

Media Release



October 13, 2021 Stratford Town Council Meeting Summary

For Immediate Release: October 14, 2021

The following items were discussed at the regular monthly meeting of the Stratford Town Council held on Wednesday, October 13, 2021.

Community Campus Land Lease Request Policy

A resolution was approved creating the Community Campus Land Lease Request Policy, Policy #2021-RCE-01. Through this policy a transparent process has been created to evaluate any organization making a request to be located within the Community Campus property.

Community Campus Land Lease Request by Island Gymnastics Academy

Through the Community Campus Land Lease Request Policy, an application has been received from Island Gymnastics Academy expressing interest in leasing a parcel of land from the Town of Stratford for \$1 per year in the Community Campus for a new 16,500 square foot, net zero training facility. Stratford Town Council has reviewed the request and is amenable to leasing a 2.5 acre parcel of land in the Community Campus due to the positive recreational, physical, social, mental, and economic impacts to residents of Stratford of the facility being located within the Town, and in accordance with the policy will make the public aware through notice in The Guardian newspaper and on the Town's website, which will allow for comments to be received on this application.

Waterfront Plan Adoption

Council passed a resolution adopting the conceptual Waterfront Plan to guide the design and development of a waterfront park that includes a future boardwalk, active transportation connections, natural & manicured park space, and play areas amongst other features, as well as the Waterfront Core Area lands.

"We would like to thank the residents and stakeholders for their participation during the various public engagement opportunities," said Stratford Mayor Steve Ogden. "This participation has led to a truly community driven plan from which we will begin to work on developing as funding permits, starting with the anticipated installation of the boardwalk in 2022."

The complete plan is available on the Town of Stratford's website.

Reserve Funds Bylaw Schedule Amendment

Two new reserve funds were approved by resolution to be added to Schedule A of the Town's Reserve Funds Bylaw, Bylaw #29. This bylaw establishes a reserve to set aside funds for specific purposes. The Emergency Services Centre Capital Reserve will provide for expenditures associated with the rehabilitation or replacement of existing capital infrastructure, or portions thereof, to the Emergency Services Centre. The Public Art Reserve will provide contributions for future public art pieces throughout the Town of Stratford.

Reallocation of Funds

The Town of Stratford has an estimated \$4,025,406 in funding from the existing (2020-2024) Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) that has not yet been spent. Of the estimated surplus, there is \$908,093 in unallocated funding due to a change in the funding and an accumulation of interest. An estimated amount of \$515,244 needs to be reallocated due to slower than anticipated development of the core area and \$430,000 due a change in planned Town Centre renovations. Town Council voted to reallocate the following projects that were approved in the 2021-25 capital budget:

- \$685,485 for budgeted active transportation projects
- \$259,759 for the development of roads in the Community Campus.

The \$908,093 in unallocated funding will also be reallocated to the development of roads in the Community Campus that was approved in the 2021-25 capital budget.

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