



City of
Peterborough

To: **Members of the Committee of the Whole**

From: **Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services**

Meeting Date: **November 7, 2016**

Subject: **Report CSRS16-006**
Vision 2025 Final Consultant Presentation

Purpose

A report to present the final draft of the Vision 2025 Ten-year Strategic Plan for Recreation, Parks, Arenas, and Culture, through a presentation by the project consultant.

Recommendations

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report CSRS16-006 dated November 7, 2016, of the Director of Community Services, as follows:

- a) That a presentation by Mr. Robert Lockhart, from RETHINK Group, be received as a final update on the Vision 2025 project, a 10-year Strategic Plan for Recreation, Parks, Arenas, and Culture;
- b) That the final draft of the Vision 2025 Strategic Plan, as attached as to Report CSRS16-006 as Appendix "A" be adopted in principle; and
- c) That the Belief Statement and Guiding Principles identified in the Vision 2025 Strategic Plan be approved and used as planning tools to shape policies and influence priorities for municipal services provided by the City, in the sectors of Recreation, Parks, Arenas, and Culture.

Budget and Financial Implications

There is no budget or financial implication resulting from the approval of the recommendations of this report. Adopting Vision 2025 does not commit Council to any of the recommendations in the 20-Year Vision, the Action Plan or any of the Supplemental Recommendations.

Financial resources required to support specific future projects that align with Vision 2025 will be considered as part of the annual budgeting process, during the ten-year term of the Vision.

Background

The City of Peterborough has contracted with the RETHINK Group, specialists in leisure services planning and management, to prepare Vision 2025, a ten-year strategic plan to guide decision-making for recreation, parks, arenas and culture.

Excerpt from Vision 2025 Executive Summary

Although the focus is on the City of Peterborough, it is understood that the market area for leisure services located within the City extends well beyond the City, and that Peterborough residents use many leisure opportunities that are available in nearby communities.

The study examined the nature of the community, anticipated population growth and change, the parks and open space system, recreation and culture facilities, programming and community events, how services are provided, the state of volunteer engagement in the community, and national trends in leisure and service provision. Implications from that analysis for current and future demand for recreation and culture services were identified. Input from stakeholders and the community further defined leisure demand. System-wide strengths and opportunities were noted, along with current and anticipated challenges and needs.

Community and stakeholder consultation was comprehensive and included the general public, community leaders, the local sports council (Sport Kawartha), the local culture council (Electric City Culture Council), community-based sport/recreation/arena/culture groups, festival and community event organizers, youth and older adult-serving agencies, Peterborough Community Health, the school boards, Fleming College, Trent University, multi-cultural groups, the five advisory committees that relate to Vision 2025, and parks and recreation staff in neighbouring communities. Almost 2,400 individuals, households, groups and organizations were consulted.

The strategic plan comprises the following five elements:

- § The Belief Statement – about the value to the community of parks, recreation and culture
- § The Guiding Principles – to provide the guiding philosophy and policy direction
- § The Twenty-Year Vision ... the Big Picture Look Ahead
- § The Action Plan (Strategic Directions, Objectives and Actions)
- § Supplemental Recommendations

In general, Vision 2025 recommends that increased priority be placed on:

- § support for less organized and structured recreation and culture activities and programs,
- § increasing accessibility to and inclusiveness of recreation and culture opportunities,
- § improving marketing of recreation and culture opportunities,
- § integration of services among the major providers of recreation, culture and open space,
- § community development and support for volunteering and volunteer-based groups,
- § clustering of higher level indoor and outdoor recreation and culture facilities – and the need for larger sites to support this initiative,
- § trails and the on-road cycling network and the linear park and open space system required to support this infrastructure and related activities,
- § programming, events and facilities to support arts and culture,
- § rejuvenation of existing parks and increased quality of new parks and associated facilities and features (especially neighbourhood parks),
- § protection and enhancement of natural heritage resources,
- § recreation and culture services for older adults, and
- § sport, water, culture, and trail-based tourism.

Presentation

On November 7, 2016, Mr. Robert Lockhart will attend the Committee of the Whole meeting to provide a final update on the Vision 2025 project, and present the draft Vision 2025 document. Staff is recommending that Vision 2025 be adopted in principle, and that the Belief Statement and Guiding Principles, as identified below be approved and used as a planning tool to shape policies and influence priorities for municipal services provided by the City, in the sectors of Recreation, Parks, Arenas, and Culture.

Belief Statement:

“We believe that an investment in parks, recreation and culture in Peterborough is an investment in the attractiveness and appeal of our community; and in the betterment of our citizens and our community, the growth of our economy and the protection of the environment.”

Guiding Principles:

- Principle 1: Ensure Financial Sustainability of Facilities, Programming, and Parks and Open Space.
- Principle 2: Maintain a Community Development Approach and Support Volunteering
- Principle 3: Support an Active, Healthy and Engaged Community.
- Principle 4: Provide Accessible, Inclusive and Affordable Opportunities.
- Principle 5: Enhance Connectedness throughout the Community.
- Principle 6: Complement Rather than Compete.
- Principle 7: Continue to be Collaborative and Increasingly Integrated.
- Principle 8: Optimize Facility Use.
- Principle 9: Cluster High Level Outdoor and Indoor Facilities.
- Principle 10: Locate for Visibility, Prominence and Access.
- Principle 11: Be Environmentally Responsible.
- Principle 12: Support Alignment of Plans and Strategies.

The Vision 2025 Strategic Plan, Background Report, and Consultation Report are attached as Appendices A, B, & C, respectively.

Submitted by,

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Attachments:

Appendix A – Vision 2025 Strategic Plan
Appendix B – Vision 2025 Background Report
Appendix C – Vision 2025 Consultation Report