

Priorities Committee Meeting_Jun22_2021

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE**Alcohol in Parks Update****Report Purpose**

To provide Priorities Committee with an update on alcohol consumption in park spaces in Strathcona County.

Our Prioritized Strategic Goals

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

Report

The Parks Bylaw does not allow alcohol consumption in park spaces, but exemptions can be given, following the regulations set out by the Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Act. Exemptions have previously been issued by the Recreation, Parks and Culture department for special events such as Highland Gathering, Ravenwood Music Festival and weddings.

Following Council's direction to investigate potential sites for alcohol consumption, there will be up to six Strathcona County pilot park sites that will allow alcohol consumption in summer 2021. Evaluation of park users' and education/enforcement experiences and feedback will occur in the fall. Based on this evaluation, future considerations will be made for the permitted use of alcohol consumption in Strathcona County parks.

Council and Committee History

May 18, 2021 Council approved THAT by the end of June 2021 Administration prepare a report on options for allowing alcohol consumption in Strathcona County parks.

Other Impacts

Policy: n/a

Legislative/Legal: n/a

Interdepartmental: RCMP and Enforcement Services, Legal and Legislative Services, Communications

Master Plan/Framework: n/a

Communication Plan

A communication plan has been developed for this initiative.

Enclosure(s)

1 Alcohol Consumption in Park Spaces