

ALBERTA MUNICIPAL BENCHMARKING INITIATIVE



Wastewater Service Area

WHAT IS AMBI?

6 Alberta municipalities

- Grant from Alberta Municipal Affairs
- Collaboration to build a framework, develop benchmark definitions and allow comparison
- Develop an ongoing benchmarking process of 10 service areas
- A benchmark is an defined point of reference against which things can be measured and compared between municipalities

WHY BENCHMARKING

A benchmark is an established point of reference against which things can be measured and compared

- Helps to tell the municipal “performance story”
- Sound business practice
- Share knowledge and best practices
- Identifies opportunities for change
- Encourages continuous improvement
- Demonstrates transparency and value for money
- Supports results based accountability

TWO DIMENSIONS

Efficiency

- a measure of productivity: quantity
- often expressed in cost per unit

Effectiveness

- a measure of value or benefit of service: quality
- often expressed as percentage or rate

WASTEWATER

- Fourth of 10 service areas to be benchmarked
- Collaboration to build a framework and allow comparison
- Develop an ongoing benchmarking process

Wastewater service is:

- Collection of wastewater from all customers
- Treatment to provincial standards
- Release treated water to natural waterways
- Biosolids removed for processing and re-use

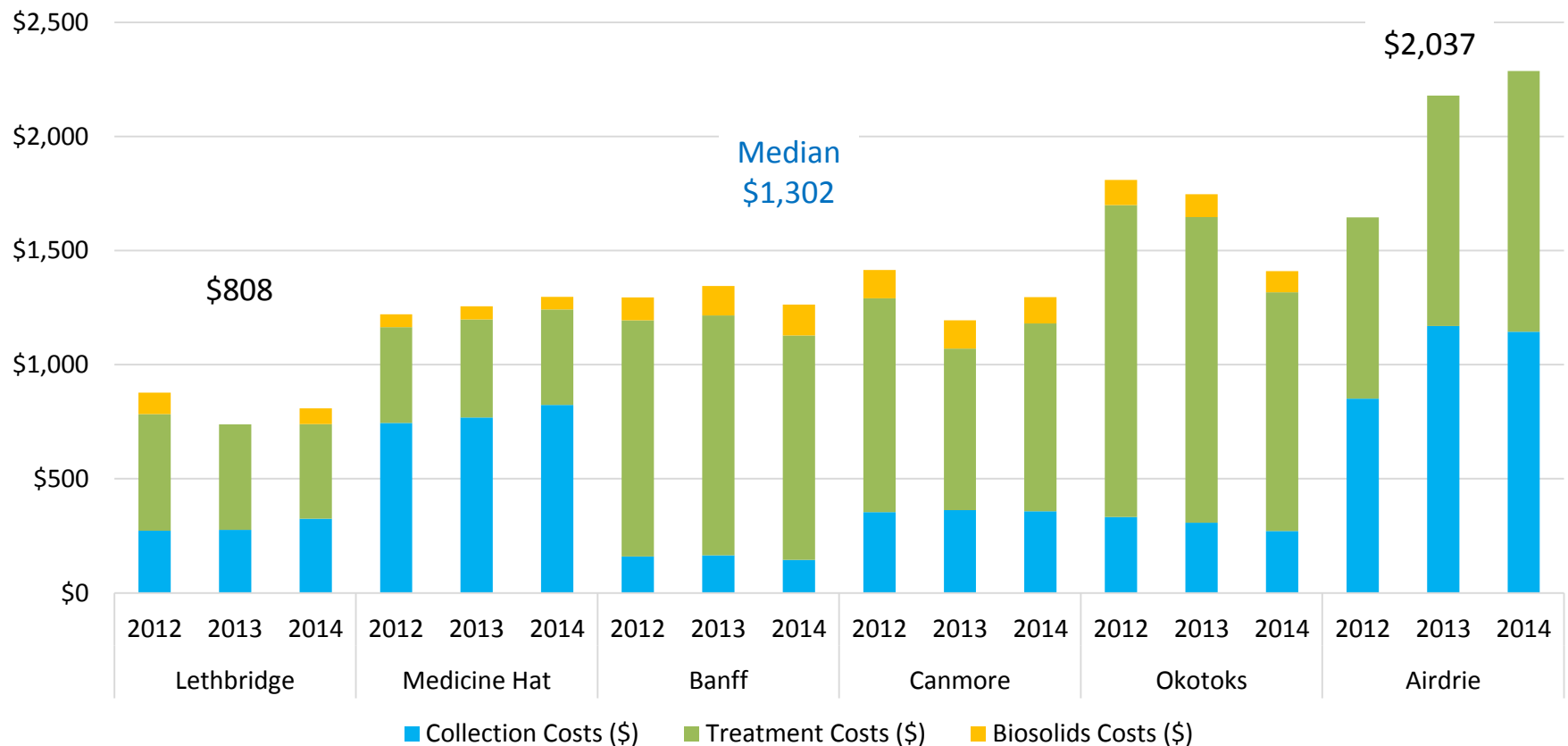
WASTEWATER

Influencing factors

Municipality	Collection	Treatment	Biosolids Processing	Treatment Plant Rating	Treatment Process	UV Disinfection
Airdrie	Self-Run	Purchased	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Banff	Self-Run	3rd Party Operator (Self-Run 2015+)	In-house	IV	BNR	Yes
Canmore	3rd Party Operator	3rd Party Operator	Purchased	III	BAF	Yes
Lethbridge	Self-Run	Self-Run	Purchased	IV	BNR	Yes
Medicine Hat	Self-Run	Self-Run	Purchased	IV	BNR	Yes
Okotoks	3rd Party	3rd Party	Purchased	IV	BNR	Yes

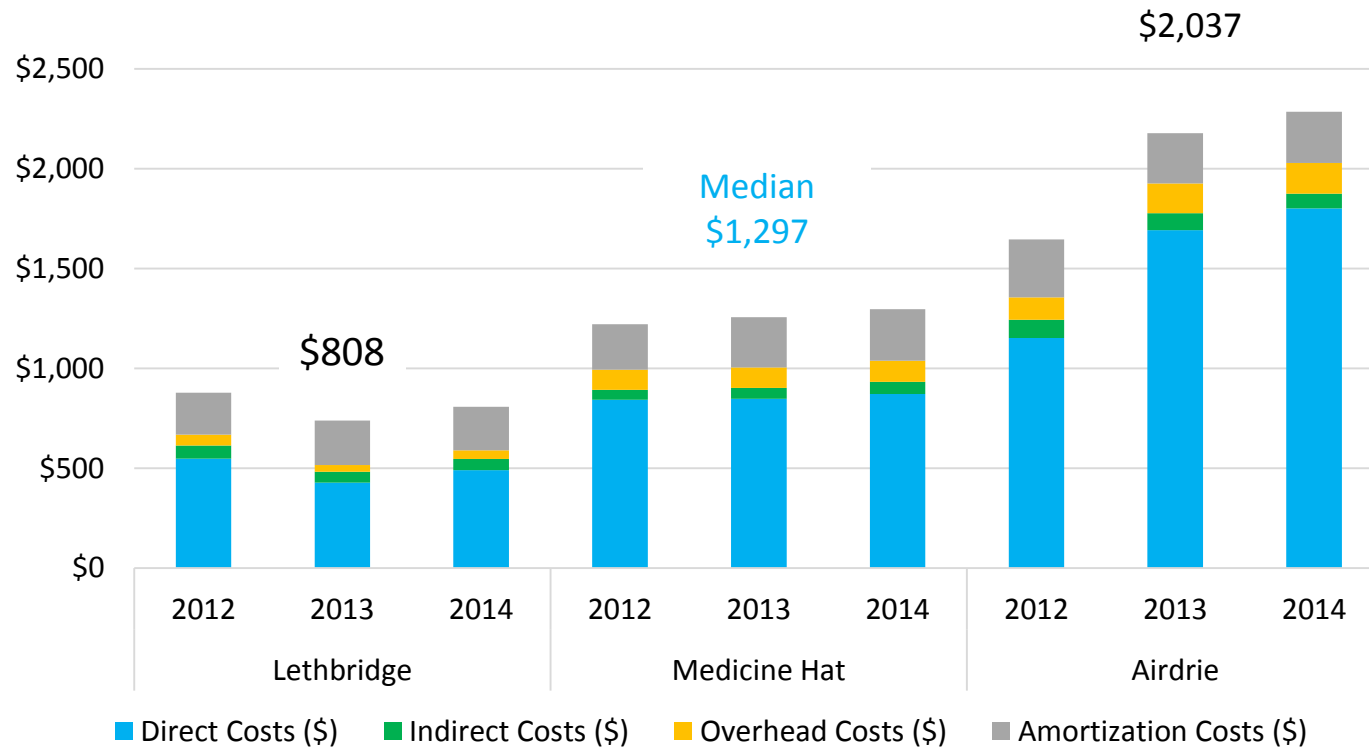
2.2 TOTAL WASTEWATER SYSTEM COSTS

Total Wastewater System Total Cost (\$/ML treated)



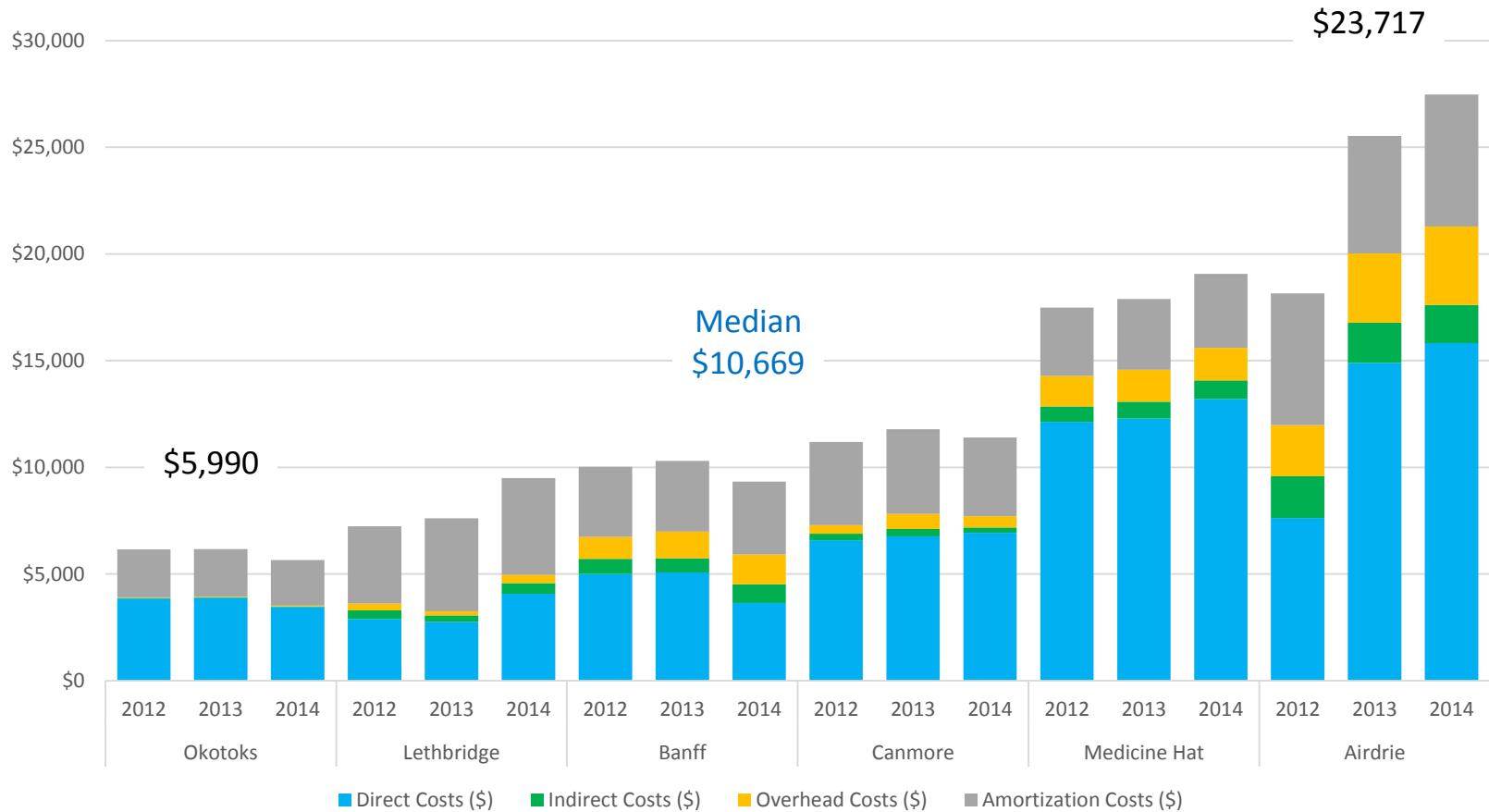
2.3 TOTAL WASTEWATER COSTS

Total Wastewater System Cost (\$/ML)



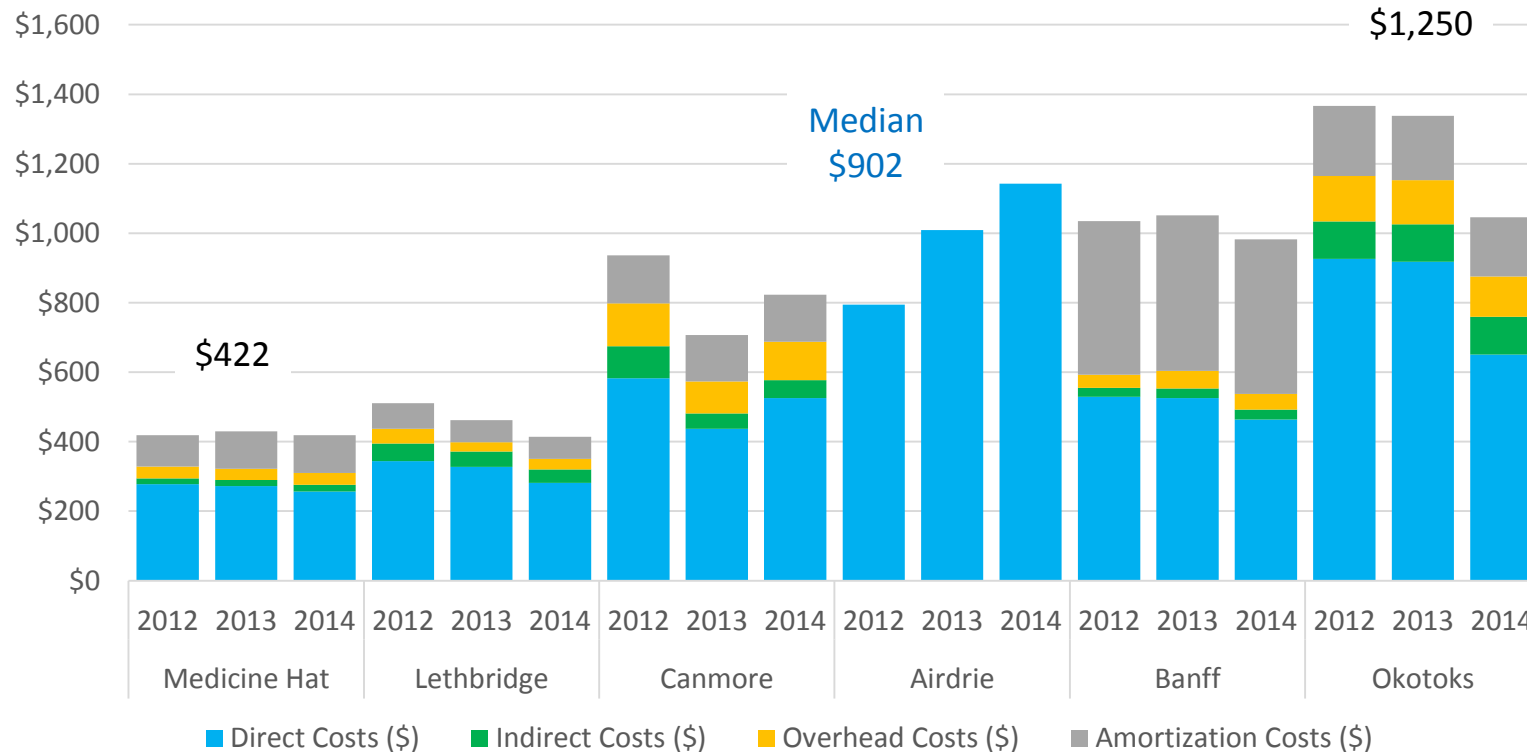
2.4 COLLECTION COSTS

Collection Cost (\$/KM pipe maintained)



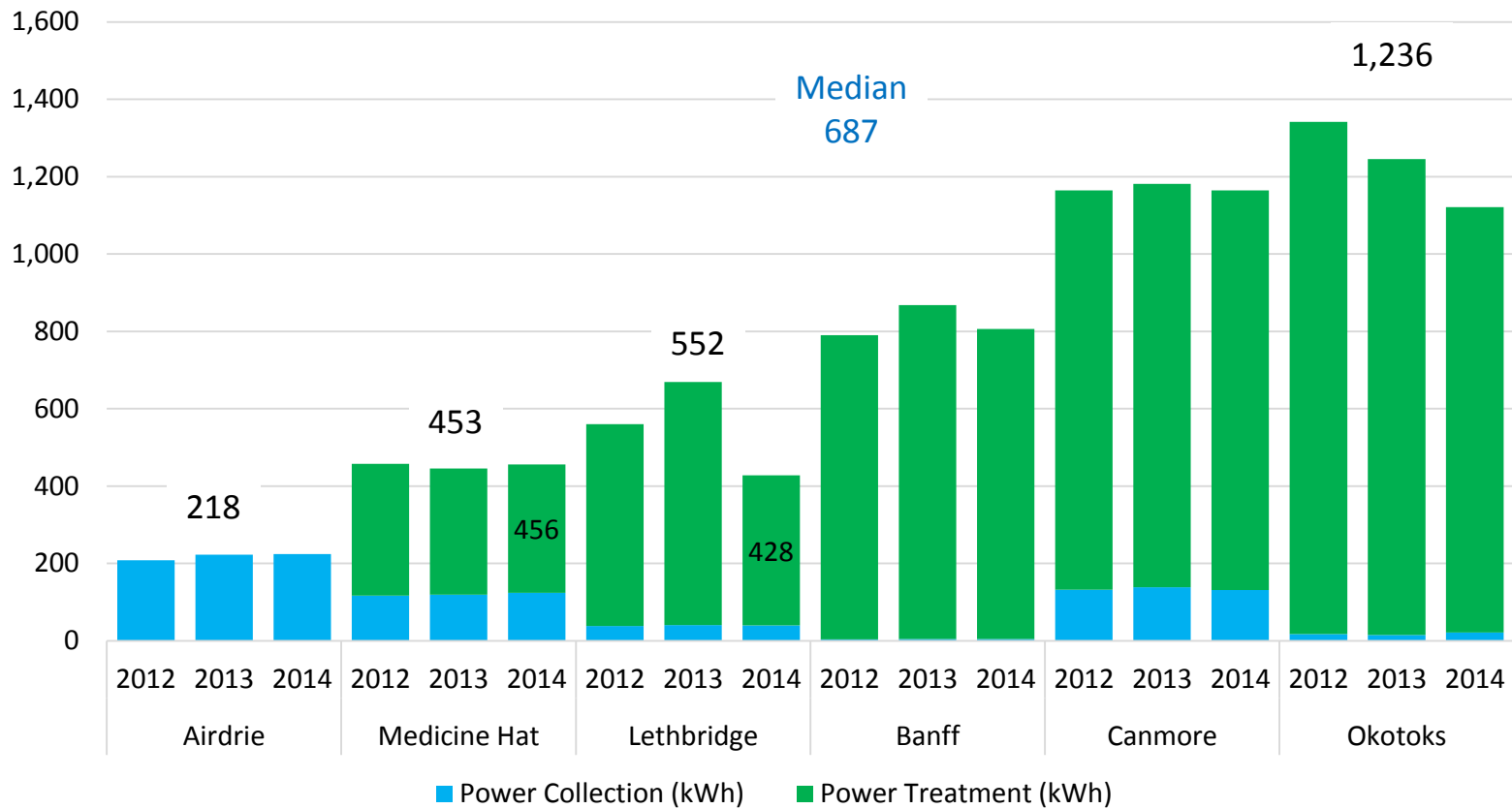
2.5 TREATMENT COSTS

Treatment Cost (\$/ML treated) - Efficiency



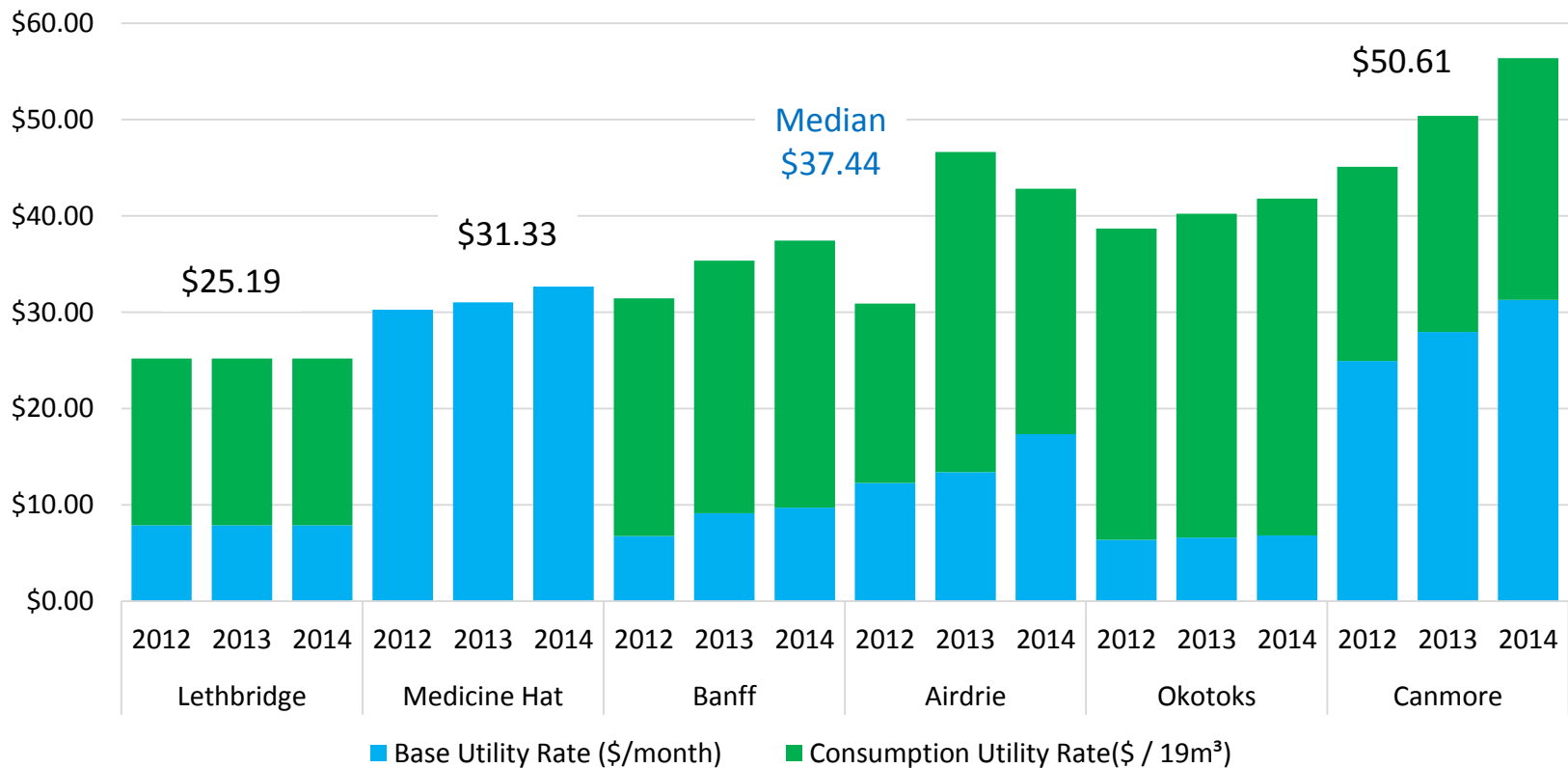
2.8 POWER CONSUMED

Power Consumed (kWh/ML treated)



2.9 RESIDENTIAL BILL

Residential Bill (\$/19m³ per month)



WASTEWATER SUMMARY

LETHBRIDGE

- Lowest cost for total wastewater system between all participating municipalities.
- Below median for collection and treatment cost.
- Below median for power consumption per ML.
- Lowest residential bill cost (\$19/month)

NEXT STEPS

- Complete other service area benchmark reports
- Review practices and seek efficiencies where possible