

Priorities Committee Meeting_Apr16_2019

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE**Recreation and Culture Strategy Project Update****Report Purpose**

To provide Priorities Committee with an update on development of the Recreation and Culture Strategy including the engagement activities that took place in 2018.

Our Prioritized Strategic Goals

Goal 1 - Build strong communities to support the diverse needs of residents

Goal 2 - Manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure

Goal 6 - Provide facilities and services that are available and accessible to residents

Report

Strathcona County understands that recreation and culture touch the lives of many people and contributes to the quality of life and well-being of our community. The County's Recreation and Culture Strategy will replace the existing Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy (OSFRS). It will go beyond the revitalization and introduction of new indoor and open space infrastructure and instead take a more holistic view of recreation and culture in our community. The strategy will reflect current and emerging needs and preferences through program and service delivery, ultimately contributing to the County's vision to be the most livable community in Canada.

Community input is important to help inform the new strategy. Over the past few months, Strathcona County has reached out to our residents, youth, community groups and stakeholders to invite input through multiple surveys. Nearly 5,000 responses that represent over 34,000 voices have been received so far. It was noted that recreation and culture are important elements to people's lives and to the community.

Our community profile combined with research on trends and best practices and a jurisdictional review will also contribute to shaping the strategy. As Strathcona County was benchmarked against other communities in the region, it was also noted that the County is more efficient (has a higher cost recovery), spends less per capita and maintains comparable levels of recreation and culture facility provision.

Council and Committee History

June 12, 2018 Update provided to Priorities Committee.

May 10, 2018 Update provided to Priorities Committee.

Other Impacts

Policy: N/A

Legislative/Legal: N/A

Interdepartmental: N/A

Master Plan/Framework: N/A

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Enclosures

- 1 Recreation and Culture Strategy Project Update Presentation
- 2 Strathcona County Research and Engagement Summary Panels
- 3 Recreation and Culture Strategy – What We Heard Report