

# Council Highlights

## March 6 2023 Committee of the Whole

### 2022 Development Summary Report

2022 highlights include:

- 1,404 new residents (4.4% growth)
- 540 new homes
- 16 to 19 years of land supply in the areas with approved land use
- 4 to 5 years of growth within our current water license limits

### Fire Services Plan Project Update

The Fire Services Master Plan is intended to analyze the department structure, operations and response services to determine recommendations for improved efficiency reflective of the expected growth in the community over the next 10 years.

A consultant has been engaged and has been actively working through the engagement process, which will include engagement in the form of surveys and interviews, along with ongoing project communications.

The community will be invited to provide their feedback from the end of March to mid-April through the Lets Talk Cochrane platform. A final report will be brought back to Council in July for consideration.

### Cochrane Business Incubator

Administration brought forward an updated Operational Plan for the Cochrane Business Incubator.

Incubator Space: With just over 2,000 square feet of space, it's anticipated that there is sufficient office space for seven businesses each having a maximum of four employees.

- Shared Partner Space: The building was built with the intention of providing office space for four economic development business partners, including: Cochrane Chamber, Cochrane Tourism, Innovate Cochrane and Community Futures West.
- Incubator Admission: The entry criteria for the innovation space includes an application form, founder interviews, membership agreement, exit criteria and procedure.
- Community boardroom rental: Free for non-profit groups. \$45/hour fee for for-profit businesses.
- Grant opportunity: Administration is partnering with PrairiesCan and Innovate Cochrane to explore the Regional Innovation Ecosystems (RIE) program – a matching grant that can provide money to support services, programs and human capital to help entrepreneurs create and grow their start-up company.

The 2023 budget includes \$20,000 for Incubator Programming. Administration is proposing to use this money as part of the grant and have it matched to purchase incubator training and programs. The operational plan for Cochrane's Business Incubator is extensive and Administration recognizes the amount of work and resources needed to successfully run the Incubator Operational Plan.

At an upcoming Council meeting, Administration will be seeking Council support for \$50,000 from Economic Development Operations Reserves to include in the REI matching grant proposal to hire a contract resource to assist in running the Incubator.



# Council Highlights

## March 6 2023

### Committee of the Whole

#### Senior Management Position Overview

In response to Councillor Wilson's notice of motion from January 2023, Administration provided an overview of all senior management positions within Cochrane's current organizational chart.

- 2019: 1 CAO, 1 Deputy CAO, 5 General Manager positions (7 senior positions)
- 2020: 1 CAO & 4 General Manager positions (5 senior positions)
- Current: 1 CAO, 3 Executive Directors & 8 Directors (12 senior positions)

Rebuilding the organization has been a deliberate and intentional. The Executive and Director level is designed to support the organization for the foreseeable future, with no additional resources required. Over the next year, the Director of Organizational Strategy will work to build out specific KPIs for each section to demonstrate and measure success.

Currently, there are 5 Director positions filled, two open for recruitment, and one to be posted in Q2 2023. Administration initially anticipated an 18-month phased in approach. This has been accelerated with the approval of the 2022 budget, with only one senior management level position left to fill.