

**3-YEAR**

# **CAPITAL PLAN**

2027-2030

Collaborated With:





 HOLY SPIRIT  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL DIVISION  
ST. BASIL CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE  
620 12th STREET NORTH

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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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**This document outlines a strategic capital investment roadmap for Holy Spirit Catholic School Division over the next three years.**

**This capital plan has been created to address the space constraints, aging infrastructure, and evolving programming needs facing the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, with particular attention to our schools in that fall within the high category of our priority ranking calculator.**

The Holy Spirit Catholic School Division is entering a critical decade of growth and renewal. With 16 schools and two specialized learning centres serving more than 5700 students across southern Alberta, the division faces both opportunity and challenge: rising enrolment, aging infrastructure, and evolving program demands. This 3-Year Facilities Plan provides a strategic roadmap to ensure that our students have access to safe, modern, and future-ready learning environments.

Demographic analysis shows steady population growth in Lethbridge and surrounding communities, with West Lethbridge experiencing particularly strong pressure on existing facilities. Bow Island, Coaldale, Lethbridge, Picture Butte, Pincher Creek and Taber also reflect Alberta Government population trends, which point to sustained demand for Catholic education. These shifts will require thoughtful investment in both new construction and modernization.

Facility utilization data indicates that several schools are already operating near or above capacity, while others rely on aging infrastructure or temporary modular classrooms to meet student need. Without intervention, these pressures will limit the division's ability to deliver innovative programming, inclusive education, and expanded student services. Renewal and expansion projects are therefore essential to maintain quality and equity across the system.

This plan integrates enrolment forecasts, facility condition assessments, and municipal growth projections to identify priorities for modernization, replacement, and new school construction. It also considers Alberta Education and Childcare's funding framework, community needs, and environmental sustainability goals. By aligning internal governance strategies with external demographic and policy drivers, the division ensures that capital planning is both mission-driven and fiscally responsible.

The purpose of this plan is clear: to secure strategic investment that allows Holy Spirit's facilities to grow alongside its communities. More than a blueprint for buildings, it is a commitment to stewardship, equity, and excellence in Catholic education. This 3-year plan will guide decisions that strengthen the division's mission, support diverse learners, and create lasting impact for students and families across southern Alberta.

# GOALS AND ACTIONS

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**The 3-Year Capital Plan articulates Holy Spirit Catholic School Division’s short-term vision for facility stewardship, growth, and renewal.**

**This plan balances educational priorities with demographic trends, infrastructure realities, and responsible fiscal planning to ensure learning environments remain safe, functional, and future-ready.**

**The goals and actions of this plan are guided by three interconnected priority areas:**

## **Strategic Priority Areas**

- ***Building lifecycle, modernization, expansion, and replacement***
  - Proactively addressing aging facilities through modernization, lifecycle renewal, targeted additions, and long-term replacement planning.
- ***Space utilization, programming, and community partnerships***
  - Ensuring facilities are used efficiently while supporting diverse programming, flagship initiatives, and partnerships that enhance student experience.
- ***School boundaries, municipal growth, and infrastructure planning***
  - Aligning school planning decisions with municipal development, population growth, and long-term infrastructure investment strategies.

## **Key Actions**

To strengthen the robustness and defensibility of this plan, Holy Spirit Catholic School Division will:

- Conduct regular facility condition assessments to improve the accuracy and application of the Facility Condition Index (FCI) in capital prioritization.
- Establish a consistent, year-over-year space utilization review process to improve data-driven planning and capacity management.
- Develop a Division-wide Programming Plan to sustain core instructional delivery while supporting innovation and specialized programming.

# METHODOLOGY AND GOVERNANCE

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**Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's capital planning framework is informed by a standardized Capital Planning Priority Calculator that evaluates potential projects using multiple weighted criteria aligned with provincial funding expectations and local conditions.**

## **Capital Planning Methodology**

Projects are assessed using a balanced set of indicators, including:

- Building condition, safety systems, maintenance trends, and energy performance
- Health and safety considerations, including code compliance and hazardous materials
- Space utilization, site constraints, and functional suitability
- Community growth trends, current utilization, and five-year enrolment projections
- Legislative and regulatory requirements, including French programming

This methodology ensures capital priorities are transparent, evidence-based, and defensible.

## **Governance and Alignment**

The 3-Year Capital Plan is developed in accordance with Alberta Education and Childcare's School Capital Manual and is reviewed annually. It is aligned with the Board-approved 10-Year Capital Plan.

Projects advanced through the 3-Year Capital Plan are evaluated based on:

- Clearly defined scope and demonstrated need supported by data
- Alignment between project urgency and proposed timelines
- Site readiness consistent with municipal, provincial, and federal requirements

This governance framework ensures capital planning decisions remain mission-driven, fiscally responsible, and aligned with provincial expectations.

# 3-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN RANKING

## How to Read This Chart

This chart summarizes the results of Holy Spirit Catholic School Division’s Capital Planning Priority Calculator. Each school is evaluated against a standardized set of criteria, including building condition, safety, utilization, enrolment pressure, community growth, and program delivery needs.

Projects with higher total scores indicate a stronger overall priority for future capital investment and are used to guide long-range planning, project sequencing, and capital submissions to Alberta Education and Childcare as well as Alberta Infrastructure. For our 3-year capital plan we are focusing our the schools ranked as “high”.

Project Driver	Criteria	Max Score	SFJH	FLVT	CCHS East	CSM	OLA	SMBI	SJS	TLC	SCPB	SPFA	CCH West	ESM	SPL	SMT	SMPC	STC	SPT
<b>Building Condition</b>	Facility Age, Modernization History, FCI, 5 Year Maintenance Cost, etc	95	74	61	75	81	53	56	52	23	43	26	11	23	26	30	22	3	13
<b>Health and Safety</b>	Building Code Compliance and Hazardous Materials	10	10	0	5	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Efficiency Solutions</b>	Space Utilization, Site Constraints	10	15	10	10	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	0
<b>Functionality and Programming</b>	Program Delivery, Student Experience, Strategic Alignment	50	25	50	30	10	15	0	10	10	5	5	15	10	5	0	5	5	0
<b>Community Renewal</b>	Neighborhood Growth Rate	15	4	10	4	10	4	4	4	4	4	10	10	4	6	4	4	6	4
<b>Enrolment Pressures</b>	Current Utilization, 5-Year Projected Utilization	15	20	0	0	0	0	17	10	17	0	10	15	7	2	0	0	12	10
<b>Legal &amp; Regulatory Requirements</b>	French Programming	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total Points</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>
			High	High	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
			Strong candidate for next capital cycle			Monitor and prepare for future submission				No immediate capital funds required									



# CONTEXT

# CAPITAL PLANNING CONTEXT

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**Holy Spirit Catholic School Division**  
**620 – 12B Street North, Lethbridge, AB • T1H 2L7**

## **Division Statistics 2025-2026**

**Number of schools:** 16 plus 2 outreach programs

**Grade levels served:** Pre-K–12

**Total student enrolment:** 5,648

**Communities served:** Bow Island, Coaldale, Lethbridge, Picture Butte, Pincher Creek and Taber.

The Holy Spirit Catholic School Division continues to experience steady enrollment growth across its southern Alberta communities, with almost 5,700 students served in 16 schools and 2 specialized learning centres spanning Bow Island, Coaldale, Lethbridge, Picture Butte, Pincher Creek and Taber. This growth reflects both regional population trends and the division’s reputation for delivering high-quality, faith-based education in inclusive, community-rooted environments.

From 2016 to 2026 Holy Spirit added two new schools (St. Teresa of Calcutta and St. Kateri - both in Lethbridge) and modernized two existing schools (St. Michael's in Pincher Creek and St. Patrick's in Taber) However a significant portion of the division's infrastructure was originally constructed prior to 1990, and many buildings are now entering critical renewal windows. Strategic investment will be required to maintain safe, functional, and future-ready learning spaces across the schools and buildings of the school division.

Holy Spirit’s capital planning approach is guided by stewardship, equity, and long-term sustainability. Facility decisions are informed by utilization rates, building condition, program needs, and community demographics.

The division remains committed to ensuring that every student, regardless of location, has access to a safe, welcoming, and well-equipped learning environment.



**Holy Spirit**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

# CITY OF LETHBRIDGE SNAPSHOT

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**Lethbridge is a dynamic and culturally vibrant city at the heart of southern Alberta’s prairie landscape. As the largest city in the province south of Calgary, it serves as a key hub for economic activity, education, and culture in the region.**

## **Community & Lifestyle**

The city combines urban amenities with small-town friendliness, offering families a balanced lifestyle rooted in accessibility, community engagement, and natural beauty. Framed by dramatic coulees and the iconic High Level Bridge, Lethbridge provides a striking backdrop for both everyday life and outdoor adventure.

Neighbourhoods are designed with families in mind, providing close access to schools, parks, recreation centres, and shopping. As the population continues to grow, new developments in west, north, and south Lethbridge reflect the city’s steady expansion.

## **Culture & Recreation**

Cultural landmarks such as the Galt Museum, Casa Arts Centre, and Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden, along with a full calendar of festivals and events, highlight the city’s vibrant spirit. Residents enjoy year-round recreation, from local sports leagues and hiking trails to golf courses and winter activities in nearby mountain areas.

## **Economy & Education**

Lethbridge’s economy is diverse, with strength in agriculture, healthcare, education, manufacturing, and logistics. Post-secondary institutions like the University of Lethbridge and Lethbridge Polytechnic drive innovation, attract students from across Canada and abroad, and contribute to a skilled, locally rooted workforce that supports long-term regional growth.

The city also supports a full spectrum of Public, Catholic and Francophone school options, including the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, which provides faith-based learning from early years through to high school. French immersion and alternative programs further broaden educational opportunities.

## **Growth & Future**

According to the 2021 federal census, Lethbridge’s population stood at approximately 101,400. Projections indicate that the city’s population will continue to steadily grow. With its affordability, accessibility, and high quality of life, the city remains an attractive destination for families, newcomers, and investment, positioning Lethbridge as a cornerstone of southern Alberta’s educational, economic, and community development.

# SOUTHERN ALBERTA RURAL SNAPSHOT

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**The rural communities surrounding Lethbridge are a cornerstone of southern Alberta’s identity and strength.**

**From towns like Bow Island, Coaldale, Picture Butte, Pincher Creek, and Taber, these areas reflect a deep connection to agriculture, family, and faith-based traditions, values that align closely with the mission of the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division.**

## **Economy & Community**

Agriculture, agri-food processing, small business, and renewable energy form the backbone of the rural economy. Community centres, churches, and schools serve as vital gathering places that foster belonging and intergenerational connection.

## **Demographic Trends**

Though modest in size, many rural towns are experiencing gradual growth driven by immigration, improved transportation, and the appeal of a quieter lifestyle. Families seeking values-based education increasingly turn to Catholic schools as trusted community anchors.

## **Role of Catholic Schools**

Holy Spirit schools in these communities offer personalized, faith-infused education with the advantages of smaller class sizes and strong community ties. These schools foster leadership, cohesion, and opportunity—serving as both academic institutions and cultural pillars.

## **Strategic Imperative**

In a region where distances are wide and resources are limited, modern and well-supported Catholic schools are essential. Investment in rural education is not only a matter of equity—it is a commitment to the long-term vitality, sustainability, and resilience of southern Alberta.

# POPULATION GROWTH COMPARISON (2024)

The towns and city within the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division have experienced varied population growth over the past two decades.

From Lethbridge’s rapid urban expansion to Picture Butte’s impressive five-year surge, each community reflects distinct demographic momentum. This comparison table highlights year-over-year, five-year, and long-term growth trends across the region, offering a strategic lens for planning, investment, and educational infrastructure alignment.

Town/City	2024 Population	Year-over-Year Growth	5-Year Growth (2019–2024)	20-Year Growth (2004–2024)
Bow Island	2,169	1.45%	9.93%	24.80%
Coaldale	9,433	1.43%	5.75%	53.70%
Lethbridge	111,400	4.16%	10.60%	60%
Picture Butte	2,361	3.78%	21.50%	36.40%
Pincher Creek	3,901	1.01%	3.83%	3.97%
Taber	9,853	2.07%	10.00%	25.40%

### Key Insights

**Fastest 5-Year Growth:** Picture Butte (+21.5%)

**Highest Year-over-Year Growth:** Lethbridge (+4.16%)

**Most Significant 20-Year Growth:** Lethbridge (+60%) and Coaldale (+53.7%)

**Lowest Long-Term Growth:** Pincher Creek (+3.97%)

# GROWTH AND PLANNING

Lethbridge's population reached 106,550 in 2023, reflecting a 4.99% increase since the previous census (2019). This growth is unevenly distributed across the city's three major regions:

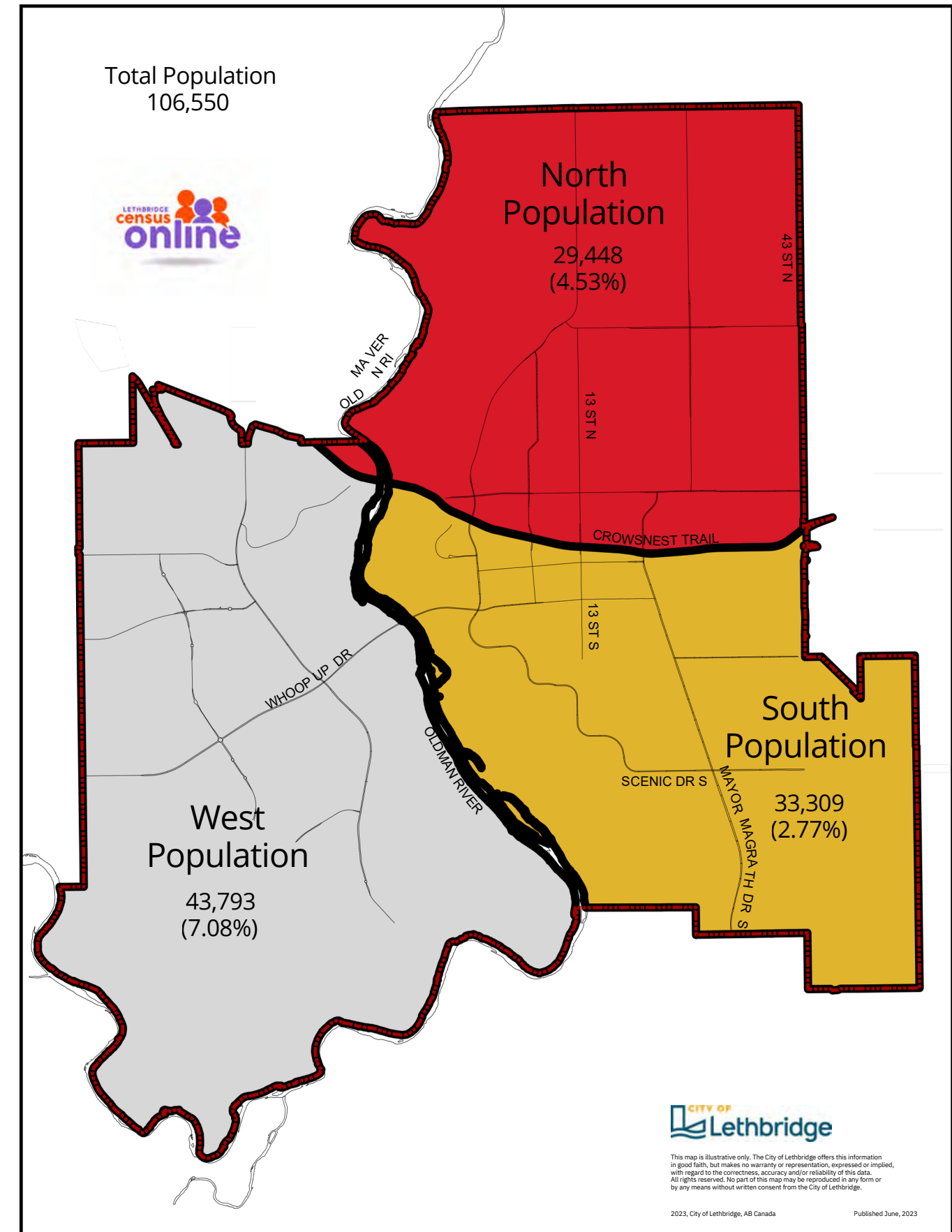
- **West Lethbridge: +7.08%**
- **North Lethbridge: +4.53%**
- **South Lethbridge: +2.77%**

West Lethbridge stands out as the city's fastest-growing quadrant, absorbing the majority of new residential development and attracting a high concentration of young families and first-time homeowners. This trend reflects broader urban dynamics, with new subdivisions, schools, and infrastructure shaping the future of the city's west side.

North Lethbridge continues to see steady, predictable growth, increasing by 4.53% since the previous census. Unlike the rapid expansion on the westside, growth in the north is shaped by a mix of mature neighborhoods, infill development and pockets of new residential construction. This area attracts a diverse blend of long-established families, newcomer, and working households, contributing to the stable community profile.

As Lethbridge evolves, this census snapshot reveals more than population growth; it signals shifting demographics, changing community needs, and the urgency of aligning infrastructure investments with growth patterns. From education and transit to recreation and healthcare, West Lethbridge's momentum demands a forward-looking, data-informed approach to planning, while North Lethbridge's impressive growth, especially in the Blackwolf neighbourhood requires careful attention and consideration.

[Source: City of Lethbridge](#)



# GROWTH AND PLANNING

## Neighbourhood-Level Growth and Educational Implications

Neighbourhood-level data from the 2023 Lethbridge Census reinforces West Lethbridge as the city’s most active and fastest-growing corridor.

Since 2019, West Lethbridge has added nearly 3,000 residents, accounting for over 40% of total citywide growth. This surge is concentrated in high-growth communities such as Garry Station, Copperwood, and Crossings. These neighborhoods, along with the north Lethbridge communities of Black Wolf and Legacy Ridge, continue to attract young families and drive sustained residential development.

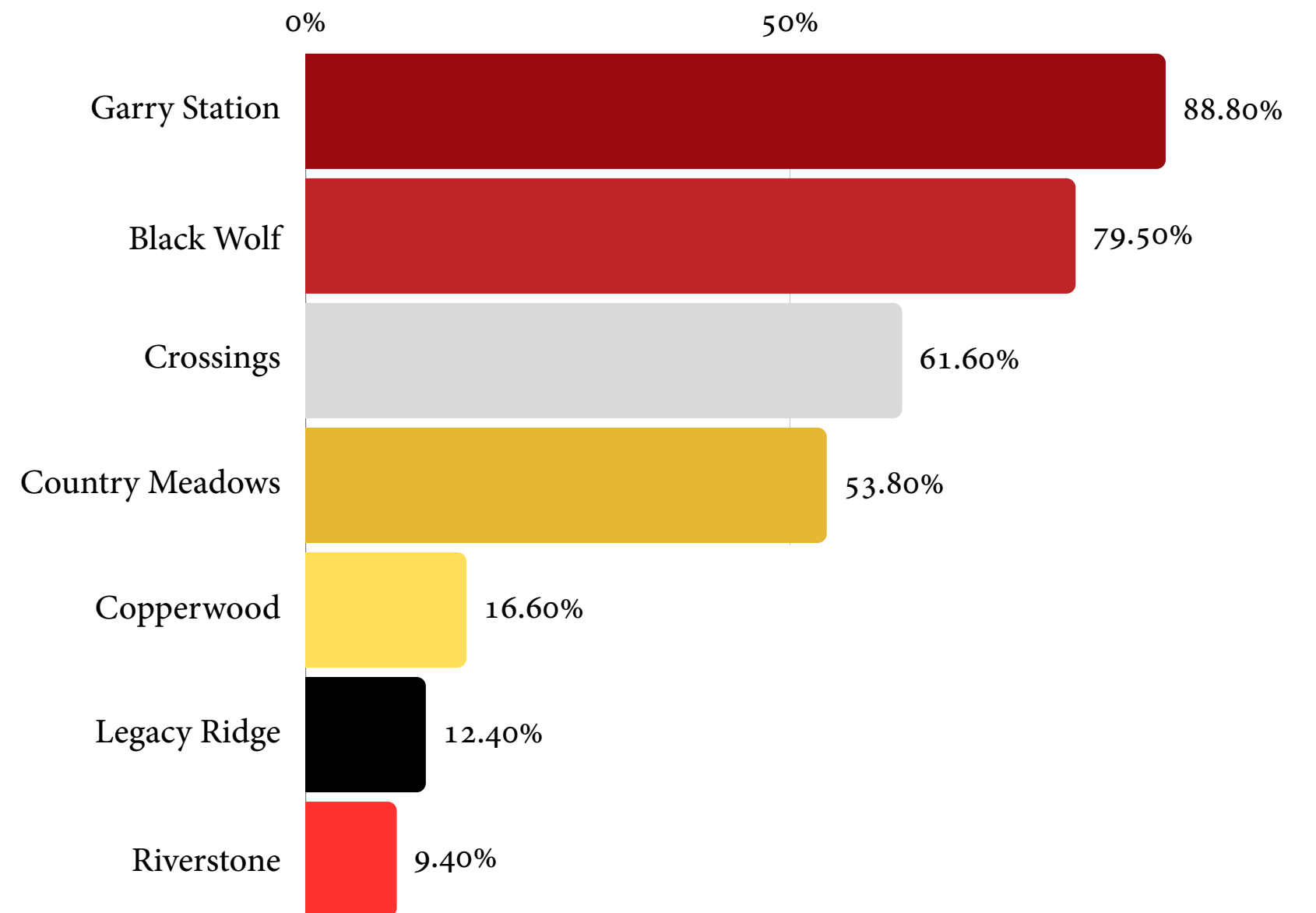
These patterns have direct implications for infrastructure planning, particularly in K–12 education. As these neighbourhoods expand, demand for elementary and secondary school capacity is rising. Without timely investment, existing schools may face:

- Overcrowding and reduced instructional space
- Longer commute times for students
- Limited access to specialized programming and inclusive supports

A proactive strategy, identifying future school sites, securing capital funding, and aligning with municipal land use plans, is essential to ensure educational infrastructure keeps pace with community needs.

West Lethbridge isn’t just growing, it’s evolving. And the city’s education system must evolve with it to support equitable access, long-term sustainability, and vibrant neighbourhood development. While North Lethbridge’s steady growth is indicative of the spirit displayed in this historical part of the city and deserves careful planning and attention.

**Percentage Growth  
(2019 → 2023)**



Source: Lethbridge News

# GROWTH AND PLANNING

**The GIS map highlights Lethbridge's designated future development zones, with a concentration of planned residential expansion in West Lethbridge, North Lethbridge, and select infill areas across the city.**

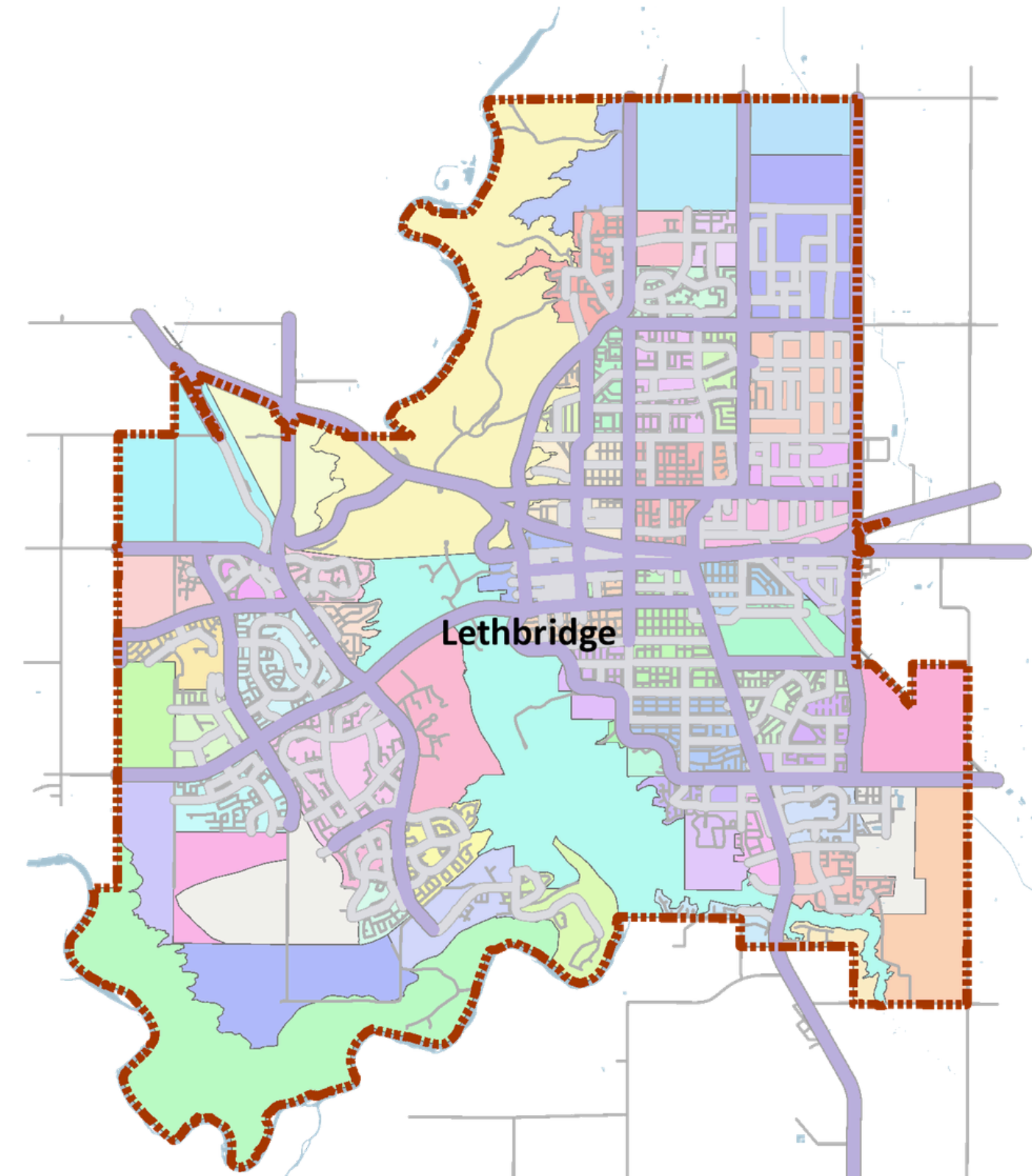
These growth corridors are expected to absorb the majority of new housing over the next decade, driven by municipal land use plans, subdivision approvals, and infrastructure investments. As new families settle in these areas, demand for K-12 school capacity will rise, particularly in elementary and middle years programming.

To remain responsive, Holy Spirit Catholic School Division must:

- Identify and secure future school sites in alignment with municipal growth plans
- Coordinate with city planners to ensure educational infrastructure is embedded in new communities
- Advance capital submissions that reflect projected enrolment and demographic shifts
- Prioritize equity and access to ensure all students benefit from modern, well-located learning environments

Strategic planning today will ensure that tomorrow's neighbourhoods are supported by resilient, inclusive, and future-ready Catholic schools.

(Note: Boundary lines for the City of Lethbridge are shown in red. While the yellow, blue and green areas indicate coulees, you can see the growth potential in areas of north, south and west.)



Source: [Lethbridge GIS](#)



## Key Take Aways

Lethbridge and the surrounding rural communities across southern Alberta are experiencing steady growth, driven by a diverse economy, expanding neighbourhoods, and a strong commitment to education.

As demand increases in both urban and rural areas, schools must be equipped to meet the evolving needs of all students. Investment in modern, inclusive, and adaptable educational spaces is essential to ensure safe, high-quality learning environments that support long-term community growth and student success across the entire region.



# GUIDING DOCUMENTS

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**Holy Spirit Catholic School Division’s 3-Year Capital Plan is shaped by municipal development plans, provincial guidelines, and facility assessments.**

**These documents ensure that school infrastructure decisions align with community growth, Alberta Education and Childcare priorities, and long-term sustainability.**

## **City of Lethbridge & Lethbridge County – Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP)**

The IDP provides a shared vision for managing growth, land use, and infrastructure across the region. It supports:

- Sustainable, coordinated development
- A resilient regional economy
- High quality of life for residents
- Respect for both rural and urban identities

This collaborative framework ensures that future planning supports community well-being, environmental stewardship, and efficient service delivery - critical factors in school site selection and long-term capital alignment.

## **Town of Taber, Town of Bow Island, and Town of Pincher Creek – Municipal Development Plans (MDPs)**

Each municipality has adopted its own MDP to guide local growth, land use, and infrastructure priorities. These plans emphasize:

- Alignment of school sites with residential growth patterns
- Support for community services and amenities
- Integration of educational facilities into long-term municipal planning
- Responsiveness to rural and small-town identities

Together, these municipal frameworks provide essential context for Holy Spirit’s facility planning, ensuring that capital investments reflect both local and regional development trajectories.

## **Alberta Education and Childcare & Alberta Infrastructure**

The Alberta Ministry of Education and Childcare developed the School Capital Manual to guide school jurisdictions in:

- Prioritizing and implementing infrastructure projects
- Preparing 3-year capital plans
- Securing funding for approved submissions

It defines roles and responsibilities for school divisions and ensures that capital planning aligns with provincial standards for educational facility development and modernization.

## **Facility Assessments and Provincial Grants**

Between 2013 and 2018, Alberta Infrastructure conducted facility condition assessments for 12 schools in the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division. These evaluations provide a snapshot of asset age and condition at the time of assessment.

Provincial grants, including Operations and Maintenance (O&M), Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR), and Capital Maintenance and Renewal (CMR), support repair and replacement of building components, from daily wear to major upgrades. Additional programs such as School Now and the Modular Classroom Program provide targeted funding for approved projects.



# **CAPITAL PROJECT REQUEST PLAN**

# CAPITAL PRIORITIES SUMMARY

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**Capital investment in Holy Spirit Catholic School Division facilities is supported through a combination of provincial funding programs administered by Alberta Education and Childcare & Alberta Infrastructure.**

**These programs are designed to address different types of capital needs, ranging from long-term facility renewal and modernization to capacity expansion and targeted maintenance.**

**Access to capital funding is competitive and prioritized at the provincial level. As a result, projects must be clearly defined, defensible, and aligned with provincial criteria, enrolment demand, and long-term infrastructure strategies.**

## **Primary Capital Funding Programs**

### **Planning and Pre-Planning Funding**

Planning, pre-planning, and value scoping studies support early-stage project development by validating scope, feasibility, and alignment with provincial priorities. These studies position school jurisdictions to advance well-defined projects when capital funding opportunities arise.

### **Modernization and Replacement Programs**

Modernization and replacement funding addresses aging school facilities that no longer meet educational, safety, or operational standards. These projects focus on renewing core building systems, improving functionality, enhancing accessibility, and supporting contemporary teaching and learning environments.

### **Expansion and New Construction**

Expansion and new school construction funding responds to sustained enrolment growth and capacity pressures. These investments ensure permanent instructional space is delivered in growing communities and high-demand catchments.

### **Maintenance and Lifecycle Support Programs**

Provincial maintenance-related funding programs support ongoing repair, renewal, and lifecycle upkeep of school facilities. While these programs address essential infrastructure needs, they do not replace comprehensive modernization or long-term renewal initiatives.

### **Strategic Implications**

Successful capital investment depends on proactive planning, strong alignment with municipal growth patterns, and defensible evidence of need. Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's 3-Year Capital Plan ensures the Division remains capital-ready by clearly identifying priorities, advancing early planning studies, and aligning facility strategies with provincial funding frameworks.

# CAPITAL FUNDING PROGRAMS

## Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's capital priorities over the next decade focus on:

- Renewing or replacing aging infrastructure
- Adding permanent capacity in high-growth areas
- Improving program delivery through flexible, inclusive learning spaces
- Supporting long-term lifecycle planning and infrastructure sustainability
- Strengthening career and trades pathways through purpose-built facilities

These priorities are guided by facility condition needs, enrolment projections, and alignment with Alberta Education and Childcare's capital planning framework.

## Prioritization Criteria

### 1. Building Lifecycle, Condition, and Renewal Needs

- Facility condition and system performance
- Building age and renewal requirements
- Safety and accessibility considerations

### 2. Space Utilization, Enrolment, and Programming Needs

- Current and projected enrolment
- Capacity pressures and utilization rates
- Program delivery needs, including specialized and inclusive supports

### 3. Alignment With Municipal Growth, Boundaries, and Strategic Planning

- Consistency with municipal growth and long-term development
- Boundary implications and catchment impact
- Alignment with Division goals, community needs, and provincial priorities



# CAPITAL PROJECT REQUEST PLAN

The 2026-2029 3-Year Capital Plan includes the top 3 rated priorities for Holy Spirit Catholic School Division. It is important to both understand historical context of our school communities and prepare for future generations of learners with strategic foresight. Additionally, we need to be able to integrate school-specific needs within a division-wide plan.

Many factors, both internal and external, influence how we prioritize our Capital Plan. While a building modernization, addition, or replacement itself is a tangible outcome of a capital project, we also wanted to stress the importance of how factors such as curriculum, programming, technology trends, municipal growth are the critical decision drivers.

Priority	School - Community	Grades	Construction Year	Funding Type	Project Type	Possible Funding Required	Project Drivers
1	St. Francis Junior High School (Lethbridge)	7-9	1958 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additions 1963, 1966, 1985</li> <li>Partial modernization 1985, 2003</li> </ul>	Planning	Replacement	\$250,000	Health and Safety, Functionality and Programming
2	Father Leonard Van Tighem School (Lethbridge)	K-9	1991 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Portables 1998, 2008, 2015, 2019, 2020, 2021</li> </ul>	Pre-Planning	Mini-Modernization	\$75,000	Functionality and Programming
3A	Catholic Central High School - Dual Campus (Lethbridge)	10-12	1948 - Campus East 2010-Campus West	Pre-Planning	Value Scoping	\$75,000	Efficiency Solutions, Functionality and Programming
3B	Catholic Central High School - East Campus (Lethbridge)	10-12	1948 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additions 1958, 1966, 1985, 1998</li> <li>Portables 2004</li> <li>Modernization 1998</li> </ul>	Pre-Planning	Modernization	\$75,000	Health and Safety, Functionality and Programming



# PRIORITY 1: ST. FRANCIS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



## Priority 1:

St. Francis Junior High School (Lethbridge)

## Project Type:

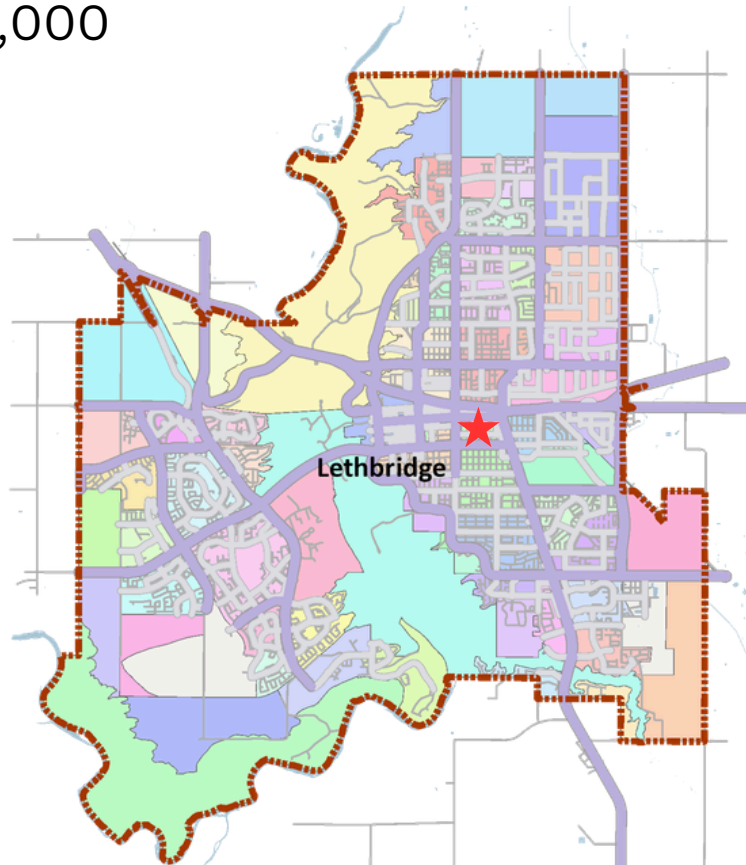
Planning and Design Funding for Replacement School (\$250,000)

## Timeline:

2026-2027

## Estimated Construction Cost of New Building:

\$44,915,000



## Project Overview

Following the completion of a value scoping study (available in BLIMS), St. Francis Junior High School has been identified for full replacement. The existing facility, originally constructed in 1958 with multiple additions in the 1960s and 1980s, no longer supports modern educational delivery, operational efficiency, or long-term lifecycle viability. A replacement school will provide a purpose-built junior high facility that supports contemporary programming, inclusive learning environments, and long-term enrolment growth in North and South Lethbridge. This project will eliminate longstanding infrastructure constraints and create a modern, flexible, and accessible learning environment aligned with current and future educational needs.

## Rationale

St. Francis Junior High School's aging mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems no longer provide the performance or reliability required for a modern educational facility. The current building layout restricts delivery of CTF, fine arts, and inclusive education due to inflexible and outdated spatial design. Accessibility limitations, aging systems, and structural constraints make modernization less effective and less cost-efficient compared to full replacement.

Replacement will address these longstanding issues by providing a high-quality, future-ready learning environment that supports instructional continuity, collaborative learning, and inclusive education. The school's central location and stable enrolment base make it a strong candidate for reinvestment and replacement, ensuring the Division can continue to meet growing junior high demands in North and South Lethbridge.

## Preliminary Replacement Scope (to be confirmed through design development)

- Construct a new, purpose-built junior high facility
- Develop flexible, inclusive, and collaborative learning environments
- Incorporate modern CTF, fine arts, and interdisciplinary instructional spaces
- Provide full barrier-free accessibility throughout the facility
- Improve site circulation, safety, and student drop-off/pick-up flows
- Support long-term capacity for projected enrolment growth

## Strategic Alignment

This replacement project supports Alberta Education and Childcare's vision for modern, inclusive, and future-ready schools. It aligns with Alberta Infrastructure's criteria for lifecycle renewal, utilization optimization, and educational functionality. By replacing an aging facility with a new purpose-built school, the project strengthens program delivery, enhances equity across the Division, and supports long-term community sustainability.

# PRIORITY 1: ST. FRANCIS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



## Why Now?

St. Francis Junior High School is currently at 102% utilization, rising to 110% by 2029, with sustained enrolment pressure expected through 2034. The existing facility's aging infrastructure, limited accessibility, and inflexible layout restrict the Division's ability to deliver high-quality junior high programming.

Replacement is essential to maintain instructional continuity, support inclusive education, and ensure the school remains a key anchor for families in North and South Lethbridge.



### Health & Safety

Aging HVAC, electrical, and plumbing systems raise reliability concerns for daily operations and emergency response. Limited barrier-free access and outdated fire safety infrastructure impede safe movement and inclusive participation.

### Building Condition

Core building systems are nearing or at end-of-service life. Structural and envelope components reflect significant lifecycle deterioration, making long-term reinvestment in the existing building inefficient.

### Enrolment Pressure

With utilization expected to exceed 110% by 2029, the current facility cannot support projected demand or required junior high program expansion.

### Functionality & Programming

Outdated learning spaces restrict delivery of CTF, fine arts, science, and inclusive education. The lack of breakout rooms, flexible learning areas, and modern collaborative spaces limits alignment with contemporary pedagogy.

### Purpose of the Replacement School

- Address critical infrastructure limitations
- Provide modern, adaptable, and inclusive learning environments
- Improve safety, accessibility, and building performance
- Align with Alberta Infrastructure replacement and modernization criteria
- Address enrollment pressures

### Strategic Continuity

This replacement project anchors the Division's 3-Year Capital Plan and supports long-term instructional, operational, and community goals. It ensures St. Francis Junior High School remains a high-performing, future-ready facility and a well-supported candidate for provincial investment focused on lifecycle renewal and educational equity.

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division also has the unique opportunity to partner with both Lethbridge School Division and The City of Lethbridge. As this is an inner city location that houses 4 schools in a two block radius along with public commercial spaces and residential housing, there are significant issues with traffic flow. As Lethbridge School Division is also looking for a modernization for their highschool in the area, it provides an opportunity to work together, to address the congestion that this area currently faces.



# PRIORITY 2: FATHER LEONARD VAN TIGHEM SCHOOL



## Priority 2:

Father Leonard Van Tighem School (Lethbridge)

## Project Type:

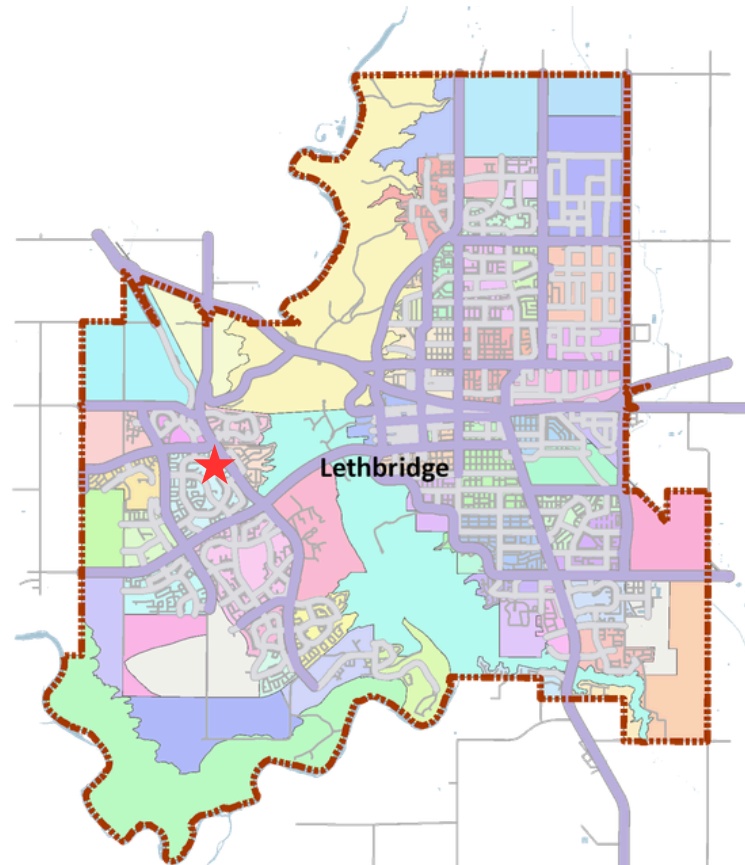
Pre-Planning for Mini-Modernization (\$75,000)

## Timeline:

2026-2027

## Estimated Cost of Mini-Modernization:

TBD



## Project Overview

Father Leonard Van Tighem School is a well-established facility in West Lethbridge, currently transitioning from a K–9 configuration to a dedicated Grade 7–9 junior high school. This shift, combined with aging infrastructure and sustained enrollment growth, necessitates a targeted modernization to ensure program continuity, infrastructure renewal, and long-term viability.

## Rationale

The school is operating near optimal utilization, with limited spatial flexibility to accommodate projected enrolment growth and evolving program delivery requirements. West Lethbridge continues to experience strong residential development, placing sustained demand on junior high school programming.

Transitioning to a Grade 7–9 learning model requires reconfiguration of instructional spaces to better support junior high pedagogy, CTF delivery, and inclusive education. Several core building systems are approaching the end of their functional service life and require renewal to maintain reliable operations. Modernization will also reduce reliance on modular classrooms and improve overall operational efficiency.

## Objectives of the Modernization Project

- Reconfigure classrooms to support junior high programming
- Upgrade CTF, science, and flexible learning spaces
- Replace aging mechanical and electrical systems in alignment with FCA recommendations and lifecycle priorities
- Improve washrooms, common areas, and accessibility features
- Enhance site layout for traffic flow, safety, and barrier-free access
- Align facility upgrades with Alberta Infrastructure criteria

## Strategic Alignment

This project supports Alberta Education and Childcare’s capital planning framework and advances the division’s goals for safe, inclusive, and future-ready learning environments. It positions FLVT as a resilient, strategically located junior high hub serving West Lethbridge’s growing population.

# PRIORITY 2: FATHER LEONARD VAN TIGHEM SCHOOL



## Why Now?

Father Leonard Van Tighem School is identified in the Division's 3-Year Capital Strategy for targeted modernization. The transition to a 7–9 configuration and aging infrastructure position 2028–2030 as the strategic window for investment, balancing infrastructure urgency and program transition.

Planning will validate scope, cost, and long-term viability before advancing to Alberta Infrastructure for formal submission.



## Capital Drivers Supported

### Health & Safety

Aging fire alarm and PA systems raise reliability concerns for emergency response. Poor thermal performance and envelope air leakage compromise comfort, energy efficiency, and indoor air quality.

### Building Condition

Core systems, including boilers, AHUs, BMCS controls, and envelope components, are past their lifespan. Deferred maintenance exceeds \$3.88M, with a replacement cost of \$18.97M, underscoring the need for targeted reinvestment and lifecycle renewal.

### Enrollment Pressure

Father Leonard Van Tighem School is operating near capacity, with continued growth projected due to West Lethbridge residential development. Without intervention, space constraints will disrupt program delivery, scheduling flexibility, and equitable access to specialized services.

### Functionality & Programming

The current layout limits CTF, science, and inclusive education delivery. The absence of breakout rooms, flexible spaces, and barrier-free amenities limits the delivery of CTF, science, and inclusive education and restricts the creation of adaptable, student-centered learning environments.

### Purpose of the Modernization

- Address aging infrastructure and deferred maintenance
- Support 7–9 program transition and junior high pedagogy
- Align upgrades with educational programming and Alberta Infrastructure criteria
- Prepare for future capital submission

### Strategic Continuity

This modernization bridges the current 10-Year Capital Strategy with long-term infrastructure renewal. It ensures FLVT remains a top-tier investment priority with a defensible, data-driven modernization pathway.



# PRIORITY 3A: CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

**Priority 3A:**

Catholic Central High School

**Project Type:**

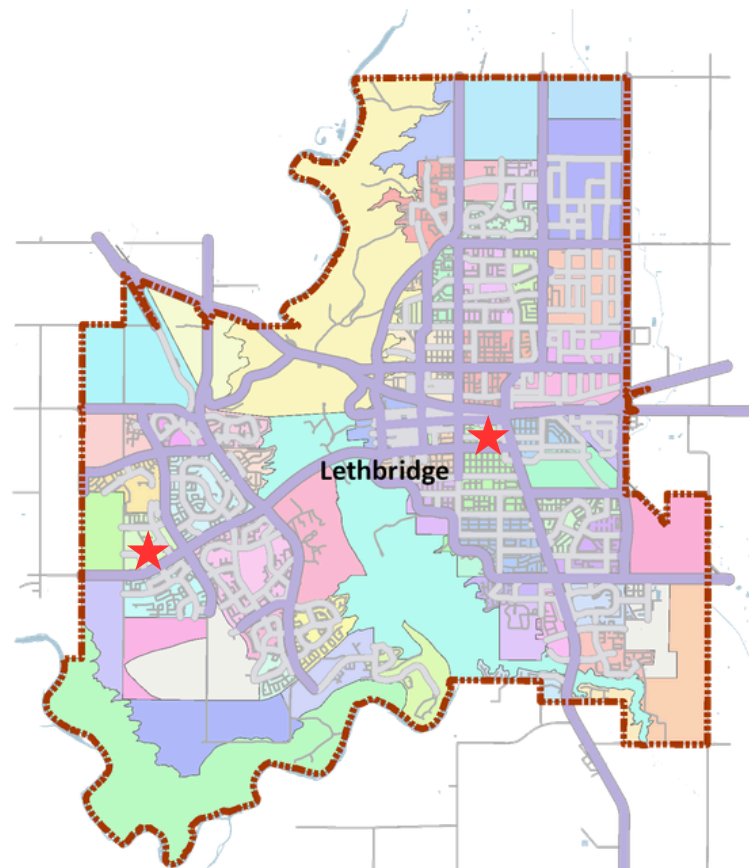
Value Scoping Study (\$75,000)

**Timeline:**

TBD

**Estimated Cost:**

TBD



**Project Overview**

Catholic Central High School operates across two campuses in Lethbridge: East and West. The West Campus is a newer, modernized facility with infrastructure capable of supporting comprehensive high school programming. The East Campus, while central to the school’s legacy, faces increasing infrastructure challenges, limited CTS spaces, and the ability to offer robust programming on that campus.

This value scoping study will evaluate modernization opportunities across both campuses, with a focus on optimizing program delivery, addressing aging infrastructure, and preparing for future enrollment growth. The study will assess facility readiness, instructional needs, and capital planning options - without presupposing any structural reconfiguration.

**Rationale**

Infrastructure disparities between the East and West campuses, combined with demographic shifts and rising high school enrollment, warrant a strategic review. This study will help determine how best to support inclusive, flexible, and future-ready learning environments across both sites.

**Objectives of the Value Scoping Study**

- Assess facility condition and infrastructure capacity at both campuses
- Review current and future program delivery needs, including CTS and inclusive education
- Identify modernization strategies that support long-term operational efficiency
- Align potential upgrades with Alberta Education and Childcare & Infrastructure criteria
- Prepare for future capital submission and lifecycle planning

**Strategic Alignment**

This project supports Alberta Education and Childcare’s capital planning framework and advances Holy Spirit’s goals for safe, inclusive, and responsive learning environments. It lays the groundwork for a defensible modernization strategy that reflects community growth and evolving student needs.

# PRIORITY 3A: CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL



## Why Now?

Catholic Central is approaching a critical juncture. The East Campus faces significant deferred maintenance, while the West Campus offers modern infrastructure and capacity. With high school enrollment projected to increase, the division must ensure both campuses are equipped to deliver high-quality programming and student supports.

A value scoping study in 2026–2027 will validate scope, cost, and long-term viability before advancing to Alberta Infrastructure for formal submission. It ensures the Division remains capital-ready and aligned with provincial funding frameworks.

## Capital Drivers Supported:

### Health & Safety

The East Campus has aging fire alarm, PA, and intrusion systems that pose reliability risks for daily operations and emergency response. Modernization would enable targeted upgrades and improved safety protocols.

### Building Condition

Several major building systems at the East Campus, including mechanical and envelope components, have experienced significant lifecycle aging. A strategic assessment is required to understand renewal priorities and support long-term facility performance and reliability.

### Enrollment Pressure

Catholic Central operates near capacity across both campuses. A modernization strategy will support better distribution of students, improved scheduling, and enhanced access to specialized programming and student services.

### Functionality & Programming

The West Campus offers stronger infrastructure for CTS, athletics, and inclusive education. The study will explore how to leverage these strengths to support equitable program delivery across both sites.

### Purpose of the Study

- Assess the feasibility of program delivery across two campuses
- Identify cost-effective design and operational options
- Align upgrades with educational programming and Alberta Infrastructure criteria
- Prepare for future capital submission

### Strategic Continuity:

This study bridges the Division's current operational strategy with its emerging 10-Year Capital Plan. It ensures Catholic Central remains a top-tier investment priority with a defensible, data-driven modernization pathway.



# PRIORITY 3B: CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL EAST CAMPUS

**Priority 3B:**

Catholic Central High School - East

**Project Type:**

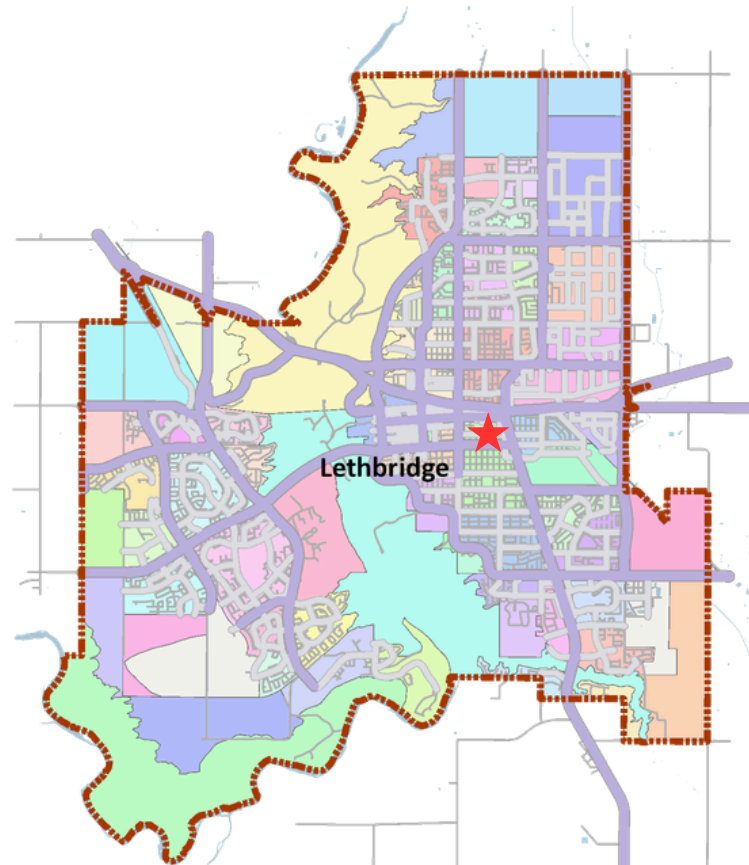
Pre-planning for Modernization (\$75,000)

**Timeline:**

TBD

**Estimated Cost of Modernization:**

TBD



**Project Overview**

Catholic Central High School East Campus is a legacy facility serving a diverse urban catchment in central Lethbridge. Originally constructed in 1948 with multiple additions through 2001, the campus underwent a major modernization in 1998. Today, core systems and infrastructure are well beyond their expected lifespan, with significant deferred maintenance, spatial inefficiencies, and aging building components.

A full modernization is required to restore core functionality, improve educational delivery, and ensure long-term viability. This project will focus on renewing infrastructure, enhancing inclusive and CTS programming environments, and aligning the facility with Alberta Infrastructure modernization criteria.

**Rationale**

The East Campus faces escalating risks to operational continuity and student experience due to aging mechanical, electrical, and envelope systems. Modernization will reduce lifecycle costs, improve safety and accessibility, and support equitable access to specialized programming for a growing high school population.

**Objectives of the Modernization**

- Replace end-of-life mechanical, electrical, and roofing systems
- Improve energy efficiency, thermal comfort, and indoor air quality
- Reconfigure learning environments to support CTS, fine arts, inclusive education, and collaborative instruction
- Enhance accessibility and barrier-free design
- Align facility upgrades with Alberta Infrastructure modernization criteria

**Strategic Alignment**

This project supports Alberta Education and Childcare’s capital planning framework and advances Holy Spirit’s goals for safe, inclusive, and future-ready learning environments. It positions Catholic Central East Campus as a resilient, pedagogically aligned facility capable of serving future generations.

# PRIORITY 3B: CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

## Why Now?

The 2023 Facility Condition Assessment (FCA) identifies urgent infrastructure and educational constraints at Catholic Central East Campus:

- Facility Condition Index (FCI): 0.2442
- Deferred Maintenance: Over \$9.4 million
- Replacement Cost: Exceeds \$38 million

Without timely intervention, aging systems, and spatial limitations will continue to compromise safety, programming flexibility, and equitable access to modern learning environments.



## Capital Drivers Supported:

### Health & Safety

Aging fire alarm, PA, and intrusion systems raise reliability concerns. Poor sightlines and outdated security infrastructure compromise supervision and emergency response.

### Building Condition

Several core building systems, including mechanical, roofing, and envelope components, are approaching the end of their functional service life. Deterioration of key systems and assemblies indicates the need for comprehensive renewal to ensure building performance and long-term reliability.

### Enrollment Pressure

The East Campus supports a large high school population. Without modernization, scheduling, programming, and equitable access to specialized supports will be compromised.

### Functionality & Programming

CTS, science labs, and inclusive education spaces are outdated. The absence of breakout rooms, flexible learning areas, and barrier-free amenities restricts the delivery of inclusive, CTS, and collaborative instruction.

### Purpose of the Modernization

- Address critical infrastructure deficiencies
- Enhance learning environments and programming flexibility
- Improve safety, accessibility, and energy performance
- Align with Alberta Infrastructure modernization criteria
- Prepare for future capital submission

### Strategic Continuity

This modernization bridges the Division’s emerging 10-Year Capital Plan with long-term educational goals. It ensures Catholic Central East Campus remains a viable, high-performing facility and a defensible, data-driven candidate for provincial investment aligned with lifecycle renewal and educational equity.

# **POPULATION, ENROLMENT & UTILIZATION**

# ALBERTA, LETHBRIDGE, AND SURROUNDING AREA POPULATION TRENDS



## **Alberta-Wide Growth**

Over the past two decades, Alberta has experienced steady, sustained population growth. Strong economic fundamentals, relatively affordable housing, and appeal to both interprovincial and international migrants have made the province a top destination for families seeking stability and opportunity. Communities with robust infrastructure and regional services have grown the fastest, reinforcing Alberta's role as one of Canada's most dynamic provinces.

## **Growth in Lethbridge**

As the primary urban centre in southern Alberta, Lethbridge has been a significant beneficiary of these trends. Between 2011 and 2021, the city's population increased by more than 20%, surpassing 100,000 residents and cementing its position as Alberta's fourth-largest city. Growth has been particularly concentrated in West Lethbridge, where new residential developments attract young families and first-time homebuyers.

## **Regional Expansion**

Nearby municipalities, including Coaldale, Picture Butte, and Taber, have also recorded consistent growth. These communities balance small-town or rural lifestyles with access to Lethbridge's services and amenities. This pattern strengthens enrolment demand within the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, as families increasingly move between the city and surrounding areas.

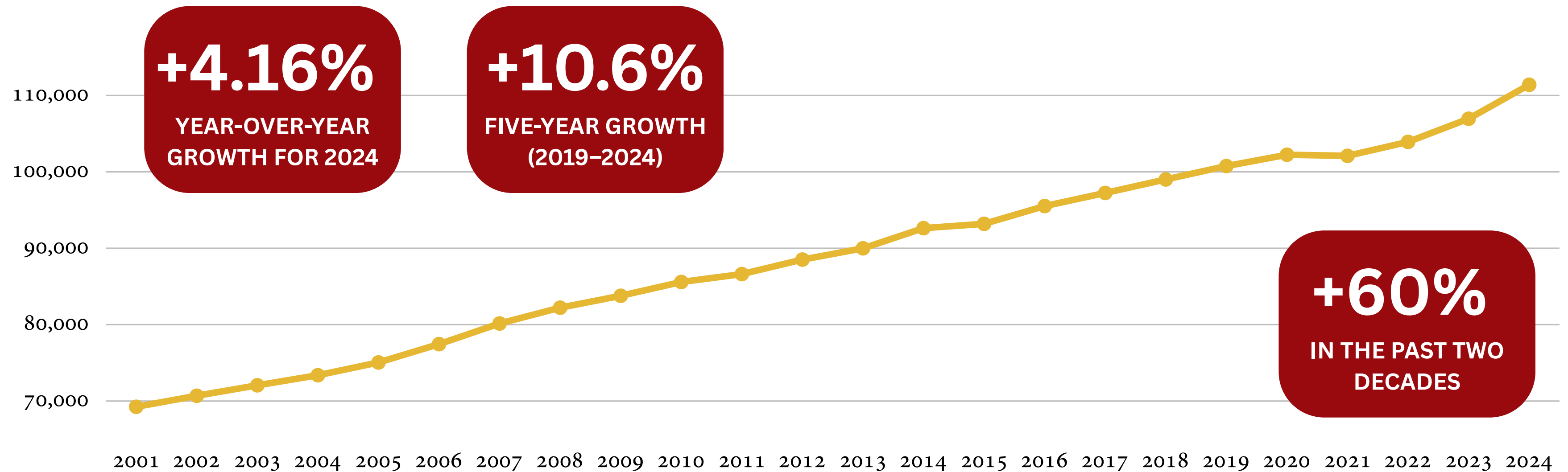
## **Implications for Schools**

The combination of natural population increases, inward migration, and a younger-than-average demographic profile is fueling sustained enrolment growth across Holy Spirit Catholic School Division.

According to Alberta Treasury Board and Finance projections, the Lethbridge Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) will continue expanding over the next decade, reinforcing the urgency of aligning school infrastructure with demographic realities. Strategic investment in new construction, modernization, and site acquisition is essential to ensure equitable access, program continuity, and long-term educational excellence across Southern Alberta.

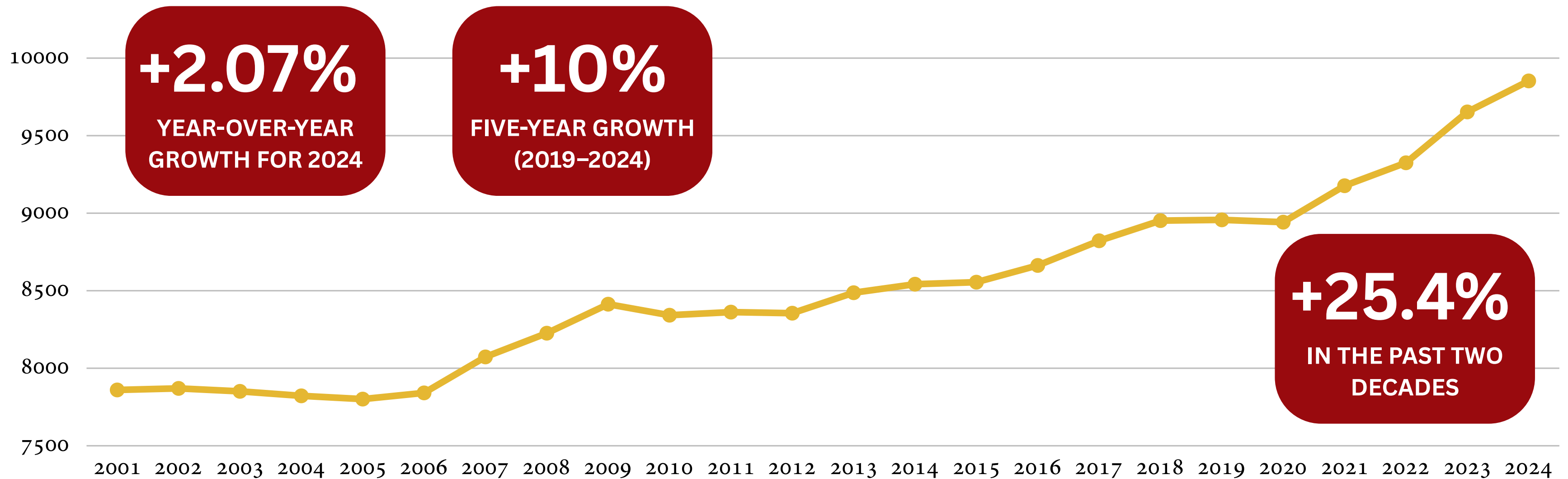
# LETHBRIDGE POPULATION TRENDS

Lethbridge had a population of 111,400 in 2024, the 4th highest in the province. The population of Lethbridge increased 4.16% year-over-year, and increased 10.6% in the last five years.



# TABER POPULATION TRENDS

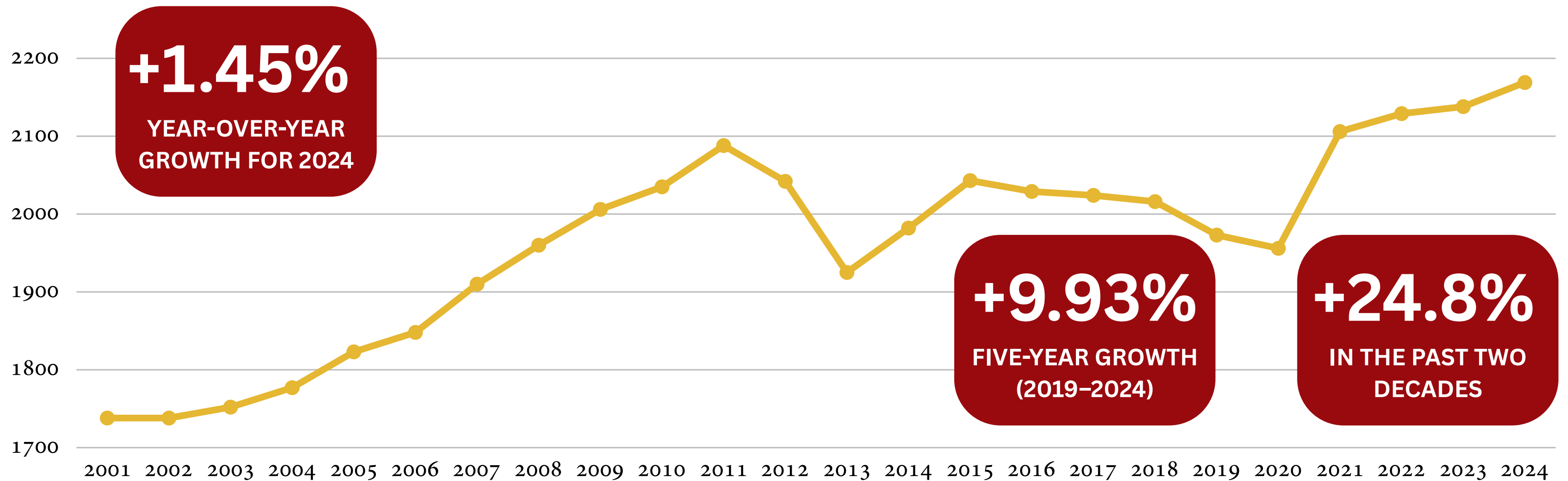
Taber had a population of 9,853 in 2024. The population of Taber increased 2.07% year-over-year, and increased 10.0% in the last five years.



[Source: Alberta Government Statistics](#)

# BOW ISLAND POPULATION TRENDS

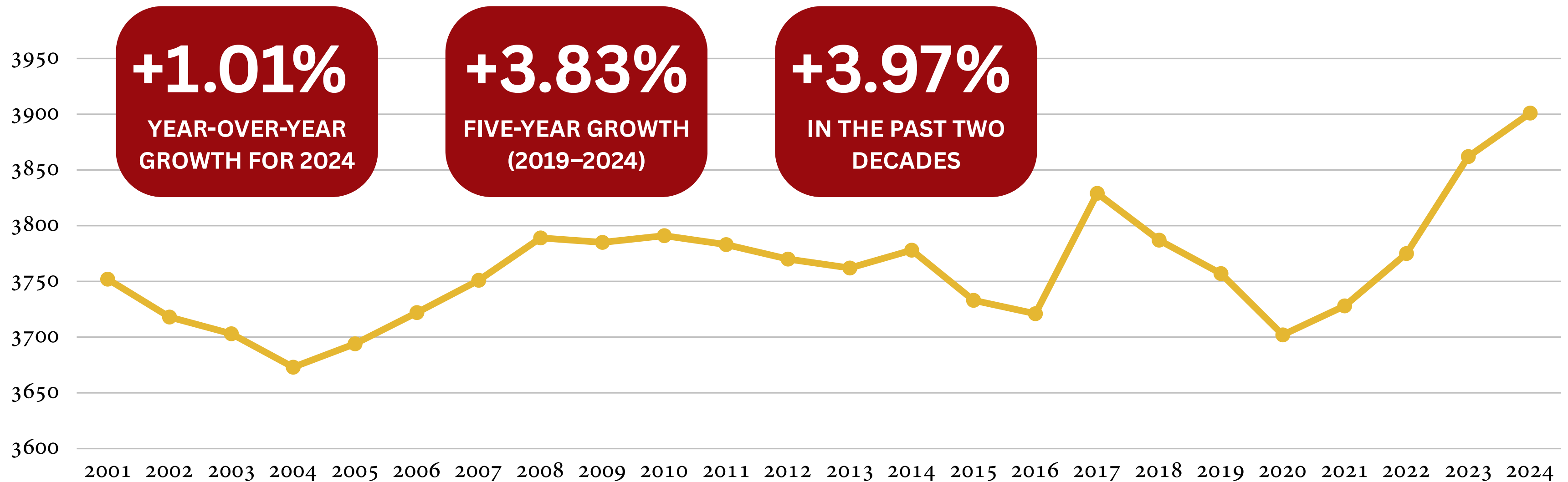
Bow Island had a population of 2,169 in 2024. The population of Bow Island increased 1.45% year-over-year, and increased 9.93% in the last five years.



[Source: Alberta Government Statistics](#)

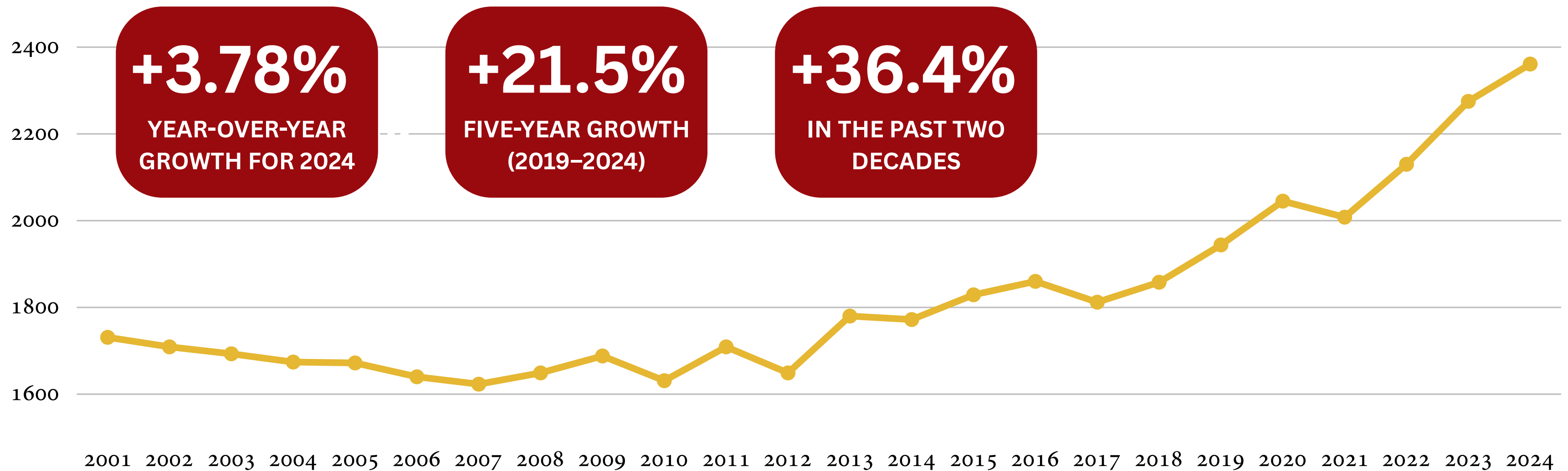
# PINCHER CREEK POPULATION TRENDS

Pincher Creek had a population of 3,901 in 2024. The population of Pincher Creek increased 1.01% year-over-year, and increased 3.83% in the last five years.



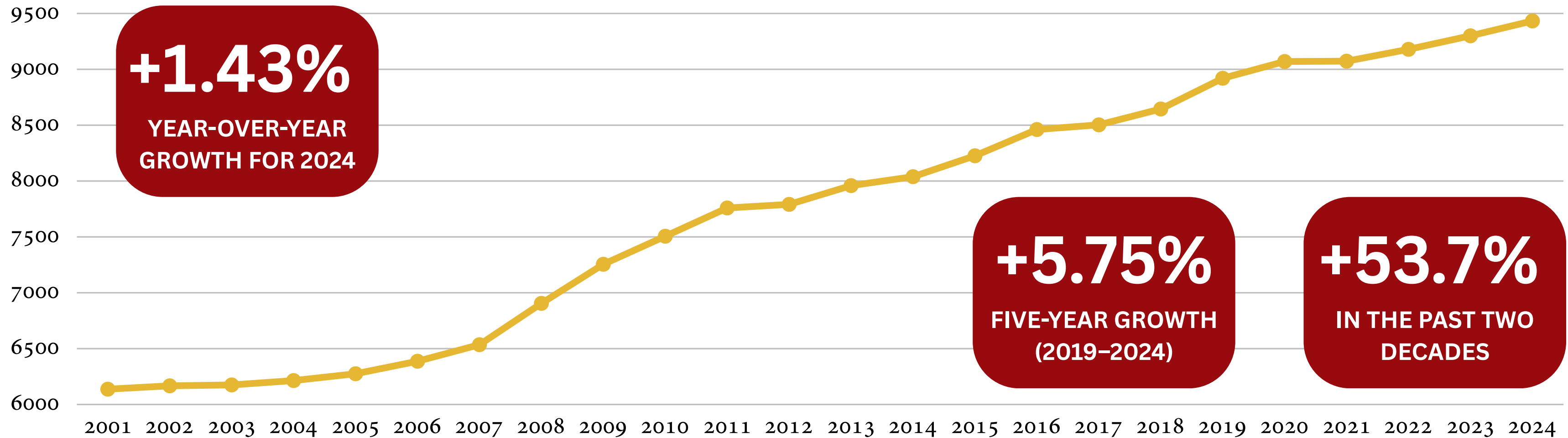
# PICTURE BUTTE POPULATION TRENDS

Picture Butte had a population of 2,361 in 2024. The population of Picture Butte increased 3.78% year-over-year, and increased 21.5% in the last five years.



# COALDALE POPULATION TRENDS

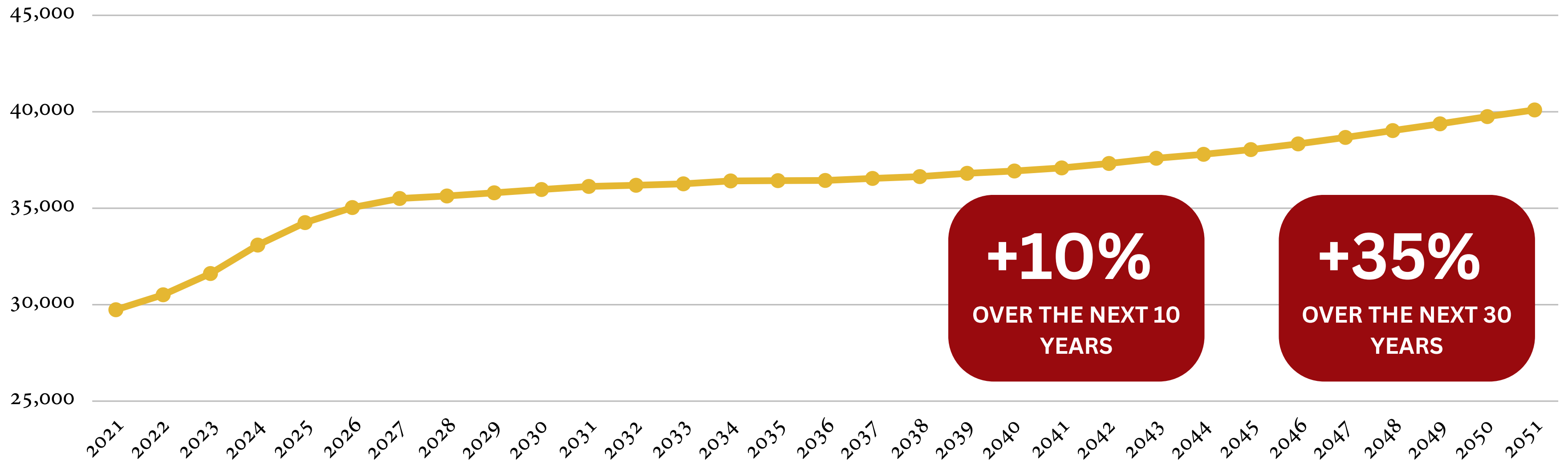
Coaldale had a population of 9,433 in 2024. The population of Coaldale increased 1.43% year-over-year, and increased 5.75% in the last five years.



# STUDENT POPULATION FORECASTS (AGES 5-19)

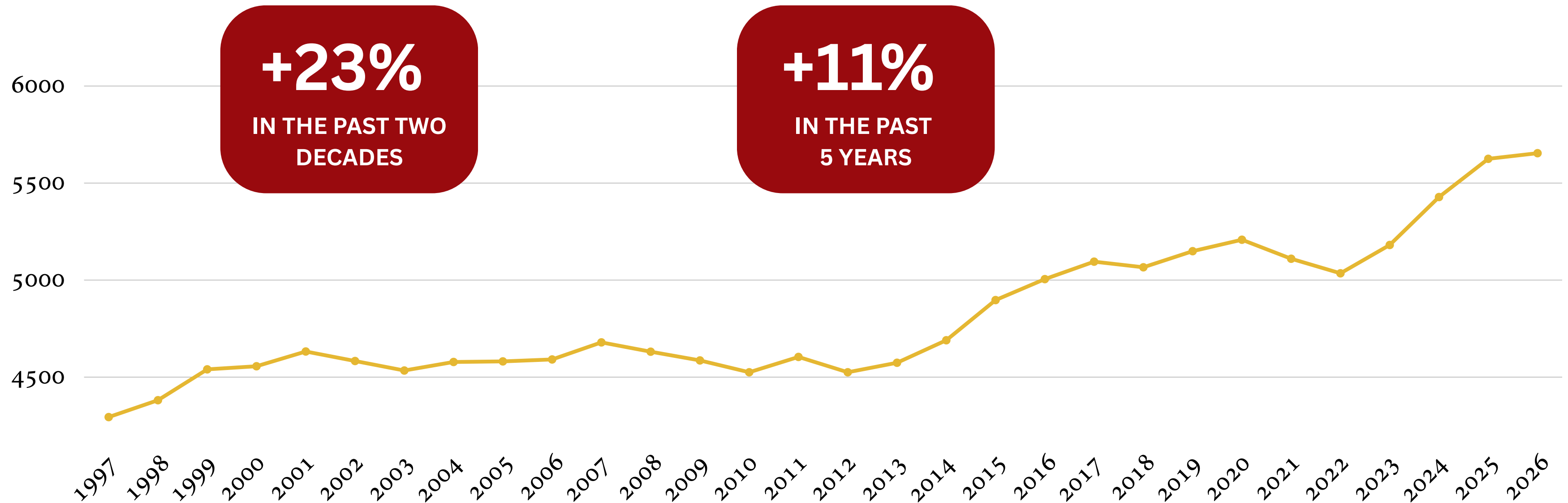
The student-aged population in the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division is projected to grow steadily from just under 30,000 in 2021 to over 40,000 by 2051.

This long-term upward trend highlights the increasing need for sustained investment in schools, staffing, and programming to support future students across the division.



# HISTORICAL ENROLMENT TRENDS

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's enrolment has shown steady long-term growth over the past three decades, rising from 4,358 students in 1996 to 5,648 in 2026. While enrolment fluctuated during the mid-2000s and early 2010s, the Division experienced renewed and sustained growth beginning in 2014, reflecting increasing demand for Catholic education across both urban and rural communities. This long-term upward trend highlights the importance of ongoing capital planning to support program delivery, facility renewal, and emerging capacity needs.



Source: [Alberta Government Statistics](#)

# AREA CAPACITY & UTILIZATION REPORT

## Purpose of the Chart

The following chart illustrates the relationship between current and projected school enrolment and the physical capacity of each facility. It highlights where infrastructure is under pressure and where future growth may exceed available space.

## Important Note

Projections are based solely on existing school infrastructure. The chart does not reflect the impact of any future schools that may be added.

## Strategic Interpretation

Schools flagged in red or yellow represent high-pressure zones requiring attention. These indicators inform capital prioritization, supporting decisions around modernization, expansion, and new construction to ensure program continuity, equitable access, and defensible submissions to Alberta Infrastructure.



# AREA CAPACITY & UTILIZATION REPORT

School	Location	Grades	Actual Enrollment 2025	Capacity	Current Utilization	Forecast Population Increase per Year	Enrollment Forecast 2035	Utilization 2035
CARE Outreach	Lethbridge South	7 - 9	10	12	83%	2.77%	14	113%
Catholic Central High School	Lethbridge West / South	10 - 12	1003	1473	68%	4.93%	1702	116%
Children of St. Martha	Lethbridge West	EL-6	224	310	72%	7.08%	475	153%
Ecole St. Mary	Lethbridge South	EL-6	427	489	87%	4.53%	577	118%
Father Leonard Van Tighem	Lethbridge West	EL-9	685	689	99%	7.08%	1,454	211%
Our Lady of Assumption	Lethbridge South	EL-6	193	352	55%	2.77%	261	74%
St. Catherine	Picture Butte	EL-9	178	287	62%	3.78%	268	93%
St. Francis	Lethbridge South	7 - 12	711	634	112%	2.77%	960	151%
St. Joseph	Coaldale	EL-9	302	397	76%	1.43%	353	89%
St. Mary	Taber	6 - 12	171	399	43%	2.07%	214	54%
St. Michael	Bow Island	EL-12	41	230	18%	1.45%	48	21%
St. Michael's	Pincher Creek	EL-12	323	420	77%	1.00%	360	86%
St. Patrick	Taber	EL-5	194	237	82%	2.07%	243	103%
St. Patrick Fine Arts	Lethbridge West	K-6	295	305	97%	7.08%	626	205%
St. Paul	Lethbridge North	EL-6	320	382	84%	4.53%	521	136%
St. Teresa of Clcutta	Lethbridge North	EL-6	412	400	103%	4.53%	671	168%
Trinity E-Learning	Lethbridge South	9 - 12	52	50	104%	2.77%	70	140%

**Note:** Population growth forecasts for Lethbridge-based schools are derived from municipal census data published by the City of Lethbridge.

Forecasts for schools located in regional communities, including Coaldale, Picture Butte, Taber, Bow Island, and Pincher Creek are based on population trend data provided by the Government of Alberta.

# SCHOOL BOUNDARIES

## Strategic Context

Adjusting school boundaries can influence decisions around new construction, modernization, and program delivery. Boundary changes may temporarily alleviate enrolment pressure, but they are not long-term infrastructure solutions.

## Implementation Challenges

Boundary adjustments are often met with concern from affected families and can be difficult to implement. They may disrupt community cohesion, alter school identity, and require extensive consultation.

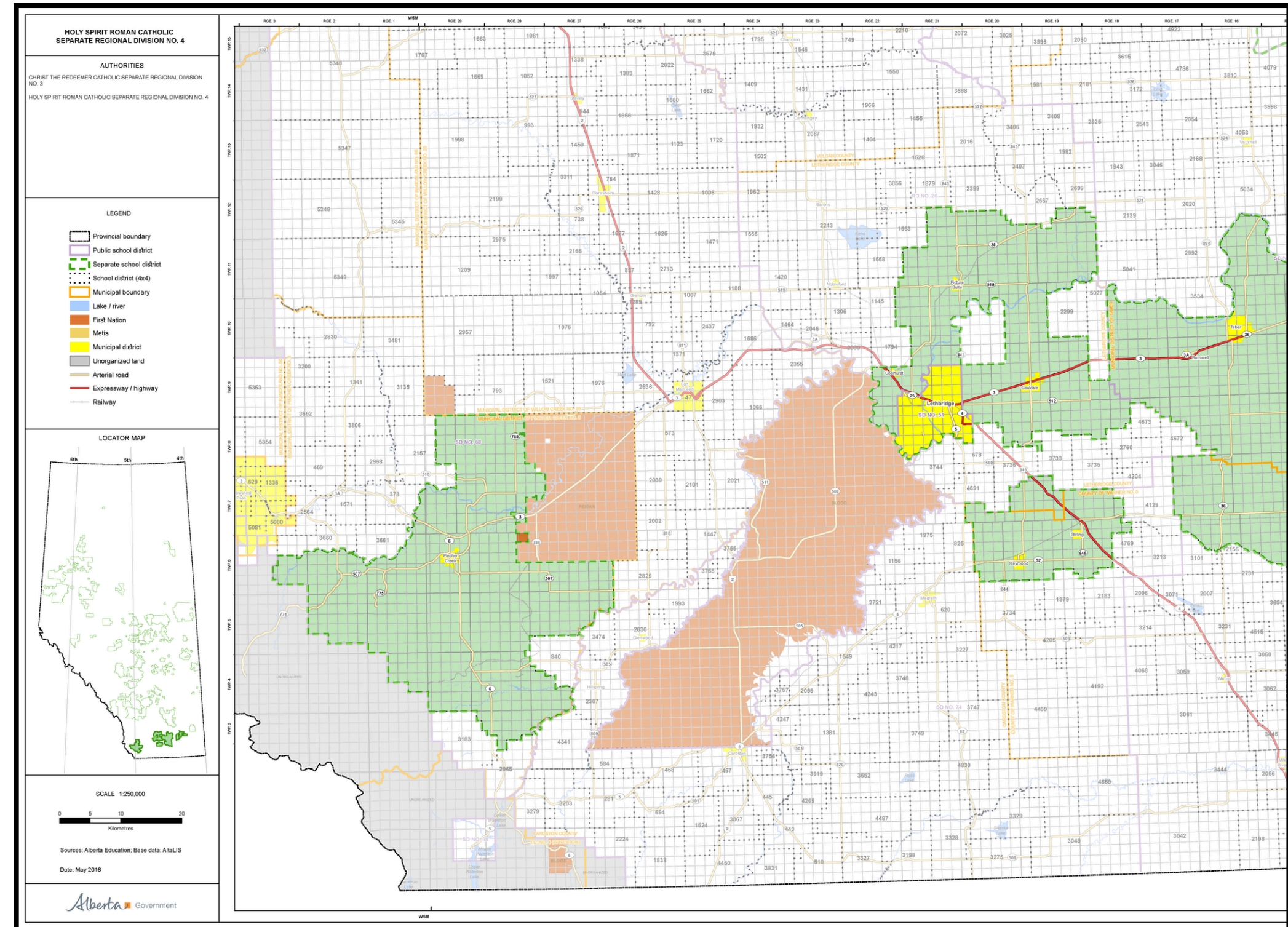
## Operational Impacts

While boundary changes may offer short-term relief, they frequently lead to increased transportation costs, logistical complexity, and program fragmentation. These impacts must be weighed carefully against the benefits.

## Planning Implications

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division considers boundary adjustments only when necessary and in conjunction with broader capital strategies. Long-term solutions, such as new school sites, facility expansions, and modernizations, are preferred to ensure stability, equity, and continuity for students and families.

With building of a new elementary school in west Lethbridge, we did undertake a boundary reconfiguration to help alleviate and balance out enrolment within our schools and address future programming needs by moving towards a stand alone junior high on the west side of town.



Source: Alberta Education

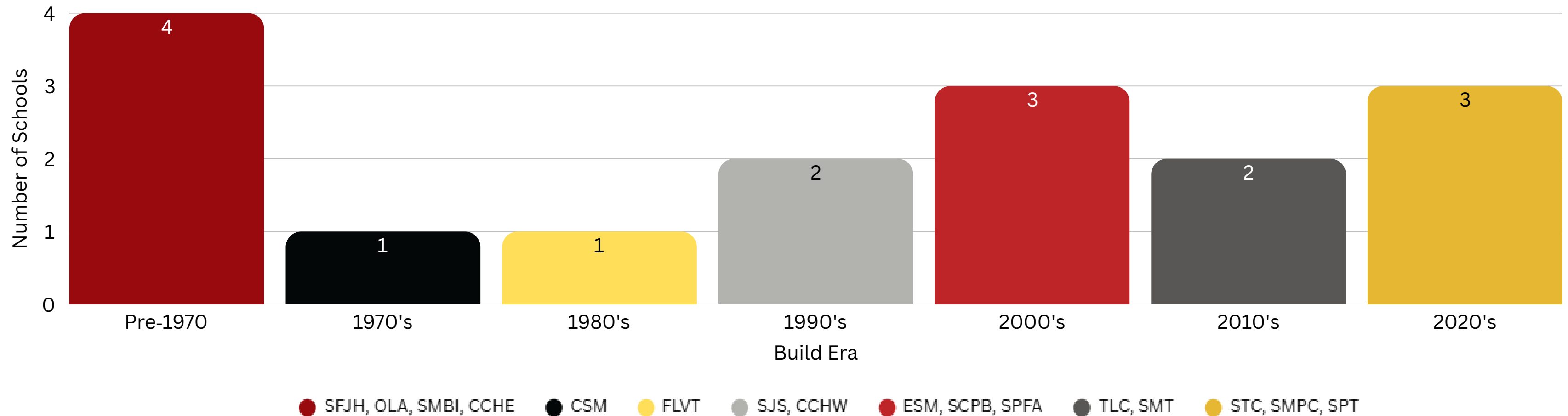
# APPENDIX

# EXISTING SCHOOL FACILITIES

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division maintains a diverse portfolio of educational facilities across southern Alberta, comprising 16 schools and two specialized learning centres. As of 2025, nearly 25% of the division's schools were originally constructed prior to 1970, with an additional 20% built between 1970 and 1990.

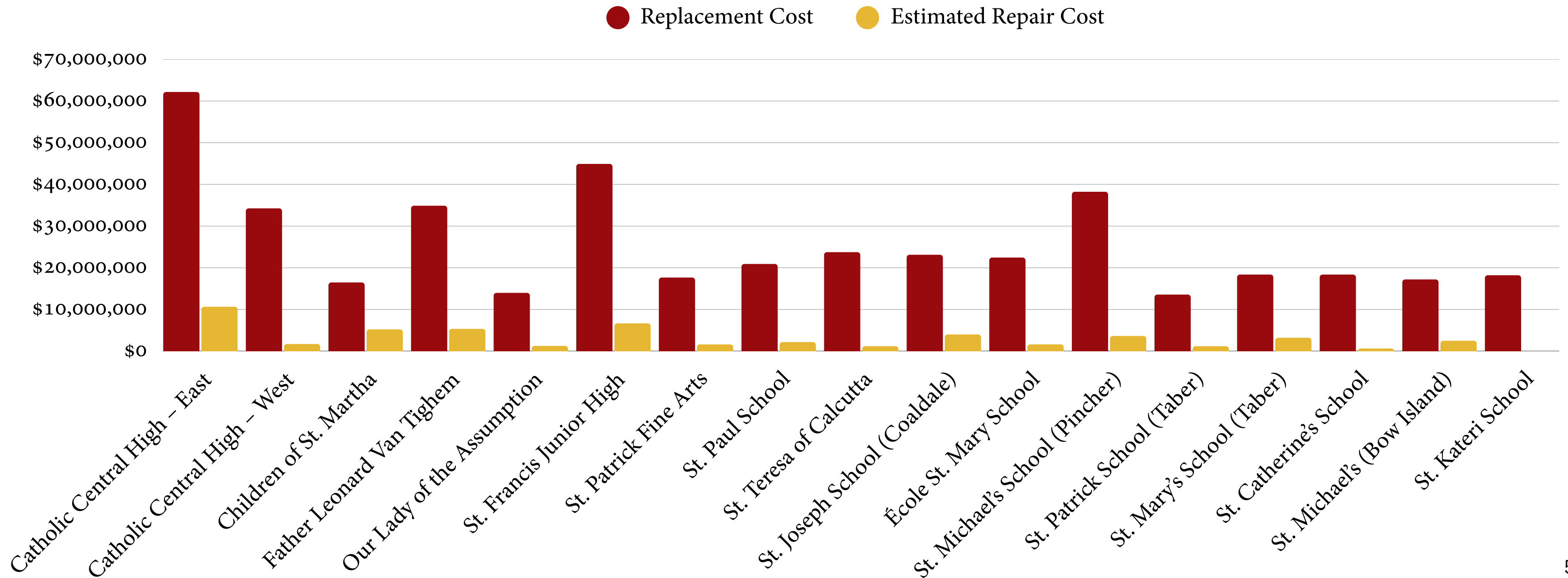
These aging facilities are entering critical renewal windows, and strategic investment will be required to sustain safe, functional, and modern learning environments. The remaining schools, built between 1990 and 2023, represent mid-life and recently modernized assets that will require targeted lifecycle planning over the next decade.

The age distribution of Holy Spirit's facilities is shown in the following graph. Renewal planning must consider building condition, utilization pressures, and community growth trends to ensure capital investments align with long-term educational and demographic needs.



# INFRASTRUCTURE AGE & REPAIR COST SUMMARY

This bar graph ranks schools by total estimated repair cost based on verified FCA data. Catholic Central High – East, St. Francis Junior High, and Father Leonard Van Tighem represent the highest capital exposure. These figures help prioritize funding and inform strategic investment decisions across the portfolio.



# ST. FRANCIS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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## School Overview

St. Francis Junior High School is a Grade 7–9 Catholic school located at 2601 19 Avenue South in Lethbridge, Alberta. Serving approximately 535 students from Lethbridge, nearby communities, and First Nations reserves, the school provides a strong Catholic educational foundation focused on academic excellence, responsible citizenship, and personal growth. As a key middle-years institution in the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, St. Francis fosters a supportive learning environment where students are encouraged to develop independence, faith, and leadership skills.



## Facility Snapshot

- Year built: 1957
- Gross area: 6,824 m<sup>2</sup>
- Capacity: 708

## Educational Programming

- Full Grade 7–9 Catholic programming integrated with faith formation
- Core academic subjects supported by enrichment and exploratory options
- Inclusive education model with supports for diverse learning needs
- Religious education and spiritual development embedded throughout the school day
- Extracurricular opportunities in athletics, arts, leadership, and community service
- Focus on fostering responsible citizenship and lifelong learning skills

## Community Role & Impact

St. Francis Junior High School is a respected and well-established school in south Lethbridge, known for its strong sense of community and student-centered culture. Its connections with families, First Nations communities, and parish partners contribute to a welcoming, culturally responsive environment. The school serves as an important gathering place for academic celebrations, athletic events, faith activities, and community initiatives, strengthening the school's role as a trusted and inclusive hub for middle-years education.

## Strategic Importance in Capital Planning

St. Francis Junior High School plays a significant role in meeting the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's long-term needs for junior high education. Its aging infrastructure, coupled with rising utilization forecasts, underscores the importance of planning for modernization and long-term facility renewal. Ensuring St. Francis remains equipped to support growing and diverse student populations is essential to sustaining high-quality Catholic education at the middle-school level.

# FATHER LEONARD VAN TIGHEM SCHOOL

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## School Overview

Father Leonard Van Tighem School (FLVT) is a soon to be Grade 7 to Grade 9 Catholic school located at 25 Stoney Crescent West in Lethbridge, Alberta. As part of the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, FLVT serves a diverse and rapidly growing student population on the city's west side. The school provides a faith-centered educational environment that emphasizes academic excellence, spiritual development, and community engagement. With a wide range of curricular and extracurricular opportunities—including music, art, French as a Second Language, athletics, and a school musical—FLVT offers a well-rounded education grounded in Catholic values.

## Facility Snapshot

- Year built: 1991
- Gross area: 4,697 m<sup>2</sup>
- Capacity: 721

## Educational Programming

- Junior high Catholic faith-based curriculum
- Comprehensive core academic subjects and religious education
- Diverse option courses including music, art, and French as a Second Language
- Wide range of extracurricular activities such as athletics, clubs, and musical productions

## Community Role & Impact

Father Leonard Van Tighem School plays a vital role in west Lethbridge, serving as both an educational institution and a community hub. Its strong partnerships with families, parish communities, and local organizations help cultivate a supportive and vibrant school culture. The school is known for its welcoming environment, commitment to service, and active community involvement, all of which contribute to building strong connections between students, staff, and families.

## Strategic Importance in Capital Planning

With west Lethbridge experiencing sustained population growth, FLVT is a key component in the Division's long-range planning for K–9 education. The school's rising enrolment pressures and expanding catchment area highlight the need for strategic planning regarding space, modernization, and long-term capacity. Ensuring FLVT remains equipped to support continued growth is essential to maintaining high-quality Catholic education in one of the region's most rapidly developing communities.



# CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL (EAST CAMPUS)

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## School Overview

Catholic Central High School (CCH) East Campus is a Grade 10–12 Catholic high school located at 405 18 Street South in Lethbridge, Alberta. As part of a dual-campus model serving more than 1,000 students across the city, the East Campus plays a pivotal role in delivering flexible, high-quality Catholic secondary education. Known for its strong academic pathways, leadership opportunities, and vibrant school culture, CCH fosters a Christ-centered environment that supports student achievement, personal growth, and community engagement.



## Facility Snapshot

- Year built: 1948
- Gross area: 9,187 m<sup>2</sup>
- Capacity 974

## Educational Programming

- Full Grade 10–12 Catholic high school programming
- Advanced Placement (AP) courses
- French Immersion programming
- Extensive fine arts options including drama, music, and visual arts
- Robust athletics and extracurricular opportunities
- Quarter-system timetable supporting focused instructional blocks

## Community Role & Impact

Catholic Central High School East Campus is a cornerstone of secondary Catholic education in Lethbridge. Serving students from across the city and surrounding region, it offers a dynamic and welcoming environment grounded in faith, academics, and community service. Its long-standing history and strong parish partnerships make it a trusted institution where generations of families have found both spiritual formation and educational excellence. The East Campus also contributes significantly to community vibrancy through events, performances, and service initiatives.

## Strategic Importance in Capital Planning

As one of the largest and oldest secondary schools within the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, CCH East Campus plays a critical role in long-term planning for secondary education. Its central location, dual-campus structure, and broad programming make it a priority for modernization and ongoing investment. Addressing aging infrastructure while sustaining high-quality learning environments is essential to ensuring CCH continues to meet the academic and spiritual needs of future learners. The campus remains a foundational pillar in the Division's capital strategy, balancing tradition with evolving educational demands.

# CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL (WEST CAMPUS)

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## School Overview

Catholic Central High School (CCH) West Campus is a Grade 10–12 Catholic high school located at 251 Britannia Boulevard West in Lethbridge, Alberta. As part of CCH’s dual-campus model serving more than 1,000 students, the West Campus provides modern, flexible learning spaces that support a wide range of academic and extracurricular opportunities. Its contemporary design, diverse programming, and Christ-centered environment make it a key hub for student learning, collaboration, and community connection within the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division.



## Facility Snapshot

- Year built: 2010
- Gross area: 5,346 m<sup>2</sup>
- Capacity: 539

## Educational Programming

- Full Grade 10–12 Catholic high school programming
- Advanced Placement (AP) opportunities
- Leadership and student life initiatives integrated across campus
- Flexible learning environments supporting inquiry, collaboration, and innovation
- Inclusive supports that meet the diverse academic and spiritual needs of learners

## Community Role & Impact

The CCH West Campus is a vibrant gathering point for students and families in West Lethbridge. Its modern facilities, strong parish relationships, and student-centered culture help foster a sense of belonging rooted in Catholic values. The campus hosts numerous community events, performances, and athletic activities that strengthen connections between the school, families, and the broader community. As part of the dual-campus structure, West Campus expands access to specialized programming while maintaining a unified school identity.

## Strategic Importance in Capital Planning

As a newer facility with growing enrolment pressures in West Lethbridge, CCH West Campus plays an essential role in the Division’s long-term secondary education strategy. Its modern infrastructure and strategic location support continued growth in one of Lethbridge’s fastest-expanding areas. Ensuring that the West Campus remains adaptable to evolving program needs and student population increases is central to sustaining high-quality Catholic education across the Division.



**Holy Spirit**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

