



**For Immediate Release**

## News Release

### Water Break/Reservoir Update

**Edson, Alberta, January 5th, 2018** – The Town of Edson dealt with some severe water issues over the New Year's break. On the morning of December 30th, 2017, Town of Edson crews were made aware of a large water break on 51st Street and 2nd Avenue. Shortly after, crews also responded to a structural problem at one of the water reservoirs on 63rd Street. The roof on one of the reservoirs had concaved into the structure.

Crews immediately isolated the damaged reservoir, put a conservation notice out to help fill the remaining reservoir, and worked to fix the water break on 2nd Avenue. After a few days in icy conditions, crews were able to fix the water break on January 1st, and, with reservoir levels topped up, were able to cancel the conservation notice. Levels are being monitored closely and the truck fill station remains closed while future plans are determined and to ensure we have adequate water supply for emergencies.

During the water break, it's estimated about 300,000 gallons of water was lost. With the loss of reservoir #2, the Town's water storage capacity is down approximately 40%. Reservoir #1 has a capacity of 750,000 gallons and reservoir #2 (the one currently not in operation) has a capacity of 500,000 gallons. This will have no impact on day to day water use, however, may have an impact on the Truck Fill station, spray park hours of operation, and other potential conservation measures over the summer months. The Truck Fill Station will remain closed while options are reviewed.

While no specific causes have been determined at this point, it expected the extreme cold weather played a major contributing factor in both incidents.

Engineering and Public Works are reviewing the situation and hope to have an update for Council at their January 9th Committee of the Whole meeting. Some key decisions will need to be made on the rebuilding or repairing of the reservoir, as well as potential conservation measures until storage capacities are improved.

More information will be released as details become available.

**Media Contact:**

Steve Bethge  
Communications Coordinator  
Town of Edson  
780-723-4401  
[steveb@edson.ca](mailto:steveb@edson.ca)  
[www.edson.ca](http://www.edson.ca)