

Council Highlights

September 18, 2023

Committee of the Whole

Cochrane Society for Housing Options Affordable Housing Brief

Mitchell Hamm, Director, Community Services introduced Kevin McDonald, Executive Director of the CSHO who provided Committee of the Whole with an update on the Affordable Housing in Cochrane.

With current and future funding announcements from both Federal and Provincial levels of government regarding the creation of new Affordable Housing Product, the Town of Cochrane will need to formulate an Affordable Housing Action Plan to ensure the required municipal resources are obtained and aligned so that we are ready to capitalize on different funding options that will be released over the next few years. Mr. McDonald provided detail on the different models of Affordable Housing in Canada and the Province, what Affordable Housing is currently available to residents of Cochrane, the current need for Affordable Housing in Cochrane is, and the plans for the future of Affordable Housing in Cochrane.

The next step will be to conduct a jurisdictional review, this will capture other municipalities approaches to Affordable Housing development and promotion, focusing on the strengths and lessons learned within their implemented strategy. A budget request will be included in the 2024 Budget for Council's consideration.

2023 6 Month Organizational HR Update

Lisa Almond, Director, Organizational Strategy & Culture provided Committee of the Whole with a six-month organizational Human Resources update, this included an overview of the findings of the 2023 Employee Engagement Survey, and follow up staff workshops, the New Hire Survey and quarter two (2) data points tracked through our Human Resources Department.

Cochrane Ranche ClubHouse - RFP Submission Review

Stacey Loe, Executive Director, Protective & Community Services, presented Committee of the Whole with the findings of the Cochrane Ranche ClubHouse Call for Submissions. At the July 10, 2023 Regular meeting, Council approved a public competition process for community groups to put forward submissions to lease the Cochrane Ranche Clubhouse space. Two submissions were received, one from BGC Cochrane & Area and one from The Society of Curious Minds Cochrane.

It was recommended that Council review the documentation provided and a report requesting award by resolution of Council is intended to be brought forward to the Sept. 25 Regular Council Meeting. The details of the submissions remain confidential in accordance with Section 24(1)(g), Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ~ Advice from Officials.

Community Growth Mid-Year Report

Mark Kryszinski, Director, Community Growth, John Popoff, Manager Planning Services and Mike Korman, Manager Business Development provided an update on the progress of each Department within Community Growth. Community Growth has three priorities for the remainder of 2023 and 2024 which are, ensuring the Municipal Development Plan (Envision Cochrane 2050) continues to advance on schedule, maintain the positive momentum and activation of the Cochrane Station, Incubator Program, and Smart Start, and mitigating increasing resourcing, organizational resiliency, and business continuity risks in the Safety Codes Department.

In Cameras

Three In Camera items were presented to Council pertaining to the Civic Plaza Art, exception under Section 24(1)(g), Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ~ Advice from Officials. Union Negotiations, exception under Section 24(1)(d), Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ~ Advice from Officials and Personnel matters, exception under Section 24(1)(d), Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ~ Advice from Officials.