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Recreation Playbook, Phase 3 Implementation Update Information Report

Report Number: 2018-04

Department(s): Recreation & Culture, Community Services

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Date: February 5, 2018

In accordance with the Procedure By-law, any member of Council may make a request to the Town Clerk that this Report be placed on an upcoming Committee of the Whole agenda for discussion.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on how things are progressing with implementation of the recommendations within the Recreation Playbook. Specifically, the community consultation approach for the outstanding recommendations will be explained in more detail.

Background

In 2015, Council adopted the Recreation Playbook. Contained within the Playbook were 50 recommendations falling under three specific themes: Service Delivery and Community Engagement; Facility Improvement and Development; and Pricing Philosophy and Affordable Access.

Service Delivery & Community Engagement:

Over the last three years, the Recreation & Culture Department has accomplished a number of the recommendations including: realigning the department structure to better position the department to respond to emerging trends; develop a volunteer management program; develop an online training portal for staff to ensure consistent messaging and expectations are communicated; establish standards and key performance indicators in the various lines of service delivery; and development of annual parks PIC.

Facility Improvement & Development

The most significant development in this area has been the implementation of a town operated fitness centre at the Magna Centre, which has been extremely successful. A number of other recommendations have also seen significant progress including: development of an artificial turf field in partnership with York Regional District School Board, to be opened in 2018; expansion of shared use schools with new agreements for use of four different schools during the summer months; design of a spray pad to be located at Frank Stronach Park with anticipated opening in 2018; selection of site in Ward 6 for a spray pad with design and consultation to occur in 2018 with construction in 2019.

Pricing Philosophy and Affordable Access

The Recreation & Culture Department is finalizing details around the C.A.R.E. (Creating Accessible Recreation for Everyone) Program. This program adopts the income measurement statistics provided regionally and affords a discount of up to 50% for individuals and families based on the household income. A further report to Council regarding the C.A.R.E. Program will be forthcoming.

Discussion

Over the course of 2018, a number of initiatives will occur that will be critical in advancing recommendations contained within the Recreation Playbook. These initiatives are highlighted again by the category of recommendation:

Service Delivery & Community Engagement

Throughout 2018 research and focused stakeholder discussions will be conducted for the development of a Youth Strategy, a Seniors Strategy and a Sport Vision & Strategy. It will be the goal of staff to present these strategies at the start of the new term of Council.

Facility Improvement & Development

There are a number of key facility developments that are anticipated over the coming years. Over the next few months a series of public consultations will occur to further advance these facility developments. This will include a traditional PIC around design concepts for a spray pad in Ward 6. As well, following the success of the recent iWonder Event (held in partnership with Engineering Services) a series of public engagement events will be held under that branding where possibilities will be explored rather than concept designs presented. Specifically, events will include: an iWonder event held for the development of community wide outdoor skate park; development of a concrete surface adjacent to the Environmental Park (on Woodspring Ave) as well as trail connection and green space northwest of the Dave Kerwin Trail; spaces through the North East quadrant (with discussion around location of a spray pad).

These various consultation sessions will be scheduled prior to May 1st, 2018.

Pricing Philosophy and Affordable Access

Work will begin on a comprehensive review of existing pricing and the development of a new service pricing policy.

Conclusion

There are a number of exciting initiatives that will continue to see progress over the next year. The Recreation Playbook is purposely designed as a living document that is positioned to also allow for response to priorities and opportunities emerging since the adoption of the plan.

Business Plan and Strategic Plan Linkages

Well-balanced

- Striving for cultural harmony and ethnic diversity
- Events that help shape identity and contribute to community spirit

Well-equipped & managed

- Small town feel with city amenities
- Clear vision of the future and aligned corporate/business plans

Well-respected

- Being well thought of and valued for our judgment and insight
- Discovering innovative and creative solutions for future well-being
- Being a champion for co-operation and collaboration
- Being tradition-based and forward-looking

Consultation

The consultation with community is outlined in the discussion section of the report.

Human Resource Considerations

No additional human resource considerations.

Budget Impact

No impacts outside of what has been identified through the budget process.

Attachments

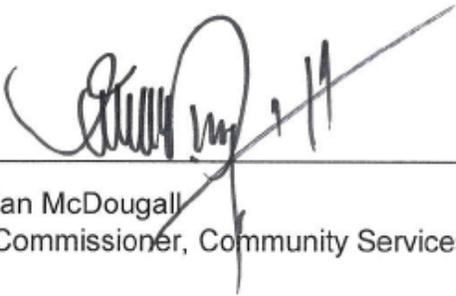
None

Contact

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