

TOWN OF GRAND FALLS

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mayor’s message.....	3
Foreword.....	4
Community profile	5
Municipal Council.....	6
Meetings.....	8
Remuneration.....	9
Grants	10
Socials and environmental	11
Economic development	11
Economic development programs	11
Corporations.....	13
Services	14
General services.....	15
Water and Sewer services	17
APPENDIX A	
2021 audited financial statements	19



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

We are happy and proud to present the Town of Grand Falls 2021 annual report. Contained herein, I trust that you will find varied and interesting information.

This report is intended as an excellent source of information regarding Council and its meetings, budgets and municipal services. We have also included miscellaneous grants and financial aid that we have provided to community organizations and to our volunteers as well as for economic development purposes.

Thanks to all our employees and to the many volunteers who, as always, have contributed their time and efforts to make our community a place where living is easy.

Together we are one team, one family with one vision.

Marcel Deschênes
Mayor of Grand Falls

FOREWORD

This report is prepared pursuant to section 105 of the Local Governance Act and Regulation 2018-54.

It contains general information about the town of Grand Falls such as detailed information regarding Town Council, the provision of grants as well as the type and cost of the services we provide. The 2021 audited financial statements are appended as Appendix A.



COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Town of Grand Falls or Grand-Sault, as both names are official, is a picturesque town settled on either side of the Saint John River where the counties of Madawaska and Victoria meet. The Town is situated in Midwestern New Brunswick, bordering Maine, USA and is 85 kilometers from the Quebec border.

Grand Falls is a friendly and welcoming community that is known for its quality of life and progressive spirit. The Town is mainly French with 80% of the population speaking French at home. However, most residents have working knowledge of both official languages.

Vision: a bilingual town that has built on its rich history, natural beauty, and community spirit to become a full-service and accessible town with an innovative economy and excellent quality of life.

Mission: In collaboration with our community, Council and municipal staff provide leadership along with efficient and effective programs, services, and infrastructure in support of the Town's Vision.

“Vision Grand-Sault / Grand Falls – Sustainable Community Plan”



MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Here is the list of Council members and their responsibilities

Name	Committee(s)	Other responsibilities
Marcel Deschênes, Mayor	Finances Emergency measures Economic development	AFMNB / UMNB NWRSC
Renaud Ouellette Deputy Mayor	Public Works Emergency measures	Farmer's Market AFMNB NWRSC
Jean Maurice Gagnon	Police and Public Safety	Golf
David Raines	Fire Major infrastructure projects	Community Health Committee Special events Chamber of Commerce Central Business Development
Annie Deschênes	Administration Human resources Communications	Community Health Committee Library
Jocelyn 'Joe' Themens	Recreation, Tourism and Culture Environment	Golf



The meetings held in 2021 are as follows:

Regular monthly meetings: 6

Special meetings: 6

Presence of each member of Council:

Date	Meeting	M. Deschênes	D. Lagacé-Rioux	J. R. Michaud	R. Long	R. Ouellette	M. Ouellette	J. M. Gagnon
March 16	Regular	X		X	X	X	X	X
March 23	Special Capital borrowing	X	X	X		X	X	X
April 13	Regular	X	X	X		X	X	X
April 27	Special Capital borrowing and land purchase	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Date	Meeting	M. Deschênes	A. Deschênes	J. R. Michaud	D. Raines	R. Ouellette	J. Themens	J. M. Gagnon
June 14	Special Swearing in	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
July 13	Regular	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
September 8	Special Marina	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
September 14	Regular	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
October 26	Special Miscellaneous	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
November 9	Regular	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
November 23	Special Budgets GFCBDC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
December 21	Regular	X	X	X		X	X	X

Closed meetings: 41

Meeting dates: January 26
 February 2, 17 and 23
 March 2, 9, 16 and 23
 April 7, 13, 20 and 27
 May 4, 11 and 18
 June 8 and 29
 July 6, 13, 21 and 27
 August 3, 11, 17, 24 and 31
 September 8, 14, 21 and 28
 October 5, 19, and 26
 November 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30
 December 7, 14 and 21

General topics discussed at these meetings:

Pending acquisition or disposition of land;
 Information concerning litigation or potential litigation;
 Labour and employment matters.

Council remuneration

Name	Salary	Per Diem	Expenses	Total
Marcel Deschênes, Mayor	\$23,706	\$15,050	\$6,047	\$44,803
Denise Lagacé Rioux, Deputy Mayor (before elections)	\$7,244	\$350	0	\$7,594
Renaud Ouellette, Councilor/ Deputy Mayor	\$15,057	\$525	0	\$15,582
Rino Long, Councilor	\$6,496	0	0	\$6,496
Jean Réal Michaud, Councilor	\$14,172	\$175	0	\$14,347
Michel Ouellette, Councilor	\$6,496	0	0	\$6,496
Jean Maurice Gagnon, Councilor	\$14,172	\$175	\$368	\$14,715
David Raines, Councilor	\$7,677	0	0	\$7,677
Joe Themens, Councilor	\$7,677	0	\$106	\$7,783
Annie Deschênes, Councilor	\$7,677	0	0	\$7,677

GRANTS

GRANTS – SOCIAL / ENVIRONMENTAL

- Jr. A hockey, Rapids: \$10,000 for ice rental. Non-refundable.
- Polyvalente Thomas-Albert: \$1,000 bursary, non-refundable.
- John Caldwell School: \$1,000 bursary, non-refundable.
- Canadian Mental Health Association: \$1,000, non-refundable. 5-year agreement for the funding of a new van.
- Acanthus Art Gallery: \$7,500, non-refundable. 10-year financing agreement (\$2,500) and financial support (\$5,000).
- Tree of Hope: \$5000. Fundraising. non-refundable
- Mad-Vic ATV Club: \$1,600 non-refundable.
- Moncton University: \$1,500 non-refundable. 10-year financing agreement.
- Grand Falls Cataract Baseball: \$2,500 non-refundable
- Anne Sénéchal: \$500 for Christmas tree expo. Fundraising for Tree of Hope.
- Jeux de l'Acadie Foundation: \$1,586.25 5-year agreement funding agreement
- Kahoutec clubs, x-country ski, snowshoe, and fat bike: \$5,608,50 for a snowdog.
- Colebrook bike club: \$500 non-refundable
- Community Health Committee /GFGH: \$500 non-refundable
- Food bank: \$5,000 non-refundable
- CBDC: \$500 Sponsorship, non-refundable
- Royal Canadian Legion: \$500 non-refundable

The majority of these grants are provided to help our many organizations financially. Unless otherwise indicated, no conditions were imposed. Some are financing agreements such as the Acanthus Gallery (10 yrs) and the Canadian Mental Health Association (5 yrs). The fact that these groups continue to flourish and to provide great services to the young and not so young of our community and region is a great advantage to the Town.

GRANTS – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chamber of Commerce: \$5,457, non-refundable. Includes annual membership

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Incentive measures, new constructions: \$ 26,750. Non-refundable.

Incentive measures, renovations: \$ 24,698, non-refundable.

Incentive measures, new commercial, industrial or institutional constructions: \$1,600.



CORPORATIONS

The Corporations incorporated by the Town of Grand Falls are the Grand Falls Golf Club Inc., the Grand Falls Central Business Development Corp. Inc. (GFCBDC), and the Falls and Gorge Commission Inc.

The Golf club was incorporated to manage the golf course. Financial statements are consolidated to the Town's which can be found at Appendix A.

The GFCBDC was incorporated to manage the downtown business improvement zone established in the Grand Falls downtown area. Its financial statements are consolidated to the Town's which can be found at Appendix A.

The Falls and Gorge Commission was incorporated to develop and manage tourist attractions in the municipality. Its financial statements are consolidated to the Town's which can be found at Appendix A.



SERVICES

SERVICES

Local government budgets and services are established in accordance with a standardized classification system. In 2021, the Council adopted a general operating budget of \$ 11,062,076. Actual revenues totaled \$11,306,115 while expenditures totaled \$11,290,807 resulting in a surplus of \$15,308.

The Town also has a Utility Operating Budget for water and wastewater disposal services. The approved budget in 2021 was \$1,854,166. Actual revenues totaled \$1,857,329 while expenditures totaled \$1,836,036 resulting in a surplus for the year of \$ 21,293.

GENERAL SERVICES

Total expenditures: \$11,290,807.

General Government Services

Total expenditure \$1,630,218.

This category includes expenditures relating to administering the town, e.g. mayor and councilor salaries and expenses (\$172,799); salaries and benefits to office staff (\$566,767); office building expenses (\$380,294); legal and auditing fees (\$120,061); cost of assessment (\$108,391); grants to organizations (\$76,818) and other financial management / misc. (\$205,087).

Protective Services

Total expenditure \$2,672,994

These services include policing services (\$2,381,952); fire protection (\$286,224) and animal control (\$4,818).

Our municipal police force is comprised of one chief and one deputy chief, two administrative assistants and 14 officers (full and part time).

Our volunteer Fire Department includes one chief, one deputy chief, three captains and one secretary, plus 12 volunteer firefighters. The Town is currently in the process of building a new fire station. Expenses include dispatch fees with Edmundston in the amount of \$35,506.

Transportation Services

Total expenditure \$1,772,130

This category includes expenditures related to public works administration and garage salaries and benefits (\$616,376); general equipment (\$198,248); street maintenance (\$460,313); snow removal (\$143,451); street lighting and traffic (\$192,070); building operations (\$88,051) and miscellaneous other operating expenses (\$73,622).

Our staff includes 4 administrative positions as well as full-time unionized workers.

Environmental Health Services

Total expenditure \$329,765

These services include expenditures related to solid waste collection and disposal. The Town has a contract with Northwest Sanitation for the collection of waste and the disposal is done at the Northwest Regional Services Commission facility. The tipping fee was set at \$69 per ton in 2021.

Environmental Development Services

Total expenditure \$1,016,670

These services include environmental planning (\$71,118); environmental development services (\$352,635); economic development services (\$158,959); downtown development (\$84,421); BIA (\$33,514); tourism center (\$288,780); and the Farmers' Market (\$27,243).

Recreation & Cultural Services

Total expenditure \$1,952,734

This category includes expenses for the administration of the services by all of our recreational staff (\$676,015); operating expenses for the CEPSC (\$601,242); swimming pool (\$68,698); golf club (\$457,776); sports complex, tube lift, splash pad and curling (\$47,269); parks and playgrounds (\$66,197) museum (\$3,165) and library (\$32,373).

Recreational programs include skating, hockey, curling, skiing, figure skating, dancing, gymnastics, volleyball, ball hockey, baseball, softball, soccer, frolic, swimming, tennis, golf etc. The pandemic continued to affect things in 2021. Some programs and services were not available and others were available with proper protocols in place.

Fiscal services

Total expenditures \$1,916,297

This category includes principal repayments of \$856,000 and interest payments of \$201,361. Capital out of operations expenses in the amount of \$802,576 include \$49,457 for policing Services; \$37,065 for fire protection; \$234,260 for Transportation, \$5,471 for tourism and economic development, \$128,182 for recreational services, \$27,866 for administration, \$8,705 for the municipal garage, \$118,990 for the Portage Road building, \$137,322 for planning, \$35,258 for the provincial court building and \$56,359 for others.

WATER & WASTEWATER UTILITY

Total expenditures \$1,836,036

Water Service

Total expenditures \$902,214

Expenditures include costs of administration and personnel (\$359,549); purification & treatment (\$47,495); transmission & distribution (\$101,055); power and pumping (\$299,532); billing, collection & others (\$94,584).

Wastewater Disposal Service

Total expenditures \$407,421

Expenditures include costs of administration (\$183,051); sewage collection system (\$64,037); sewage lift stations (\$87,236); and sewage treatment and disposal (\$73,097).

Annual water & sewer rate for 2021 was \$564 per unit.

Fiscal services

Total expenditures \$526,401

This includes interest on short-term and long-term loans, principal repayment, transfer to reserve funds and bank charges.

In 2021, principal repayments were \$260,000 and interest payments were \$88,978. An amount of \$45,000 was transferred to the reservoir reserve fund and \$40,000 to the equipment reserve. A total of \$61,783 was spent on capital expenditures in 2021 while bank charges and bad debts totaled \$11,525 and other fiscal expenses amounted to \$17,407.



APPENDIX A



TGF signed audited
financials 2021.pdf