

Seniors Advisory Committee Meeting

Recreation and Culture Strategy
DATE: September 16, 2019



Recreation and Culture Strategy Presentation

WHAT WE HEARD FROM COMMITTEE – AREAS OF FOCUS

AREA OF FOCUS: COMMUNITY NEEDS

How can these priorities be enhanced to support the interests and needs of the community?

What would your committee recommend to consider in the development of the Implementation Plan in this area? (e.g. regular public and stakeholder engagement, prepare site master plans, partnership opportunities, update inventories of places and programs)

Is there anything missing?

- Appropriate transportation is needed
- Needs to be interdepartmental integration – e.g. new developments and transit
- Parks aren't being used, need to get kids outside and have amenities that attract people
- Provide dis-organized sports
- provide intergenerational opportunities (e.g. Multi-generational playgrounds and accessible playgrounds – Whiterock has a zip line that a wheelchair bound person can use)
- Seniors are all different
- Need a range of services – some for just seniors and some for with the grandkids
- need a "senior town" with a wide range of services for seniors
- seniors are being bussed to the city because their senior centres are better (eg South East Edmonton Seniors Association, Millwoods Seniors Association, located on the second floor of the Millwoods Library)
- Men sheds are popular in Australia for retired men with automotive and wood working equipment

AREA OF FOCUS: INCLUSION

How can these priorities be enhanced to support the interests and needs of the community?

What would your committee recommend to consider in the development of the Implementation Plan in this area? (e.g. regular public and stakeholder engagement, prepare site master plans, partnership opportunities, update inventories of places and programs)

Is there anything missing?

- Seniors' rate at ALL facilities including the Broadmoor Public Golf Course
- Seniors age should be 60 rather than 65
- Low income, single women are often the poorest – cost and transportation are barriers

- The threshold for a RAP card is \$21,000 and the Low Income Cut Off is \$24,000. LICO should be used for County subsidy programs **(note – LICO is used for Strathcona County’s subsidy programs)*.
- There is a Widow to Widow group that could be consulted
- Many grandparents are caregivers; include child care in Millennium cards
- In Leduc, afternoon use of facilities by seniors is free
- At the Tri-City Leisure centre, those aged 80+ are free

AREA OF FOCUS: BUILDING CAPACITY

How can these priorities be enhanced to support the interests and needs of the community?

What would your committee recommend to consider in the development of the Implementation Plan in this area? (e.g. regular public and stakeholder engagement, prepare site master plans, partnership opportunities, update inventories of places and programs)

- Is there anything missing? Volunteers should be a large component
- Need a Volunteer Hub to attract for volunteers including seniors, teens, parents need to figure out how to really connect with volunteers (not just an email)
- Provide rewards as incentives (eg. t-shirt)
- Need mentorship and modelling for children by volunteering with their parents
- Tomato Project (to encourage engagement with neighbours)
 - each child was given 3 plants: one to give to a next door neighbor, one for a neighbour that they didn’t know and one to keep
- The work of Volunteer Strathcona was seen as important
- The use of teens as election volunteers was also seen as important



At the conclusion of the meeting, we invited the committee to email rpc.engagement@strathcona.ca should they have any further comments or questions.