

Priorities Committee Meeting_Jul11_2023

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE

Community Presentation Day

Report Purpose

This report details current engagement and linkages in the County regarding heritage, history, arts and culture.

Our Strategic Goals and Priorities

Goal 2 - Healthy and Safe Community

Goal 4 - Municipal Excellence

Goal 2 Priority - A diverse, welcoming, inclusive, and an accessible community for all

Goal 4 Priority - Optimal use of resources that meets the community's needs

Report

The outcome for the Recreation and Culture program, outlined in the 2023-26 Business Plan is to increase the quality of life through the engagement of people in active living pursuits and in the protection and enrichment of customs, traditions and values of society and the community. Recreation, Parks and Culture generates meaningful opportunities that contribute to individual and community well-being, provide welcoming places and offer creative and active lifestyle choices. Linkages the County has regarding heritage, history, arts, culture and recreation include:

- Culture Heritage – focus on preserving the history, heritage, customs, and traditions of Strathcona County. This includes music, language, art, expression, traditions, and community experiences.
- Recreation and Culture Delivery - provides services and programming for members of the public to partake in recreational, cultural and leisure activities. This includes programs, events, and activities that targets a variety of ages, locations, skill levels, and activity types.
- Recreation and Culture Facilities - provide individuals or groups access to facility space for recreation and culture purposes, including both indoor and outdoor facilities. This includes booking facilities, as well as accessing unstructured or general use amenities.

The Council approved Arts, Culture and Heritage Community Investment Program supports Strathcona County-based community non-profit arts, culture and heritage organizations to deliver cultural activities, services and programs. Since its creation the Arts, Culture and Heritage Community Investment Program has supported 35 unique groups. The program has been well utilized since its implementation and the majority of eligible projects are funded. Post-COVID the program is seeing a higher volume of applicants. Recreation, Parks and Culture also offers a large-scale community event grant as well as a Community Recreation Event Sport Tourism grant for eligible groups.

Strathcona County has a vibrant culture community with experiences and programs supported through various delivery methods. There are numerous groups delivering meaningful opportunities. We were not able to invite all groups to Community Presentation Day due to time constraints.

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Groups were invited to represent a selection of arts/culture not-for-profit service and program providers dedicated to promoting arts and culture. These groups have linkages to the County through funding, support, facility usage or partnerships.

Groups presenting:

- Edmonton Movie Club
- Wye String Ensemble Society
- Sherwood Park Festival Singers
- Alberta Wildlife Carving Association
- Sherwood Park Musical Festival Association
- Festival Place Cultural Arts Foundation
- Arts and Culture Council of Strathcona County
- Writers Foundation
- Elk Island Regional Honor Choir Association
- Josephburg Choral Society

Non-profit groups that receive support through County grants for arts and culture specific events and activities, and who are not attending Community Presentation Day include:

- Alberta Mennonite Society
- Ardrossan Ukrainian Dancing Association
- Art Society of Strathcona County
- Boys Dance Too Alberta Dance Foundation
- German Language and Culture Association
- Josephburg Agricultural Society
- Music Society of Strathcona County
- Sherwood Park Highland Gathering
- Sherwood Park Quilters Guild
- Strathcona County Heritage Foundation
- Strathcona Vintage Tractor Association

Next Steps:

- Continued liaison with Strathcona County Community Groups and not-for-profit organizations to identify gaps and partnership opportunities.

Council and Committee History

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| April 25, 2023 | THAT the Community Presentation Day report be prepared for Priorities Committee by the revised date of the end of the second quarter of 2023. |
| September 27, 2022 | THAT Administration work with the various community groups to provide a report and presentation to Priorities Committee for the Committee Presentation Day by the end of the first quarter of 2023 on the current engagement and linkages to the County regarding Heritage, History, Arts, Culture, and Recreation |

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Other Impacts

Policy: Cultural Services Policy SER-011-012

Legislative/Legal: N/A

Interdepartmental: Planning and Development Services, Fleet and Facility Services, Family and Community Services

Enclosure

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Community Presentation Day 2023 presentation