

Youth Advisory Committee Meeting

Recreation and Culture Strategy
DATE: October 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?

- Youth engagement is important when making decisions (e.g. youth were not considered with Emerald Hills parking. The school boards were involved, but the students were not included. Information did not flow to the youth.)
- Usually best to engage youth through internet
- Easiest way to get youth engagement is at the transit centre or while riding transit. Incentives are helpful (bus passes, candy, hot chocolate in a back pack)
- Glen Allen Leisure Centre feels light, inviting, welcoming and safe. Sherwood Park Arena and Shell need upgrading to feel the same.

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?

- Do any of our facilities rent sledges? It would be something to consider when being inclusive
- Affordability is definitely a barrier for youth
- Transit – linking times and availability of programs is important
- Would like to see a student discount at Millennium Place (there is one in place for youth, but not one for post secondary students)

- Family price was noted on website that it “includes 2 adults and up to 5 children.” Should state *up to* 2 adults (*change has been made)
- Inclusion training for staff so Strathcona County can lead by example
- Safeway has times specifically for people with sensory issues to feel welcome. Could we consider this in Strathcona County facilities?
- Noticed there is a lack of cultural programming for age ranges between 16-18. Many programs cut off at 16 years and then are offered at 18+. Also, felt that an age range of 18-25 might be good for programs to connect with others around the same age
- Would love to see a Flex Pass available for art and culture programs. This would provide options for youth that can’t commit to weekly sessions
- Art and culture programs tend to be expensive for youth

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)

- A volunteer master list would be helpful as a way to find opportunities to get involved. This list should be able to be searched online
- Gymnasium partnerships are a great way for groups to work together. The gymnasium partnership between Strathcona County and a school is less expensive than Strathcona County building one on it’s own
- Strathcona County should be inclusive of all community groups that would like to use spaces
- Strathcona County should facilitate groups to work collaboratively and leverage partnerships
- Agriculture Facility – need to work together as departments. Campground for facility, will this just be for people attending agriculture shows, or for community use?
- Recreation, Parks and Culture could explore doing an interagency type meeting where groups could come together to explore partnerships/synergies and Strathcona County could facilitate the discussion



At the conclusion of the meeting, we invited the committee to email

rpc.engagement@strathcona.ca should they have any further comments or questions.