

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Committee of the Whole Highlights
Tuesday, February 22, 2022



DELEGATION: ACTION ON SMOKING AND HEALTH (ASH CANADA)

Members of Action on Smoking & Health (ASH Canada) requested Council consider potential improvements to the Cochrane Smoking Bylaw to create more smoke-free public spaces. The goal of the amendments requested are to further reduce the social acceptability of smoking especially among children and youth.

The Town's current smoking bylaw prohibits smoking/vaping of tobacco in public premises or a public vehicle, on a public recreation facility and in, on or within 5 meters of a playground, sports field, outdoor pool and outdoor skating rink. At Council's direction Administration will review this request and bring recommendations for consideration at a future Council meeting.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE - 2022 WORK PLAN

The Parks & Recreation Committee has established their 2022 work plan priorities with a focus on projects that can provide data and information for consideration in the preparation of the Town of Cochrane Recreation Master Plan. This includes a community connectivity gap analysis, community partnership discussions and a community survey.

The committee will also be considering their Terms of Reference later this year to ensure that the vision and purpose of the committee is consistent with the goals and direction of the Town Community Services department.

COLT SERVICE UPDATE - 2 YEARS OF SERVICE

COLT service officially launched on October 7, 2019, as Canada's first fully on-demand stop-to-stop transit service. COLT's first two years of service were during some of the most unique and challenging years for public transit due to the pandemic. However, COLT was able to leverage its data driven adaptability to reduce the number of buses on the road to match lower levels of demand. By responding to lower ridership COLT was able to save on operational costs, while maintaining service levels.

As a result, COLT came in under budget for both 2020 (22%) and 2021 (4%). In total, more than 65,000 passengers' rode COLT.

As ridership returns to pre-pandemic levels, several service adjustments are being considered to increase ridership, shared rides, and passengers per vehicle hour, including:

- addressing service redundancy with school busing
- increasing vehicle hours as part of the local/regional service integration, and
- exploring on-demand transfers with north and south zones (divided by HWY 1A with Downtown/Quarry overlap).

Council Highlights is a summary of actions and decisions; it is not an official record of the meeting. Council meeting minutes are presented at the next scheduled Council meeting and become official once approved. For the full archive of agendas and minutes, please go to www.cochrane.ca/Agendas

Council Highlights is prepared by Town of Cochrane Legislative Services.
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