

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

CORPORATE & STRATEGIC SERVICES

Public Participation Initiatives

Culture and Heritage Master Plan

The first draft of the Culture and Heritage Master Plan is currently being developed and will be shared with the public on November 30. The plan reflects feedback and input from the community that was gathered during several engagement activities between July and September. The public is invited to provide additional comments, thoughts and impressions of the goals, strategies and actions that have been developed in the plan. An open house is scheduled for Thursday, November 30 between 6:30 and 8:00 p.m. at the EPCOR Environmental Education Centre, 1118 N Railway Street.

Arts, culture, and heritage are essential to a high quality of life in Okotoks. The plan reflects the needs of its citizens to propel Okotoks forward, reflecting proud origins and a shared passionate future. The creation of the new plan will guide the town for the next 15 to 20 years and ensure that a comprehensive selection of arts, culture and heritage, social programming services, events, community involvement, and facilities are available to all members of the community.

Intelligent Futures has been the project lead in engaging the community and developing a Culture and Heritage Master Plan that reflects this consultation.

Environmental Master Plan

The question: "what can we do to protect and enhance our environment today, and for future generations?" is at the heart of the Town of Okotoks' effort to create an Environmental Master Plan.

Residents indicated through the visioning process in 2014 they would like the Town to continue our leadership as a sustainable community. In order to make this a reality, creating this long-term plan is crucial. It will identify, prioritize and set specific goals and targets for key environmental initiatives for the Town and the community. It will encompass all aspects of the environment: from developing new land, to sustainable practices for energy, water, waste, emissions, urban forests, construction, and transportation networks – anything that impacts the natural world.

The first workshops with stakeholders and staff were held November 23 and 24. A community engagement event (open house and workshop) was held Saturday, November 25 at the Okotoks Recreation Centre from 2:30 – 5:00 p.m. to allow

residents an opportunity to contribute ideas in a fun and interactive way. There will be further opportunities for public input, including an online survey, specific stakeholder workshops and various community events throughout the winter of 2017/2018.

Water Meter Replacement Project

The soft launch for the Water Meter Replacement project commenced Monday, November 20 and will conclude Friday, December 1. Soft launch participants include volunteers from the Town and EPCOR who reside in Okotoks and approximately 10 residents and business owners. A questionnaire was emailed to all the participants with the instructions and a link to the portal. Participants were asked to complete the questionnaire over the next two weeks as they experience the platform. The feedback will be instrumental in making any necessary adjustments to the portal prior to the hard launch in January so customers are able to successfully register, navigate and understand the portal features and information.

Council is encouraged to participate in the soft launch and sending us their feedback and portal experience via
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OnlinePortalFeedbackQuestionnaire>.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Light Up Okotoks

The Light Up Okotoks event took place in the downtown November 17. To the delight of the children Santa arrived at the festivities for the lighting of the tree at 7:00 p.m. There were lots of activities to entertain those attending the event: choirs at Rotary Performing Arts Centre (RPAC), craft sale at the Elks Hall, wagon rides and 20 sponsored fire pits to keep everyone warm, and a fire work display to end the evening. The weather was clear but cold and that had a minor effect on the number in attendance.

Administration is pleased to report that the event sponsorship campaign resulted in Okotoks GM/Nissan stepping up as the major sponsor and this provided \$5K to offset some of the costs of running this event.

Canada 150 Micro Grant

Administration partnered with Healthy Okotoks Coalition (HOC) to apply for a Canada 150 Micro Grant of \$1K to support a December 10 skate day in the community. This application was successful and Administration will be working with HOC to expand the previously scheduled visit with Santa to incorporate additional activities for the 2:15-4:15 p.m. event.

Compiled by:
Chief Administrative Officer's Office
November 23, 2017