

Strathcona County 2015 Third Quarter Management Report

Prepared by Financial Services

Prepared for

Council

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<u>Year-to-Date Operating Variance and the Year-End Forecast of the Annual Operating Surplus for Tax Purposes for Municipal, Utility, Library Operations and Pioneer Housing Foundation (PHF)</u>

1. Year-to-Date Operating Variance

The operating variance at September 30, 2015 is **\$22.1 million** (Q3 2014 \$13.9 million). The operating variance is the difference between the year to date actual and budgeted results, and is comprised of timing differences, that are expected to reverse during the remainder of the year, and permanent differences that have occurred and will affect the year-end results.

County Operating Segments	2015 Q3 YTD Timing Differences \$M	2015 Q3 YTD Permanent Differences \$M	2015 Q3 YTD Variance \$M	2014 Q3 YTD Variance \$M
Municipal	8.8	9.5	18.3	11.3
Utility	0.1	3.5	3.6	2.5
Library	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
PHF	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	9.0	13.1	22.1	13.9

The year-to-date operating variance includes reserve transactions and debt repayments that are excluded from Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) financial reporting.

2. Year-End Forecast of the Annual Operating Surplus for Tax Purposes (Permanent Differences + Forecasted Items)

County Operating Segments	2015 Q3 Forecast \$M	2014 Q3 Forecast \$M	2014 Q4 Surplus \$M
Municipal	11.7 (4.3%)	6.3 (2.4%)	9.7 (3.7%)
Utility	2.4 (4.2%)	1.9 (3.4%)	3.7 (6.8%)
Library	-	0.1 (0.7%)	0.1 (1.5%)
PHF	-	-	-
TOTAL	14.1 (4.2%)	8.3 (2.5%)	13.5 (4.2%)

Please note that the percentages represent the proportion of surplus compared to the respective annual operating budgets. The annual operating surplus for tax purposes includes reserve transactions and debt repayments that are excluded from Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) financial reporting.

The year-end forecast is based on the information available as of September 30, 2015, and is subject to the uncertainty of unknown events or circumstances which may transpire during the remainder of the year.

3. Analysis of the 2015 Year-End Forecast

a. Municipal Operations – \$11.7 million – Contributing Factors (In Order of Significance)

Favourable:

- i. Personnel cost savings due to staff turnover, vacancies, and deferred hiring
- ii. Municipal property tax revenues and supplemental taxes exceeding the budget
- iii. Unbudgeted gains realized from the disposal of investments
- iv. Savings from lower road oil and asphalt prices than anticipated
- v. Savings from lower fuel prices and volumes than anticipated
- vi. Unbudgeted emergency services 911 grant revenues
- vii. Savings from deferred borrowing
- viii. Savings on utility costs due to lower electricity prices and volumes

Unfavourable:

- i. Lower user fee revenues from Millennium pass and admissions
- ii. Higher than anticipated P1-P3 winter maintenance contract costs

b. Utility Operations – \$2.4 million – Contributing Factors (In Order of Significance)

Favourable:

- i. Higher water consumption than anticipated
- ii. Unbudgeted external contract revenues

Unfavourable:

- i. Forecast Q4 water line repairs
- c. Library Operations No significant impacts to report.
- d. Pioneer Housing Foundation Operations No significant impacts to report.

2015-2018 Corporate Business Plan Reporting

An integral component of the Business Plan and Budget Implementation (BPBI) Project includes performance measurement and progress reporting. As such, going forward, Q2 and annual (Q4) quarterly management reports will include progress reporting on the goals within the 2015 – 2018 Corporate Business Plan, which demonstrate linkages to the Strategic Plan. Performance measures will also be reported on as part of the corporate business plan progress report, including ongoing refinement to the measures themselves as part of an evolving process.

Council was previously provided with corporate business plan reporting as part of the Q2 Management Report (September 29, 2015).



Capital Activity (Excluding PHF)

1. 2015 Capital Budget and Spending

The 2015 Annual Capital Budget (cash flowed), as amended, totals \$221.6 million. The capital spending, as of September 30, 2015, totals \$60.7 million (2014 \$56.1 million), which represents 27% of the planned expenditures for the year.

2. 2015 Capital Budget Amendments

Fifteen project amendments have been approved as of Q3 2015 for a \$25.8 million total net increase of the capital budget as follows:

- i. 6 2015 projects were added in the amount of \$20.5 million
- ii. 4 2015 projects were amended to increase the budget by \$0.2 million
- iii. 5 2014 and prior projects were amended, 2 projects increasing the budget \$9.5 million and 3 projects decreasing the budget by (\$4.4) million, resulting in a net increase of \$5.1 million

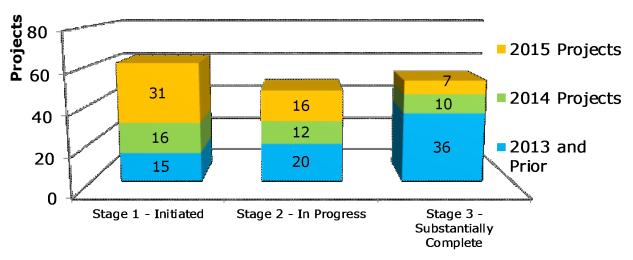
3. Update on Completed Projects

During the first three quarters of 2015, thirty nine projects were completed \$3.3 million under a total combined budget of \$35.8 million. Of the unused funding, \$1.4 million was budgeted to be funded from external grants, debentures and other sources, and \$1.9 million was budgeted from internal sources (reserves). All funds released are allocated back to their original funding sources, and are available for other emergent or future priorities.

4. Capital Status

The 163 active capital projects, as of September 30, 2015, have been grouped based on work completed according to assessments provided by the responsible departments, consisting of the following project stage groupings; Stage 1 (0 - 10%) Initiated, Stage 2 (11 - 85%) In Progress, and Stage 3 (86 - 99%) Substantially Complete, as illustrated below:

Active Capital Projects at September 30, 2015



STAGE TOTALS = Stage 1 - 62 (38%), Stage 2 - 48 (29%), Stage 3 - 53 (33%)

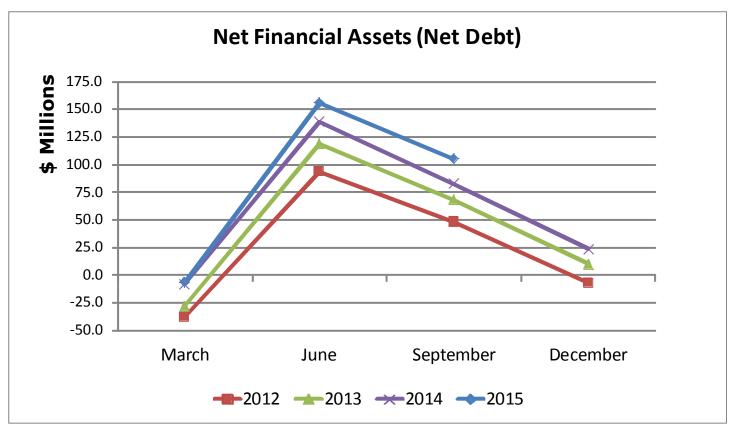
Assessment of the County's Financial Condition — Key Financial Indicators

The following section is prepared based on the Q3 2015 Strathcona County Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited) provided in Appendix 1. The Consolidated Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS).

Statement of Financial Position — Highlights

a. Net Financial Assets (Net Debt) Position

As of September 30, 2015, the County's net financial asset (net debt), position totaled \$105.4 million compared to a \$23.6 million net financial asset position at December 31, 2014, which is an increase of \$81.8 million.



Net financial assets (net debt) is trending normally. The net financial assets will be drawn down to finance operations during the final quarter of 2015.

b. Investments

The County held \$346.5 million in investments at September 30, 2015 (Q3 2014 \$330.6 million). The 2.38% year-to-date weighted average return on investments was slightly lower than the 2.40% budgeted return. Additionally, the gains realized from the disposal of investments total \$1.8 million.

e. Reserve Reporting

The following table provides a summary of the County's reserve balances as at September 30, 2015:

Reserves	Committed \$M	Designated \$M	Total \$M
Municipal			
Stabilization and Contingency	0.3	9.2	9.5
Projects	32.3	24.3	56.6
Infrastructure, Lifecycle, Maintenance and Replacement	37.3	22.2	59.5
Special Purpose	15.5	10.1	25.6
Total Municipal	85.4	65.8	151.2
Utilities Stabilization and Contingency	-	0.9	0.9
Projects Infrastructure, Lifecycle, Maintenance and Replacement	4.2	- 35.8	40.0
Special Purpose	5.5	-	5.5
Total Utilities	9.7	36.7	46.4
Total Library	-	4.0	4.0
Total Reserves	95.1	106.5	201.6
Percentage	47.2%	52.8%	100%

The presentation of reserve groupings is in accordance with the Policy: FIN-001-024 Municipal Reserves.

Definitions:

Committed – Funding approved as per FIN-001-024: Municipal Reserves policy to be applied towards specific expenditures.

Designated – Funding designated to reserves for a specific purpose, which has not yet been approved by Council to be applied towards specific expenditures.

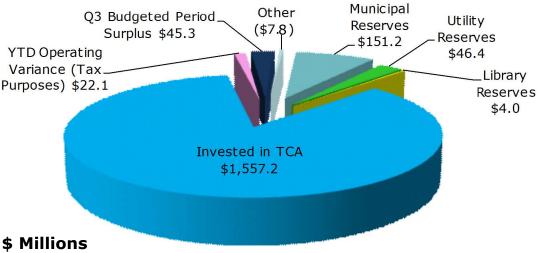


f. Accumulated Surplus

Accumulated surplus totals \$1,818.4 million at September 30, 2015 (Q3 2014 \$1,708.7 million). The composition of the Q3 2015 accumulated surplus is as follows:

- i. Reserves of \$201.6 million (Q3 2014 \$192.4 million);
- ii. Investments in tangible capital assets of \$1,557.2 million (Q3 2014 \$1,459.3 million);
- iii. The September 30, 2015 budgeted period surplus of \$45.3 million (Q3 2014 \$45.0);
- iv. The September 30, 2015 year to date favourable operating variance of \$22.1 million (Q3 2014 \$13.9); and
- v. The unrestricted surplus (deficit) of (\$7.8) million (Q4 2014 (\$1.9) million).





Appendix

- 1. Consolidated Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules for the Period Ended September 30, 2015 (unaudited)
- 2. Glossary of Terms

Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Period Ended September 30, 2015 (in thousands of dollars)

(unaudited)

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at September 30, 2015 (in thousands of dollars)

	September 30 2015 (unaudited)	December 31 2014
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,809	\$ -
Accounts Receivable Property Taxes	20,162	3,299
Government Transfers	1,012	2,409
Trade and Other	17,431	15,501
Development Levies and Charges	3,348	6,790
Land Held for Resale	2,632	2,625
Investments	346,473	286,988
Investment Interest Receivable	7,518	6,293
	401,385	323,905
LIABILITIES Cheques Issued in Excess of Cash Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities Deposit Liabilities Deferred Revenue Capital Leases Long-Term Debt	53,016 17,716 70,527 143 154,813 296,215	3,464 37,194 16,576 79,058 246 163,724 300,262
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	105,170	23,643
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible Capital Assets	1,711,558	1,670,280
Inventories of Materials and Supplies	766	850
Prepaid Expenses	872	2,328
	1,713,196	1,673,458
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	\$ 1,818,366	\$ 1,697,101

Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus

		15 Period Budget unaudited)	otember 30 2015 unaudited)	·	otember 30 2014 unaudited)
REVENUE	•				
Property Taxes	\$	207,911	\$ 208,997	\$	198,000
Government Transfers		40,924	32,050		23,245
Utility User Rates		39,965	42,331		39,200
User Fees and Charges		29,739	30,970		33,246
Penalties and Fines		4,368	4,965		4,459
Investment Income		4,522	6,277		4,925
Other Capital Revenues		31,608	2,483		6,294
Contributed Tangible Capital Assets		-	18,067		1,087
Other		5,307	7,279		8,090
TOTAL REVENUES		364,344	353,419		318,546
		·	·		
EXPENSES					
Infrastructure and Planning Services					
Capital Planning and Construction		3,068	2,158		2,843
Economic Development and Tourism		1,258	902		986
Planning and Development Services		8,419	6,852		6,721
Transportation and Agriculture Services		23,496	21,029		21,411
Utilities		40,416	40,591		38,911
		76,657	71,532		70,872
Community Services				1	
Emergency Services		24,773	22,274		22,541
Family and Community Services		5,366	5,492		5,336
Strathcona Transit		13,964	13,029		12,918
RCMP and Enforcement Services		16,666	15,889		14,989
Recreation, Parks and Culture		30,446	28,538		29,400
,		91,215	85,222		85,184
Corporate Services		24,101	21,226		18,887
Chief Financial Officer		4,358	4,024		3,572
Senior Administration		4,742	4,504		4,426
Elected Officials		911	824		852
Fiscal Services		36,019	37,200		32,169
Strathcona County Library		7,292	7,137		6,999
Pioneer Housing Foundation		485	485		725
		77,908	75,400		67,630
TOTAL EXPENSES		245,780	232,154		223,686
TOTAL EXI ENGLS		243,760	232,134		223,000
PERIOD SURPLUS		118,564	121,265		94,860
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS,					
BEGINNING OF PERIOD		1,697,101	1,697,101		1,613,840
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS,		· · · · · ·			· · ·
END OF PERIOD	\$	1,815,665	\$ 1,818,366	\$	1,708,700

Consolidated Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets (Net Debt)

	015 Period Budget (unaudited)	ember 30 2015 naudited)	Dec	cember 31 2014
PERIOD SURPLUS	\$ 118,564	\$ 121,265	\$	83,261
Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets Contributed Tangible Capital Assets Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets Loss on Tangible Capital Assets Transfers and Disposals	(166,277) - 37,764	(60,675) (18,067) 37,129		(89,769) (28,695) 46,674
Proceeds from Transfers and Disposals of Tangible Capital Assets	 (9,949)	212 79,987		678 14,097
Acquisition of Inventories of Materials and Supplies Acquisition of Prepaid Expenses Use of Inventories of Materials and Supplies Use of Prepaid Expenses	 - - - - -	(555) (403) 639 1,859		(557) (2,733) 359 2,054 (877)
INCREASE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	(9,949)	81,527		13,220
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	 23,642	23,643		10,423
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, END OF PERIOD	\$ 13,693	\$ 105,170	\$	23,643

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

NET INELOW (OUTELOW) OF CASH BELATED TO THE	September 30 2015 (unaudited)	December 31 2014
NET INFLOW (OUTFLOW) OF CASH RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:		
OPERATING Period Surplus	\$ 121,265	\$ 83,261
Items Not Involving Cash: Contributed Tangible Capital Assets Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets Amortization of Premium (Discount) on Investments Loss on Tangible Capital Assets Transfers and Disposals Gain on Disposal of Investments	(18,067) 37,129 35 123 (1,835)	(28,695) 46,674 (15) 1,948 (540)
Changes to Non-Cash Assets and Liabilities: Property Taxes Receivable Government Transfers Receivable Trade and Other Receivables Development Levies and Charges Land held for resale Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities Deposit Liabilities Deferred Revenue Inventories of Materials and Supplies Prepaid Expenses Cash Provided by Operating Activities	(16,863) 1,397 (1,930) 3,442 (7) 15,822 1,140 (8,531) 84 1,456	566 2,491 (3,363) (5,599) - (8,331) 1,636 16,196 (198) (679)
CAPITAL Proceeds from Transfers and Disposals of Tangible Capital Assets Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets Cash Applied to Capital Activities	212 (60,675) (60,463)	678 (89,769) (89,091)
INVESTING Purchase of Investments Proceeds from Sale/Maturity of Investments Change to Investment Interest Receivable Cash Applied to Investing Activities	(281,713) 224,028 (1,225) (58,910)	(287,498) 268,744 (1,258) (20,012)
Long-Term Debt Issued Capital Leases Repaid Long-Term Debt Repaid Cash Applied to Financing Activities	(103) (8,911) (9,014)	4,410 (594) (12,352) (8,536)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	6,272	(12,287)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (CHEQUES ISSUED IN EXCESS OF CASH), BEGINNING OF PERIOD	(3,464)	8,823
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (CHEQUES ISSUED IN EXCESS OF CASH), END OF PERIOD	\$ 2,808	\$ (3,464)

Consolidated Schedule of Segmented Information

		Municipal Operations			Library Pioneer Housing Operations Foundation Eliminations		iminations	8	September 30 2015 (unaudited)	eptember 30 2014 unaudited)	20	ptember 30 15 Budget unaudited)		
REVENUE														
Property Taxes	\$	200,231	\$	6	\$ 8,760	\$	-	\$	-	\$	208,997	\$ 198,000	\$	207,911
Government Transfers - Operating		5,340		39	533		-		-		5,912	6,582		4,548
Government Transfers - Capital		25,025		1,113	-		-		-		26,138	16,663		36,376
Utility User Rates		-		42,331	-		-		-		42,331	39,200		39,965
User Fees and Charges		28,514		2,322	134		-		-		30,970	33,246		29,739
Penalties and Fines		4,842		-	123		-		-		4,965	4,459		4,368
Investment Income		5,461		733	83		-		-		6,277	4,925		4,522
Other Capital Revenues		1,981		502	0		-		-		2,483	6,294		31,608
Contributed Tangible Capital Assets		9,997		8,067	3		-		-		18,067	1,087		-
Other		6,503		8	29		1,223		(484)		7,279	8,090		5,307
TOTAL REVENUE	_	287,894		55,121	9,665		1,223		(484)		353,418	318,546		364,345
EXPENSES														
Salaries, Wages and Benefits		99,244		7,756	4,248		-		-		111,248	104,915		115,101
Contracted and General Services		30,593		9,143	265		-		-		40,002	40,372		44,292
Supplies, Materials and Utilities		17,216		16,939	829		-		-		34,984	35,936		40,421
Interest on Long-Term Debt		2,645		2,027	768		484		(484)		5,440	5,830		5,470
Grants and Requisitions		1,717		-	-		-		- ′		1,717	1,692		1,634
Amortization		31,059		4,570	1,015		485		-		37,129	33,614		37,764
Loss (Gain) on Tangible Capital Assets											·			
Transfers and Disposals		28		88	8		-		-		123	(101)		-
Other Expenses		1,440		67	3		-		-		1,510	1,428		1,098
TOTAL EXPENSES		183,942		40,590	7,136		969		(484)		232,153	223,686		245,780
PERIOD SURPLUS		103,952		14,531	2,529		254		-		121,265	94,860		118,565
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS (DEFICIT), BEGINNING OF PERIOD		1,389,560		289,613	 9,317		16,035		(7,424)		1,697,101	 1,613,840		1,697,101
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS (DEFICIT), END OF PERIOD	\$	1,493,512	\$	304,144	\$ 11,846	\$	16,289	\$	(7,424)	\$	1,818,366	\$ 1,708,700	\$	1,815,666

STRATHCONA COUNTY Consolidated Schedule of Tangible Capital Assets As at September 30, 2015 (in thousands of dollars)

Cost		Balance at ecember 31 2014 (unaudited)	Additions (unaudited)		Contributed Additions (unaudited)		Disposals (unaudited)	Balance at eptember 30 2015
COSI		(unaudited)	(unaudited)		(uriaudited)		(unaudited)	(unaudited)
	_			_		_		
Land	\$	446,022	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 446,022
Land Improvements		79,068	4,438		1,296		(504)	84,298
Buildings		369,042	429		-		(48)	369,423
Engineered Structures		1,074,869	15,567		16,768		(11,557)	1,095,647
Machinery and Equipment		64,124	4,494		-		(1,483)	67,135
Books and Periodicals		5,267	438		3		(293)	5,415
Vehicles		69,538	825		-		(1,525)	68,838
Assets under Construction		45,794	34,484		-		-	80,278
	\$	2,153,724	\$ 60,675	\$	18,067	\$	(15,410)	\$ 2,217,056

Accumulated Amortization	Dec	alance at cember 31 2014 maudited)		Disposals (unaudited)	A	Amortization Expense (unaudited)	Se	talance at optember 30 2015
Land	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_
Land Improvements	Ψ	26,318	Ψ	(504)	Ψ	2,695	_	28,509
Buildings		82,039		(19)		6,837		88,857
Engineered Structures		315,355		(11,305)		19,096		323,146
Machinery and Equipment		30,180		(1,467)		4,263		32,976
Books and Periodicals		2,276		(293)		399		2,382
Vehicles		27,276		(1,487)		3,839		29,628
Assets under Construction		-		-		-		-
	\$	483.444	\$	(15.075)	\$	37.129	\$	505.498

Net Book Value	Balance at ecember 31 2014 (unaudited)	Sep	alance at otember 30 2015
Land	\$ 446,022	\$	446,022
Land Improvements	52,750		55,789
Buildings	287,003		280,566
Engineered Structures	759,514		772,501
Machinery and Equipment	33,944		34,159
Books and Periodicals	2,991		3,033
Vehicles	42,262		39,210
Assets under Construction	45,794		80,278
	\$ 1,670,280	\$	1,711,558



GLOSSARY OF TERMS:

- Annual Operating Surplus for Tax Purposes The annual surplus or (deficit) resulting from the modified cash flow basis, which includes debt repayment expenditures and reserve transactions, and excludes amortization expense, gains/losses on asset disposals and capital revenues, unlike the Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) Surplus.
- Committed Funding approved as per FIN-001-024: Municipal Reserves policy to be applied towards specific expenditures.
- Designated Funding designated to reserves for a specific purpose, which has not yet been approved by Council to be applied towards specific expenditures.
- Forecast Variances Future variances to budget that have yet to occur, but are expected to be realized based on current information, and are projected to affect the year-end surplus or (deficit).
- Permanent Differences Variances to budget that have occurred and will affect the year-end surplus or (deficit).
- PSAS Surplus The surplus or (deficit) resulting from financial statements prepared in accordance with PSAS.
- Timing Differences Variances to budget that are expected to reverse during the remainder of the year and not affect the year-end surplus or (deficit).
- Year-End Forecast Permanent Differences plus the Forecast Variances make up the Year-End Forecast surplus or (deficit).
- Year-To-Date Operating Variance The favourable or (unfavourable) difference between budget and actuals at a point in time including any Timing Differences.