

Calgary population growth slows: census

Calgary grew by just under 23,000 residents last year.

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Population cap may be tossed

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Okotoks town council may scrap its renowned population cap as a result of new regional land use policies currently being developed.

As a result of the incredible growth in Okotoks and surrounding areas Okotoks Mayor Bill McAlpine said council may have to review the Sustainable Okotoks policy. McAlpine said that by working with the Calgary Regional Partnership (CRP) and gaining greater understanding of its land use plan, the population cap may in the end have to be removed.

CALGARY - The city's population grew by almost 23,000 people last year, with more than half of those moving to Calgary from somewhere else.

The City of Calgary released its annual census Monday — counting the population change between April 2007 and April 2008 — and 22,950 more citizens swelled the ranks.

In those 12 months, 12,441 more people moved to Calgary than left. And the population received a boost with 9,695 more births than deaths.

It's the equivalent of 34 people a day moving here, and 27 births a day.

Down from the recent high in 2005-2006 of 35,681, city officials said the growth is on par with the 10-year average and in line with its projections.

“Calgary still remains a trend setter in the nation for population growth,” Mayor Dave Bronconnier said. “They're moving to the city.

“Net migration continues to be a strong factor.”

Fourteen communities grew by more than 1,000 people, including Auburn Bay, Bridlewood, Coventry Hills and Cranston.

Calgary's population is now 1,042,892.