



YOUTH CENTRE REIMAGINED – WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

Issue

A summary of findings from community engagement for redeveloping the Youth Centre is provided to Council for information.

Motion Proposed by Administration

That the Youth Centre Reimagined - What We Heard Report be received as information.

Report, Analysis and Financial Implications

The Okotoks Youth Centre provides an important service to our community. The current Youth Centre space is located downstairs at the Okotoks Recreation Centre (ORC) which has posed a combination of supervisory and accessibility challenges. To improve the Youth Centre, Administration recommends relocating it to upstairs at the ORC. To ensure the planning of a new Youth Centre best meets the needs of the community, a combination of in-person and online community engagement was completed. In person engagement regarding youth occurred in school common areas and classrooms at the ORC and at the Okotoks Skate Park Freestyle event and reached 387 individuals. An online parent survey was also undertaken and received 164 responses. The attached report provides a summary of the results and recommendations to reimagine the Okotoks Youth Centre.

At the November 27, 2023 Special Council Meeting, a one-time operating project in the amount of \$0.125M was approved for expenditure in 2024.

Strategic Plan Goals

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Responsibly Managed Growth | <input type="checkbox"/> | Demonstrated Environmental Leadership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Strong Local Economy | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Organizational Excellence | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Enhanced Culture & Community Health |

Equity/Diversity/Inclusivity Impacts and Strategy

By collaborating with school administrations to be able to speak directly to youth, where they are already participating, the engagement process ensured that the feedback received was representative of youth in the entire community.

Environmental Impacts

n/a

Public Participation Strategy

Community Engagement was based on the Town's Community Engagement Phase 1 Policy CMD-R-4.6

Alternatives for Consideration

n/a

CAO Comments

Good to see the new public participation philosophy of going to where those impacted are has made a significant impact on the volume of feedback received.

Attachment(s)

n/a

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