

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE**GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE****Further Review of Boards and Committees****Report Purpose**

To consider how to better utilize Council Committees to support and facilitate the achievement of Strathcona County's Strategic Plan, vision and priorities.

History

At the April 11, 2017 Priorities Committee referred the Governance Advisory Committee report titled, Further Review of Boards and Committees, to Council for debate and decision.

Summary*BACKGROUND*

The Report for Information to the Priorities Committee from the Governance Advisory Committee of March 14, 2017 stated that the Governance Advisory Committee believes that there is an opportunity to better utilize Council Committees. The Governance Advisory Committee committed to provide some recommendations on how Council can better communicate priorities to the Council Committees to help inform the activities of the Council Committees by the end of quarter 2 of 2017.

The Terms of Reference for each of the various Council Committees contained in the Boards and Committees Bylaw (Bylaw 46-2015), as amended, sets out a broad statement of purpose and prescribes certain duties and powers. While the Governance Advisory Committee believes that the Terms of Reference are appropriately aligned with the Strategic Plan, it suggests that the Council Committees could benefit from further specific direction to guide their short term activities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Governance Advisory Committee recommends that Administration work with each Council Committees during quarters 2, 3 and 4 of 2017 to develop a list of activities that each Council Committee could perform in 2018 and 2019. Such list would include how each activity would support and facilitate the achievement of Strathcona County's Strategic Plan, vision and priorities.

Following Council's first strategic planning session after the 2017 municipal election, Administration would present Council with proposed Mandate Letters for each Council Committee. The letters would detail the proposed 2018 and 2019 Council Committee activities.

Provided that the Mandate Letters are approved, Council Committees will then have more direction for work to be done during 2018 and 2019. Accordingly, the Mandate Letters will inform the 2018 and 2019 work plans for each Council Committee and will, in turn, inform the annual committee update to the Priorities Committee.