

Municipal Policy GOV-002-036 Flag and Lighting Protocol (NEW)**Report Purpose**

To seek Council's approval of Municipal Policy GOV-002-036.

Recommendation

THAT Policy GOV-002-036: Flag and Lighting Protocol, as set out in Enclosure 1 to the May 23, 2017 Facility Services report, be approved.

Strategic Plan Priority Areas

Economy: N/A

Governance: Provides the protocol around the display of federal, provincial and municipal flags and to honor significant sense of loss by way of lowering the flags to half-mast.

Social: Provides for the display of community group flags for ceremonial or symbolic purposes on the community flag pole located within the Centre in the Park. Festival Place will illuminate the exterior of the building with light color displays to honor significant events to the community.

Culture: Honors the historical importance of the flag etiquette in Canada.

Environment: N/A

Other Impacts

Policy: N/A

Legislative/Legal: Federal guidance documents include: Canada Heritage Document: Flag Etiquette in Canada; Canada Heritage Document: Rules for Flying the Flag

Interdepartmental: Provides guidance on when and how flags are to be flown on municipal flag poles.

Summary

Flag etiquette has held a strong significance for many Canadians. Aligning the Strathcona County Flag and Lighting policy with the federal and provincial flag protocols ensures that the community flag poles consistently display the flags in accordance with those protocols.

Through this policy, direction is provided to the municipality and the community on how flags on community flag poles will be displayed and when they will be lowered to half-mast.

To honour community groups, a new community flag pole has been installed in the Centre in the Park, where community groups, upon approval from the Chief Commissioners office, will be able to display their flags for an approved period of time to celebrate their event or their group's purpose. In addition to the community flag pole, the policy addresses the use of the colored exterior lights at Festival Place that can be illuminated at night to honour major community groups or national events.

Communication Plan

The flag policy will be communicated through a public news release.

Enclosure

1 GOV-002-036 Flag and Lighting Protocol Policy