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Dave West

Town of Collingwood Weekly Town Page



Thursday, September 30th, 2021

Community Based Strategic Plan:

Council and staff continue driving toward accomplishing our Community Based Strategic Plan (CBSP) vision and goals. The CBSP was approved by Council on June 15, 2020, formed through extensive community engagement.

Collingwood's Vision - Collingwood offers residents and visitors a healthy lifestyle of activities in beautiful and safe settings, including an active transportation network, an inclusive multi-generational artful community with strong civic pride, an animated waterfront and boating facilities, and is a hub of successful entrepreneurs and businesses offering rewarding jobs. Leading-edge staff support Council and community decisions that are progressive, accountable and sustainable, protecting and leveraging Collingwood's core strengths: a vibrant downtown and community, a healthy natural environment attractive in all seasons, an extensive waterfront interconnected with the town, and our strong cultural and built heritage.



- Action on Collingwood Judicial Inquiry recommendations continue.
- The Town's Proceeds from the sale of the hydro utility and airport were allocated to priorities, including: Land Acquisition Reserve Fund, Multi Sports Facility, Heritage Drive, Redevelopment of Hospital, Arts & Culture Legacy Fund, internal loans, Working Capital Reserve Fund, Greening Fund, Waterfront Master Plan Reserve Fund and Lifecycle Replacement Reserve Fund.
- Lobbyist Registry Annual Report to increase accountability and transparency received.
- Affordable Housing Task Force - Asked for community representatives, and this well-qualified task force will provide advice this fall.
- Proactive public engagement on Town decisions, using EngageCollingwood public engagement platform.
- Every Council member formally reaffirmed their adherence to the Code of Conduct.
- Collingwood Legacy Fund was created for multi-recreation facility, Greening/Climate change impact and Arts & Culture.



- Major updates to the Harbour Wavebreak undertaken, which protects the marina tenants from boat damage that may be caused from strong winds / waves.
- Rebuild the Harbour Park Boardwalk to enhance the experience for the park user as they walk through a wetland and get to see various birds and other wildlife.
- Continued momentum in determining the future state of the GrainTerminals, including retaining Archaeological Research Associates Ltd. (ARA) to conduct a Built Heritage Assessment to ensure a clear understanding of the cultural heritage value and interest of the Terminals from the community's perspective. Extensive community engagement is underway.



- The Town is a major sponsor in the 2021 implementation of a Business Accelerator which will dramatically increase the level of services that can be offered to entrepreneurs in Collingwood and the surrounding region.
- Due to the success of the Parks Paid Parking Pilot, in supporting By-law Enforcement during Collingwood busiest tourist seasons, Council approved the program being implemented seasonally each year. Collingwood property owners were granted free parking under this program, with virtual parking passes.
- Expansion of the Water Treatment Plant is underway, with AECOM and Ainley & Associates providing Engineering Services.
- Boulevard Encroachment By-law Review was undertaken to permit temporary Patios Downtown to assist local restaurants to expand their businesses outside during COVID19.

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Year 1 Progress Report

Collingwood's Community Based Strategic Plan includes the work that was identified to drive transformational change toward our collective Vision for our community. There is work identified to occur in the short, medium and longer-term.

With Council and staff both having focusing on these areas for transformation, we have been able to complete a substantial number of items in the first year, and staff are pleased to provide a high level summary below, highlighting some significant items accomplished. It will also be important consider what resources are required to support progress toward our Vision and the current strategic goals as staff proposes and Council deliberates the 2022 budget.



- More By-law Officers are using bicycles to better interact with members of the public while supporting Collingwood as a green and active community.
- Community Safety and Well-Being Plan was adopted by Council and is currently in implementation. The Plan addresses Mental Health & Addictions, Housing and Access to services.
- Energy Management - Staff implemented an Energy Consumption Analysis Tool to review natural gas and electricity consumption across all municipal facilities to monitor efficiency and identify opportunities for improvement.
- Collingwood is taking action on the climate emergency including the introduction of a Climate Change Specialist position (recruitment in process). This position is responsible for the research, development, planning, and implementation of the Town's Climate Action Plan focusing on mitigating the environmental impact of the Town, its businesses, residents, and visitors.
- The Town introduced the Canopy Collingwood program to help increase the urban tree canopy on private lands.



- Pilot Project - The Town Hall clock tower lighting initiative was implemented to bring awareness to community causes.
- PRC - Telling Our Stories Series inspired by the Unity Collective sharing lived experiences launched, including International Women's Day panel, Black History Month with Rita Shelton Deverell and National Access-Ability Week with Tracy Schmitt.
- Initiation of Staff and Council training including: Safer Spaces 2S-LGBTQ+, Cultural Awareness and Indigenous Relations to build knowledge and understanding and deliver more inclusive services.
- The Town introduced On the Water We Love and On the Land We Love initiatives to celebrate our cultural diversity while engaging the community.
- The Town in collaboration with Nordicity Group and Giaimo Architects is undertaking an Arts Centre Feasibility Study.
- The Town installed the Collingwood Pride crosswalk celebrating diversity and inclusion.



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Operational Plan Q2 Progress

The Operational Plan includes significant projects, and items directed by Council.

NEW this year! The Town has been reporting to Council quarterly on all of the projects undertaken by staff, as well as those added or on hold during the quarter.

While COVID-19 has presented the organization with challenges never seen before, staff have risen above and beyond to continue providing exceptional service with the understanding and support of our community.



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