
Recreation and Culture Strategy Final Approval**Report Purpose**

To seek Council approval on the proposed Recreation and Culture Strategy.

Recommendation

THAT the Recreation and Culture Strategy, as set out in Enclosure 1 of the Recreation, Parks and Culture report, be approved.

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

Recreation and culture services are recognized as essential to the overall well-being of individuals and the community. Research has proven that people who participate in recreation and culture activities lead healthier lifestyles and are more socially connected. The County recognizes these benefits and strives to be a leader in the delivery of recreation and culture opportunities to foster a community focused on its citizens' well-being.

The new Recreation and Culture Strategy will replace the existing Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy (OSRFS). It goes beyond the revitalization and introduction of new indoor and open space infrastructure by taking a more holistic view of recreation and culture in our community. The strategy reflects current and emerging needs and preferences through service delivery; works to more clearly define our community-driven approach to delivering recreation and culture opportunities, facilities and open spaces; and contributes to the County's vision to be the most livable community in Canada.

This project was informed by more than 5,000 community responses representing 34,000 people and further refined by representatives of 100 community groups. Our community members clearly shared that recreation and culture are important elements to their lives and to the community. Our community profile combined with research on trends and best practices and a jurisdictional review also contributed to shaping the strategy.

Council and Committee History

July 16, 2019	A draft of the new Recreation and Culture Strategy was presented to Priorities Committee.
May 14, 2019	A "What We Heard" report and project update was presented to Priorities Committee.
June 12, 2018	Project update provided to Priorities Committee.

Other Impacts

Policy: n/a

Legislative/Legal: n/a

Interdepartmental: Family and Community Services, Planning and Development, Facility Services, Economic Development and Tourism

Master Plan/Framework: Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy, Social Framework

Communication Plan

A detailed communication plan has been developed for this initiative.

Enclosure

- 1 Recreation and Culture Strategy Report
- 2 Recreation and Culture Strategy Presentation