

Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) 2019 Annual Report

March 10, 2020

Background

- March 2019: Inception of Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC)
- Purpose
 - To provide advice and recommendations to Council on issues and opportunities related to the physical, emotional and social wellbeing of seniors in Strathcona County

- Members

Robert (Bob) Leman (Chair)	Barry Calder (Vice-chair)
Luella (Peggy) Fleet	Theresa Sarnecki
Debbie Sinclair	Marianne West
Council Representatives: Councillors Glen Lawrence, Paul Smith (alternate)	

Seniors in Strathcona County

- Percentage of seniors increased from 5.5% to 14% of total population from 1996 to 2016
- Seniors population increased by 35% from 2011-2016
- 1 in 5 Albertans will be a senior in 15 years
- Proportion of seniors over age 75 is 40% in Sherwood Park and 30% in rural areas
- 2 of 10 seniors in Sherwood Park is a single senior compared to 1 in 10 in rural Strathcona County
- Highest proportion of seniors reside in Ward 1 (1 of 4 residents)

SAC Alignment to County Vision

“Becoming Canada’s most livable community”

Strategic Goals:

- Goal 1: Build strong communities to support the diverse needs of residents
- Goal 6: Provide facilities and services that are available and accessible to residents
- Goal 7: Provide opportunities for public engagement and communication

Social Framework Outcomes:

- Affordability, Access to Programs and Services, Safety, Connectedness and Inclusion



Recreation and Culture Strategy and Transit Master Plan Principles


SAC Mandate Items

Mandate Letter – 2019 Items

- Recreation and Culture Strategy
- Affordable housing options for seniors
- Mobility Bus – transit services

Mandate Item:

Recreation and Culture Strategy

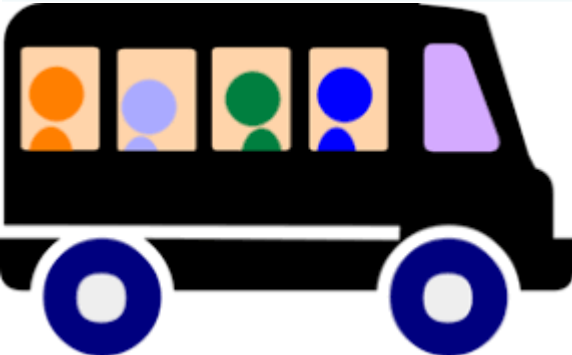
Activities	Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed Recreation and Culture Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability and affordability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided input to inform the implementation plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intergenerational opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seniors Village/Hub with range of services and activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteerism (hub and incentives)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply a seniors lens for programs, services and facilities planning

Mandate Item: Affordable Housing

Activities	Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three sessions to explore options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aging in place options
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Seniors and Housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heartland Housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complexity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat for Humanity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waitlists
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Alberta Cooperative Housing Association, Brittany Lane, Grove Seniors Housing Coops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navigating the options, including availability, eligibility, etc. • Land use changes, including rural



Mandate Item: Transit Services

Activities	Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Field trip for overview of transit services; issues and opportunities• Joint meetings with Accessibility Advisory Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhance transit training for seniors• Support for dynamic transit and enhanced mobility bus service
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standards for building and roadways including location of future bus stops
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rural service opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhanced direct routes to major facilities in Edmonton

Considerations

Recreation and culture

- Enhance intergenerational opportunities
- Increase volunteerism opportunities for seniors
- Enhance availability and affordability of seniors programs

Affordable housing

- Propose series of workshops for seniors housing
- County to explore the status and need for affordable housing, and
- Develop an approach to take action on affordable housing

Transit services

- Enhance transit training for seniors
- Pilot rural service from Ardrossan to Sherwood Park



Focus for 2020

- Initiatives for supporting active and engaged seniors
- Investigate seniors village/hub options
- Engage with seniors groups
- Monitor federal and provincial government directions
- Follow up on existing recommendations



