount
2014	\$4,522	\$1,735	\$2,787	\$970	\$1,817
2015	\$4,670	\$1,789	\$2,881	\$970	\$1,911
2016	\$4,718	\$1,704	\$3,014	\$970	\$2,044

7) Asset Management

Asset Management is a process for making decisions about the use and care of infrastructure to deliver services in a way that considers current and future needs, manages risks and opportunities, and makes the best use of resources. Asset management is important in Alberta; it helps protect municipal infrastructure investments and ensures that desirable levels of service are provided to citizens.

a. Overview of Alberta’s Asset Management Approach

Under the GTF agreement, Alberta and Canada agreed to work in collaboration to develop an approach to asset management planning that would ensure continued progress. In 2015, the approach was accepted by Infrastructure Canada, with the activities that make up the approach being implemented in two phases. Phase One activities have already been implemented and include the maintenance of MA’s [Capacity Building Tools webpage](#), which includes technical resources for asset management at various levels of complexity. A key resource on this webpage is the 2016 [handbook and toolkit](#) developed by the Consulting Engineers of Alberta with a provincial grant from the Alberta Community Partnership Program. The handbook and toolkit are widely available to the public via a number of online sources.

Alberta Municipal Affairs is also a founding member of the Infrastructure Asset Management Alberta (IAMA) organization. IAMA provides leadership and support for the management of community infrastructure assets and represents the community of people, organizations, and agencies engaged in infrastructure asset management. IAMA hosts full day sessions twice a year that include training, presentations, and discussions on asset management best practices. Funding and advisory support provided by the province has been instrumental in the evolution of the organization, which recently incorporated as a self-sustaining, non-profit society.

The development and use of policies that support asset management in Alberta is ongoing. In spring 2015, Alberta’s Municipal Corporate Planning Regulation was amended as part of the review of the *Municipal Government Act*. The amended regulation requires municipalities develop a five-year capital plan by 2020. These plans will outline when necessary capital expenditures will be required, the estimated future costs of maintaining assets, information regarding capital assets, and how future assets will be financed. The regulation aims to ensure every municipality has basic asset management practices in place. In 2017, MA provided training on the new regulation during its regional training sessions, held in five locations across

⁴ Calculations do not include municipalities that are not governed by the Municipal Government Act and therefore not required to submit annual Financial Information Returns, i.e., Métis Settlements and the Townsite of Redwood Meadows.

the province. Going forward, Alberta is assisting municipalities with the implementation of the corporate planning requirements and expanding available tools and resources. Advisors at MA will continue to promote asset management practices at regional training sessions in 2018 and beyond.

b. 2017 Federal Gas Tax Fund: Municipal Asset Management Survey

In order to gauge municipal capacity and progress in asset management, the province conducted a survey on municipal asset management practices. The survey results provided the ministry with a snapshot of the current status of asset management among municipalities. MA will continue to monitor the extent to which municipalities are implementing asset management practices throughout the remainder of the GTF agreement by administering the survey every year. Since 2017 was the first year the survey was administered, the goal was to develop a baseline against which Alberta intends to report progress for the 2023 Federal GTF Outcomes Report.

c. Survey Methodology

The survey was sent via email to all 351 municipalities. It was available online starting August 23, 2017, and was closed to responses on September 11, 2017. Definitions for terminology used throughout the survey were provided. The ministry is taking steps to ensure the response rate increases in future years by incorporating survey completion into GTF recipients' mandatory reporting processes.

d. Results

A response rate of 54 per cent was achieved (189 out of 351 potential respondents). Combined, the 189 municipalities that responded own nearly \$35 billion of tangible capital assets (net book value), which accounts for about 56 per cent of all municipally-owned tangible capital assets in Alberta.

Asset Management is a relatively new concept in Alberta, practiced on a largely informal basis in many municipalities. While 67 per cent of respondents have implemented or initiated asset management strategies, only 14 per cent have formal asset management plans.

The results indicate rural municipalities were slightly more likely to formalize their asset management planning. While roughly the same proportion of urban and rural municipalities have initiated or implemented asset management strategies, 29 per cent of rural municipalities had council-approved asset management policies versus 20 per cent for urbans, and 21 per cent of rural municipalities had formal asset management plans as opposed to just 12 per cent for urbans.

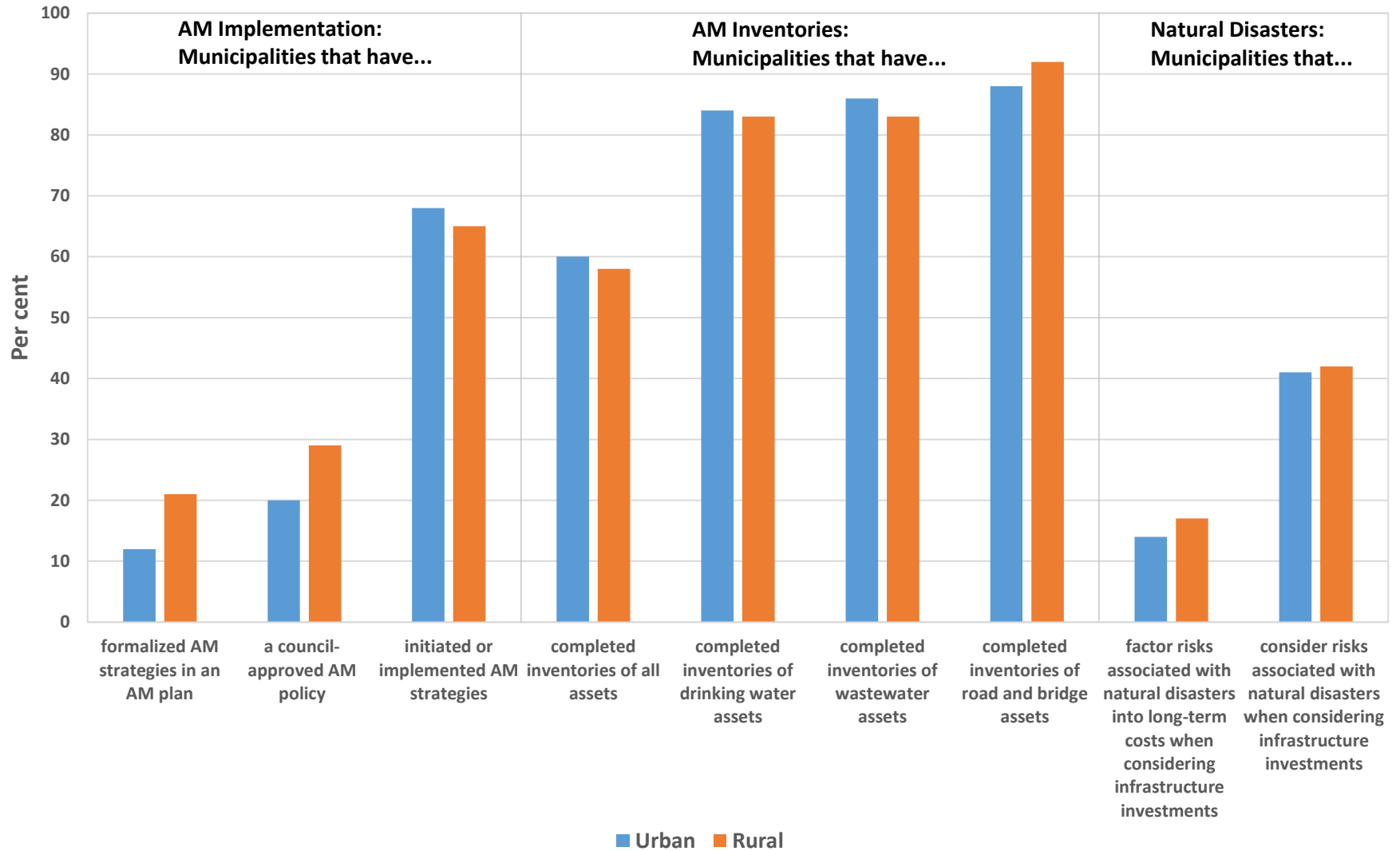
Information management is an important aspect of asset management, and a process of continuous improvement. Nearly all respondents (98 per cent) had at least a partial inventory of their assets and 60 per cent have full inventories. Half of the respondents have a system or a set of tools in place to manage information. The most commonly used tools are Excel spreadsheets, geographic information systems (GIS), and financial software. Those that lack a system or tools indicated they have not yet determined an appropriate method for centralizing information and may be unaware of available tools.

Municipalities were also asked whether they consider risks associated with natural disasters when considering potential infrastructure investments. While 56 per cent of respondents considered these risks in planning infrastructure investments, only 15 per cent factored these risks into long-term

costs (such as insurance, direct or indirect damages). Most of those that did not consider natural disaster risks believed the risk is very low in their location, or they simply did not have enough time and/or resources to consider these risks in their decision-making.

When considering an infrastructure investment, only 29 per cent of respondents considered the potential impacts of a changing climate on the asset or its environment, while 71 per cent did not. Most of those who did not consider climate adaptation said they did not know how to do so. Some indicated they did not have sufficient budgetary resources to consider it, while others were uncertain of the need. Figure 1 illustrates the key findings, by municipality type, i.e., urban and rural.

Figure 1: Key Findings - 2017 Federal GTF Municipal Asset Management Survey



8) Vignettes

While the benefits of GTF-funded projects can be measured and tracked in quantitative terms, three municipalities have shared some of the additional benefits experienced by community members as a result of GTF investments.

Figure 2: Town of Castor Vignette

Pool Deck and Pathway Resurfacing

Total Cost: \$110,000

GTF Contribution: \$50,000



In 2015 the pool deck was resurfaced using GTF funds. The Town of Castor reports that it still looks great and washes clean easily. The slightly cushioned surface is excellent for instructing aqua fit classes. Another benefit is that if children fall, the cushioning is much more forgiving than the cement. Castor was also able to resurface its pedestrian pathways, which are reported to be “a runners dream” because of the impact they absorb.

Figure 3: Town of Canmore Vignette

Bike Lane, Sidewalk & Pedestrian Crossing Implementation

Total Cost: \$157,500

GTF Contribution: \$140,000



This project has extended and improved the connectivity of the trail system, providing a safe and efficient route for cyclists and pedestrians to access the Legacy Trail between Canmore and Banff as well as improving links between Canmore and the Visitor Centre. The project has increased the comfort, safety and enjoyment of alternative modes of transportation while supporting the fundamental principles of environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Figure 4: Lethbridge County Vignette

Iron Springs Energy Efficient Pump Upgrade GTF contribution: \$15,000

Iron Springs is a small hamlet in Lethbridge County, located about 28 kilometres northeast of Lethbridge. In 2014, the county was able to replace the hamlet's centrifugal pumps with energy-efficient pumps. The new pumps are equipped with variable frequency drives, which have eliminated fluctuations in water pressure that occurred each time a truck filled at the site. As a result, the overall efficiency of the water distribution system and the quality of life for the residents of Iron Springs have improved. Community members now enjoy a stable, reliable flow of water in their homes, making everyday activities like showering more convenient and enjoyable. The variable frequency drives have also resulted in increased energy savings for the county.

9) Conclusion

The Federal GTF program is an essential source of funding providing Alberta's municipalities with the flexibility to set local priorities and address their ongoing infrastructure needs. Under the 2014-2024 GTF, Alberta's municipalities will continue to receive predictable, stable funding, resulting in continued benefits for Albertans.

With the 2014-2024 GTF now in its fifth year, performance measurement and grant system development will continue to be the focus for Alberta. The new online grant administration system is expected to be operational in spring 2018, providing additional functionality such as enhanced reporting (including collection of outcomes data) and improved quality of project applications.

Asset Management will also continue to be a priority for Alberta. Municipal progress in this area will continue to be supported by the ministry, and the 2023 GTF Outcomes Report will provide an update on progress made by Alberta municipalities.

Appendix A – Municipality Types in Alberta

Table 8: Municipality Types in Alberta

Urban (264)	Rural (87)
Towns (108)	Municipal Districts (63)
May be formed where there is a population of at least 1,000 people. A town is typically governed by a mayor and six councillors who are elected at large.	Formed where the majority of properties are on large parcels of land, and may include hamlets and residential subdivisions as well as farmland. They may also be referred to as counties.
Villages (87)	Improvement Districts (8)
May be formed where there is a population of at least 300 people. The council of a village consists of three councillors, one of whom is the mayor.	Originally established in sparsely populated areas where there was neither the population nor the tax base to support a viable local government. Improvement Districts are usually located on Crown lands in national or provincial parks, with the province managing local government functions.
Summer Villages (51)	Métis Settlements (8)
Summer Villages are similar to Villages, except that residents typically do not reside in a summer village year-round and elections are held in the summer. The formation of Summer Villages is no longer permitted in Alberta.	Collectively governed by the Métis Settlements General Council, they are the only legislated, land-based Métis communities in Canada. The eight Métis Settlements in Alberta are home to nearly 5,000 people.
Cities (18)	Specialized Municipalities (6)
May be formed where there is a population of at least 10,000. Cities may establish ward systems with the same number of councillors in each ward. Cities are governed by a mayor who is elected at large and an even number of councillors.	Can be formed when no other classification of municipal government can meet the needs of the residents of the proposed municipality. Specialized Municipalities often allow urban and rural communities to coexist under a single municipal government.
	Special Area (1)
	Similar to a municipal district, but administered by representatives appointed by the province. Alberta took ownership of the land and established the Special Area in 1938 due to the extreme hardship brought on during the drought years.
	Townsite of Redwood Meadows (1)
	Built on land leased from the Tsuu T'ina First Nation. It functions similarly to an incorporated town but because of its location within the Tsuu T'ina Nation Indian Reserve, the administration of the townsite is shared with the First Nation Council.

Appendix B – Summary of Completed Projects (Jan. 1, 2013 and Dec. 31, 2013)⁵

The GTF contribution towards projects completed between January 1, 2013, and December 31, 2013, was \$58,818,381. The total project costs for GTF funded projects completed between January 1, 2013, and December 31, 2013, was \$120,287,590⁶

Table 9: Summary of Completed Projects (Jan 1, 2013 and Dec. 31, 2013)

Productivity and Economic Growth			
Project Category	# Completed Projects	Total Cost of Completed Projects	Total federal GTF Contribution
Local roads and bridges	121	\$80,310,703	\$36,387,482
Public transit	15	\$13,297,841	\$7,367,500
Total	136	\$93,608,544	\$43,754,982
Clean Environment			
Project Category	# Completed Projects	Total Cost of Completed Projects	Total federal GTF Contribution
Wastewater	30	\$10,588,638	\$7,094,602
Drinking water	21	\$11,923,413	\$4,933,303
Community energy systems	19	\$ 1,578,167	\$1,342,388
Solid waste	2	\$ 892,196	\$504,318
Total	72	\$24,982,414	\$13,874,611
Strong Cities and Communities			
Project Category	# Completed Projects	Total Cost of Completed Projects	Total federal GTF Contribution
Recreational infrastructure	1	\$994,201	\$486,357
Capacity building	1	\$702,431	\$702,431
Total	2	\$1,696,632	\$1,188,788
Grand total	210	\$120,287,590	\$58,818,381

⁵ Outcomes reporting guidelines ask that projects from Jan. 1, 2013, to March 31, 2014, be reported on separate from data for April 1, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2016. Given that MA's legacy grant management system stores project completion dates by year only, the table above includes projects completed between January 1, 2013, and December 31, 2013. The main section of this report covers projects completed January 1, 2014, to December 31, 2016.

⁶ As submitted by recipient. Some recipients report the same amount for total project cost and amount of GTF contribution because they have used their entire GTF allocation and are not required to report additional project costs under the GTF. Numbers are not directly comparable to those reported in Municipal Affairs' Annual Expenditure Reports because the basis of reporting is different.

Appendix C – Acronyms

Table 10: Acronyms

AM	Asset management
AMWWP	Alberta Municipal Water Wastewater Partnership
AT	Ministry of Alberta Transportation
GreenTRIP	Green Transit Incentives Program
GTF	Gas Tax Fund
IAMA	Infrastructure Asset Management Alberta
MA	Ministry of Municipal Affairs
MGMA	Municipal Grants Management Application
MSI	Municipal Sustainability Initiative
PTIF	Public Transit Infrastructure Fund