#### PICTURE BUTTE EMERGENCY SERVICES

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# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



@picturebutteemergencyservice



@PictureButteFireDept



**@PButteFire** 

# CONTACT US:









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https://www.picturebutte.ca/



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## A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

#### A Year of Pride in Service

It is once again a privilege to present the 2024 Annual Report on behalf on the members of Picture Butte Emergency Services. This report aims to highlight the extraordinary work your Picture Butte firefighters, paramedics, and officers do on a daily basis to serve this community and make the Picture Butte area a great community to live in.

This past year brought a consistent work load of fire and rescue calls with emergency medical events finally seeing a decline after several years of unprecedented growth. Our members remained steadfast in their commitment to continual improvement through training, education, and research. Our community should be particularly proud of our EMS division for achieving another 4-year Qmentum Accreditation through Accreditation Canada in 2024. This recognition shows our departments commitment to quality improvement in emergency medical services and displays our value of providing high-quality patient-centered care with an emphasis on patient safety. I want to congratulate our paramedics and EMS leaders for achieving this national recognition!

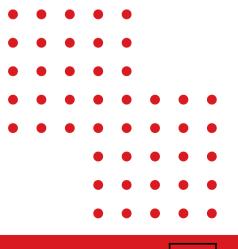
As we look ahead to 2025 and beyond, I am excited to see many regional collaboration projects working towards completion including the regionalization of our emergency management programs with our partners in Coalhurst, Nobleford, Barons, and Lethbridge County. This new regional program will provide increased collaboration between our municipal governments and focus on improved preparedness in our communities for the next potential disaster. We are also working towards implementation of our regional fire response plans and regional fire prevention programs through Community Connect (stay tuned!). On behalf of the members of Picture Butte Emergency Services, I hope you enjoy the 2024 Annual Report on the activities of your fire department.

Sincerely,

Fire Chief Frank West Fire Chief Frank West

**Director of Emergency Services** 









This year, even though there was a decline in call volume, we remained active with a total of 1,021 service calls, marking this year as the fourth in departmental history to exceed 1,000 events. Notably, we experienced a 0.7% rise in structure fire calls, a 0.6% increase in motor vehicle collision responses, a 1.13% uptick in wildland/outdoor fires, a 0.2% growth in technical rescue responses, and a 2% increase in fire medical responses.















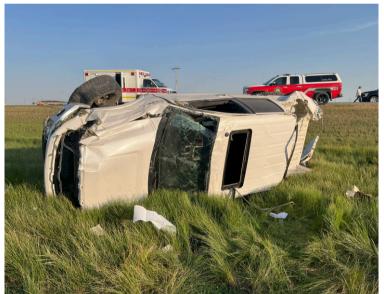




**16** Community Events



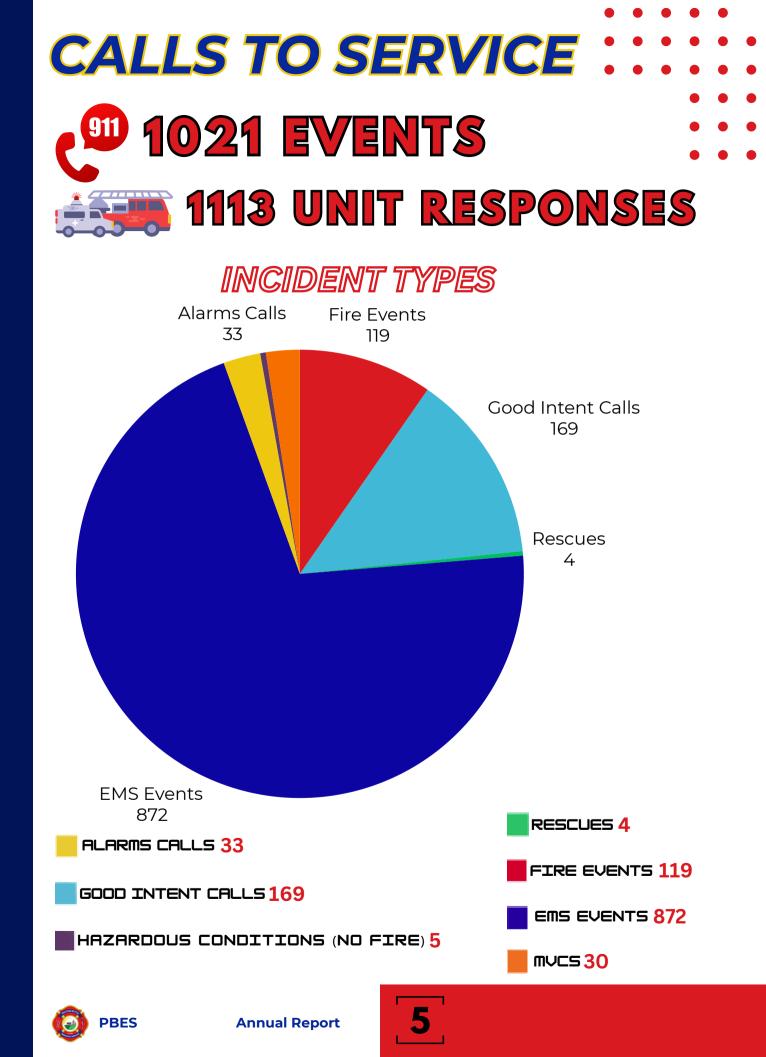






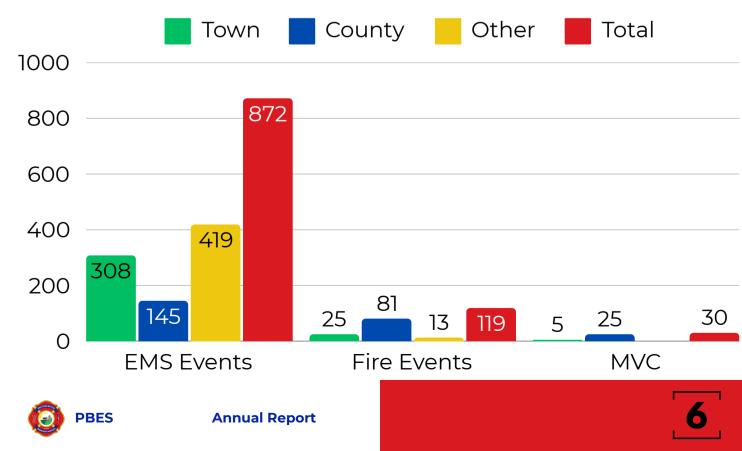


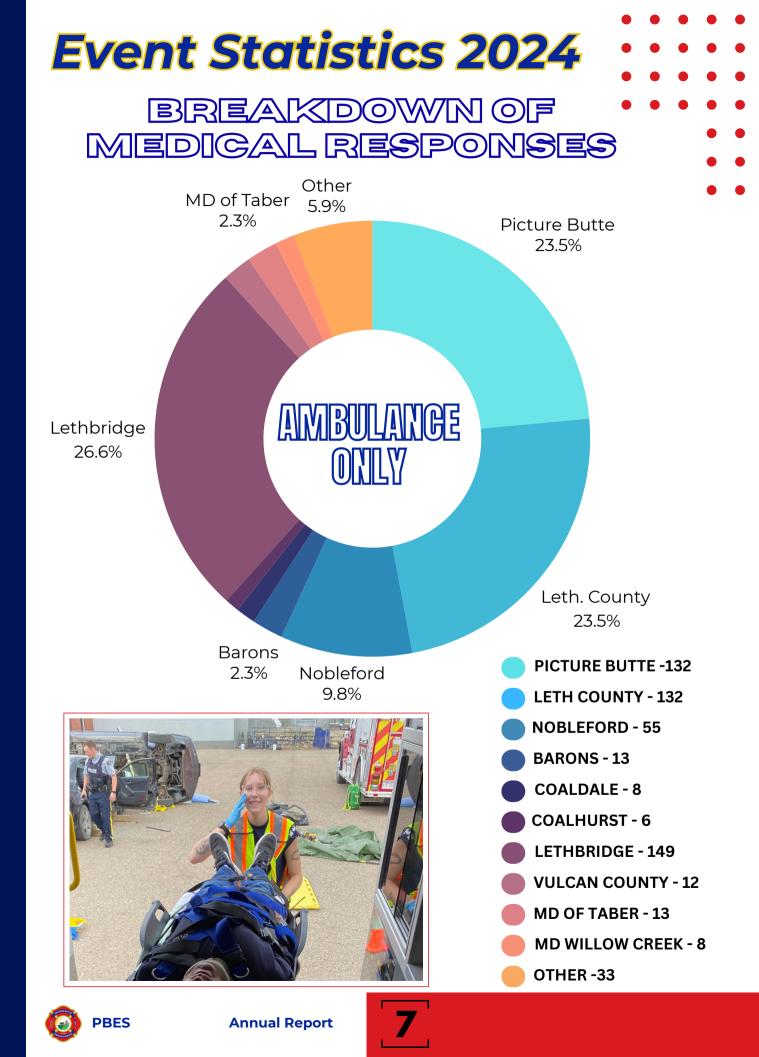


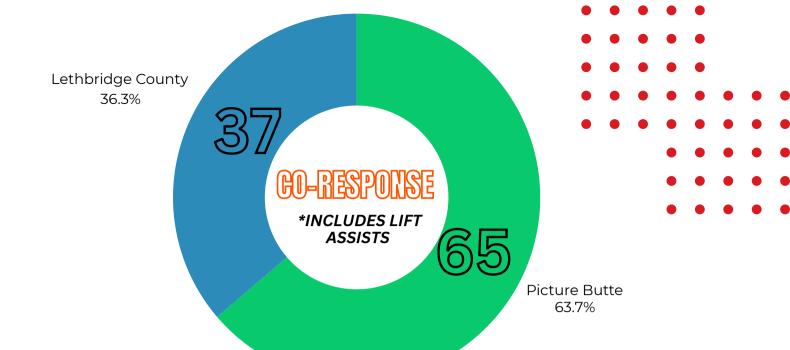




### CALL VOLUME PER AREA







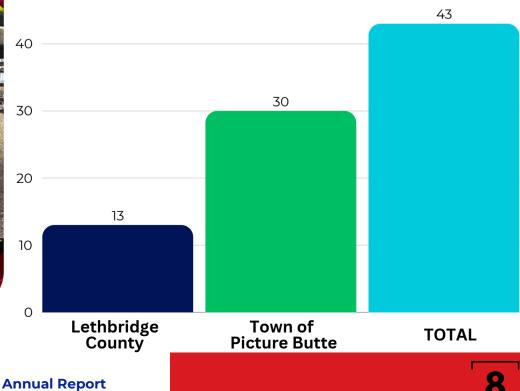


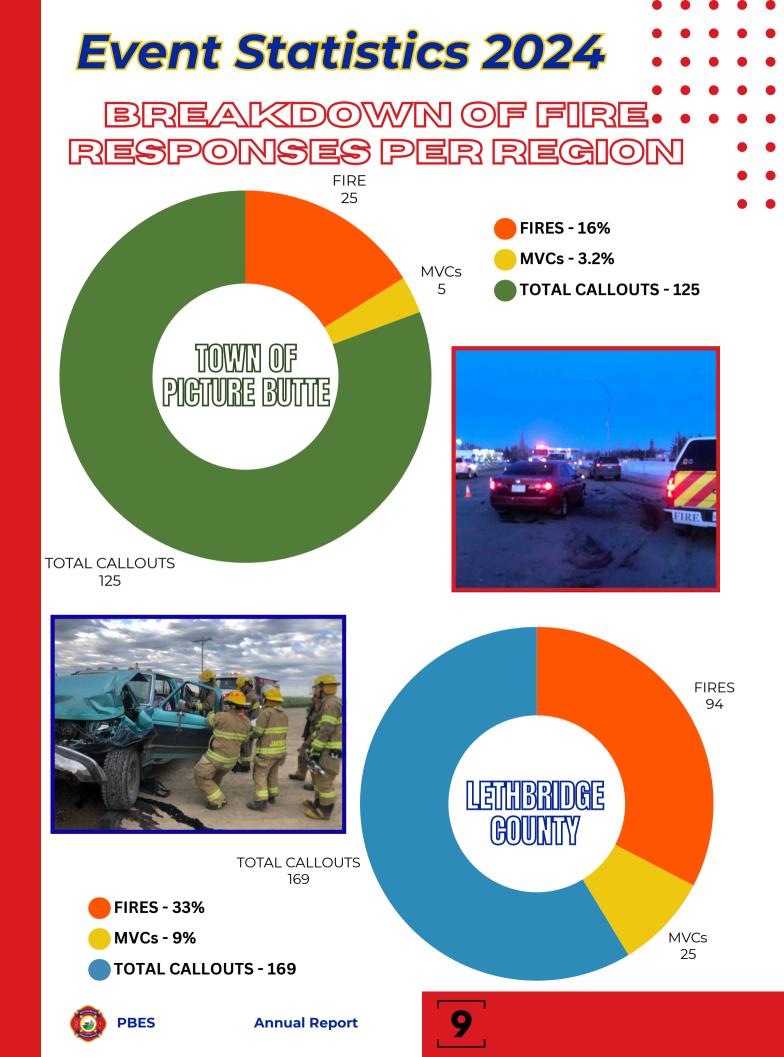
PBES

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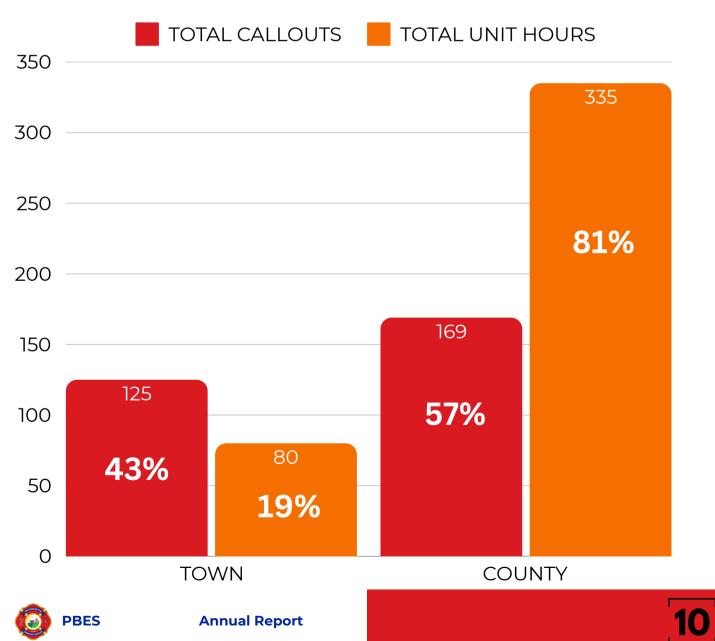
#### **MEDIGAL FIRST RESPONSE** \*FIRE ONSCENE BEFORE EMS











## **OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **NEW EQUIPMENT**

In 2024 we added two Zoll Cardiac Monitors and a Zoll Autopulse to our equipment inventory.







### **OPERATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

IN 2024, THE INCREASE IN AVAILABLE AMBULANCE RESOURCES IN THE PROVINCE, RESULTED IN A **50%** REDUCTION IN OUT OF COMMUNITY EMS CALLS (SUCH AS OUR AMBULANCE RESPONDING TO EMERGENCY EVENTS IN THE CITY OF LETHBRIDGE).

AS A RESULT, THERE WAS A REDUCTION IN "CODE RED" (WHERE THERE IS NO AVAILABLE AMBULANCE) EVENTS, RESULTING IN FEWER MEDICAL FIRST RESPONSE CALLS BY:

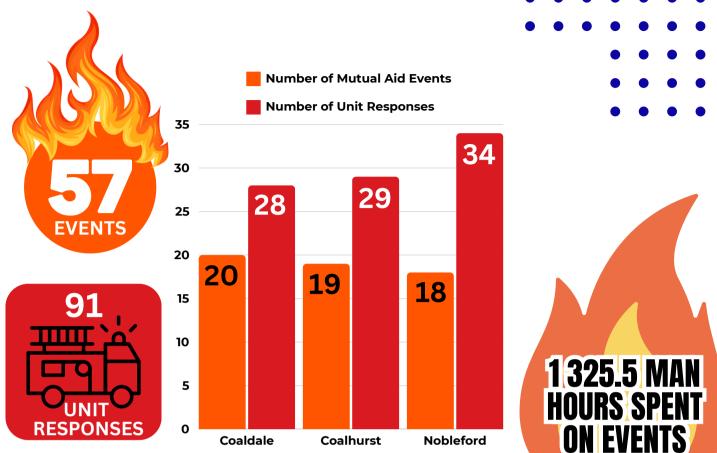
**40%** IN THE TOWN OF PICTURE BUTTE

**30%** IN OUR RESPONSE DISTRICT





## **MUTUAL AID RESPONSES**



#### PROMOTIONS



#### Lieutenant Dylan DeRick

Firefighter Dylan DeRick was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, now serving as the lieutenant of C Platoon.





#### **Qualified Officer Edric VandeBruinhorst**

Firefighter Edric VandeBruinhorst was promoted to the rank of Qualified Officer

Senior Firefighters Katie Maclean, Layton Vande Stroet, & Kailey Jakober

This year, three firefighters were promoted to Senior Firefighters after completing all the qualifications.







## LIFE SAFETY INITIATIVES

#### IN 2024, OUR FIRE PREVENTION TEAM AND FIREFIGHTERS PARTICIPATED IN A NUMBER OF COMMUNITY EVENTS AND LIFE SAFETY INITIATIVES, INCLUDING:

- GEMS Group Station Tour
- Lethbridge County Learning Council Fire Safety Presentations
- Piyami Lodge Seniors Station Tour
- Community Bike Rodeo
- PARTY Program Mock Collision
- Senior's Week Celebrations at Piyami Lodge
- DDS Kindergarten Class Station Tour
- Lethbridge County 60th Anniversary
- Daycare Station Tours
- Job Fair Recruitment Booth
- Fire Prevention Week 2024

And many more impromptu station tours, school fire drills, and safety inspections.



Senior's Week celebrations at Piyami Lodge - June 6, 2024



DDS Kindergarten Field Trip Station Tour- June 11, 2024



Lethbridge County's 60th Anniversary event in Shaughnessy - July 12, 2024

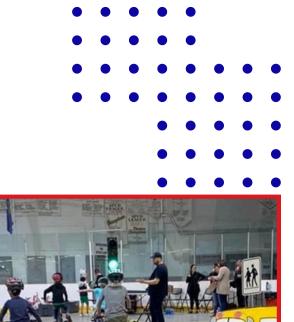


Daycare Station Visit -October 31, 2024









Community Bike Rodeo in Partnership with AHS, Peace Officers, RCMP, and Southwest Alberta Road Safety Society. *May 30, 2024* 





PARTY Program Mock Collision scenario hosted in partnership with Alberta Health Services and RCMP for grade 9-12 students at Picture Butte High School.

June 3, 2024



















FF Kaden Zmeko



# YOUR PICTURE BUTTE FIREFIGHTERS HARD AT WORK













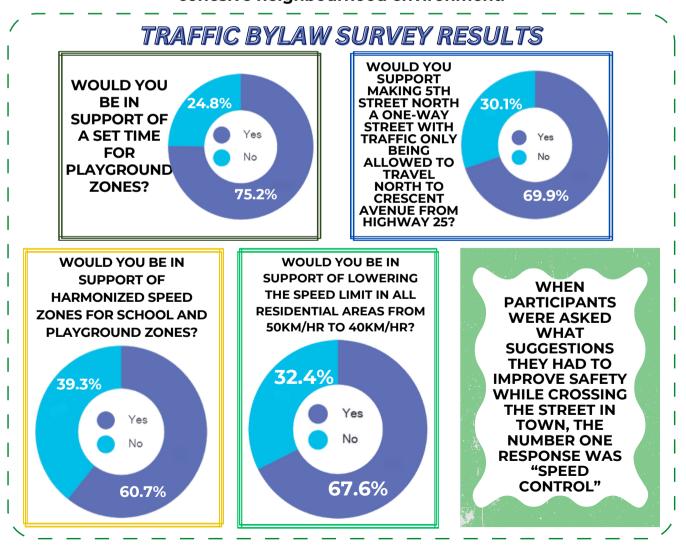


**Annual Report** 

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In an effort to enhance community safety and address residents' concerns, the bylaw services completed a comprehensive review of local bylaws, incorporating feedback from two public surveys. Out of the 145 respondents, valuable insights led to significant changes set to take effect in 2025. Among the updates, residential speed limits will be reduced to 40 km/hr, aligning with the harmonization of school and playground zones to 30 km/hr from 0700 - 2300 hrs, 365 days a year to ensure a safer environment for the children of our community. Additionally, to improve intersection safety and traffic flow, 3rd Street North and 5th Street North will transition to one-way streets. These changes reflect the community's input and aim to foster a safer and more cohesive neighbourhood environment.





## LOOKING FORWARD

In 2025, our community is excited about the anticipated advancements in road safety and emergency medical services. A significant development is the ordering of a new ambulance to replace our existing frontline unit, which, despite a two-year build process, is expected to arrive by 2027. This new addition promises to enhance our emergency response capabilities significantly.

Furthermore, we are optimistic about expanding our medical services by training all of our firefighters to a minimum level of an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR). This initiative is contingent on the success of our grant funding application, which, if approved, will allow us to provide comprehensive training in-house for our members.

These changes underscore our commitment to improving public safety and ensuring our community is well-equipped to handle emergencies efficiently and effectively.

