

Overview of Section C – Our Vision and Strategic Goals

This section is intended to provide an introduction to the Official Community Plan (OCP) and its use. The section is proposed to include the two subsections:

1. Civic Vision
2. Our Relationships & Partnerships

Details on each subsection and the source of its content is included below.

C1 – Civic Vision

This section entrenches the Strategic Goals and their descriptions as articulated in the [Strategic Plan](#). The goals are as follows:

- Culture of Continuous Improvement
- Asset & Financial Sustainability
- Quality of Life
- The Environment
- Sustainable Growth
- Moving Around
- Economic Diversity & Prosperity

The wording describing each goal is taken verbatim from what is included in the Strategic Plan.

C2 – Our Relationships & Partnerships

This section provides information on relationships and partnerships regarding:

- Regional Context
- Indigenous Partners
- Reconciliation
- Wanuskewin Heritage Park
- Meewasin Valley Authority
- University of Saskatchewan
- Federal and Provincial Government
- Public Engagement

Overviews of each topic are included below.

Regional Context

The section provides context on the region that the city of Saskatoon exists within and provides a summary of the other rights holders, key stakeholders and orders of government

that the City shared the region with. It is an update to Section 2.2 of the current OCP, which reads as follows:

“The City of Saskatoon has evolved to become one of two primary service centres in Saskatchewan, with a trade area of over 500,000 people, serving the central and northern parts of the Province. Saskatoon is a major centre for the manufacturing and distribution of goods and services for industry and agriculture, as well as providing specialized educational and health care services, including the University of Saskatchewan and three major hospitals. Saskatoon also offers many cultural, entertainment and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.

The City of Saskatoon shares the Region with several urban and rural municipalities, First Nations, and other authorities, both within and outside the City Limits. The operations of the City and these other jurisdictions have major influences on each other. In recognition of this principle, the City of Saskatoon will continue to seek and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with all nearby municipalities and other jurisdictions in the implementation of this Plan and in the on-going objective of regional cooperation.”

No significant changes were made to the existing wording.

Indigenous Partners

This is a new section that provides an overview of the City of Saskatoon’s relationship with its Indigenous partners. This includes:

- Recognizing the distinct orders of government of First Nations and Métis;
- A commitment to maintaining strong relationships through meaningful dialogue with Indigenous communities and organizations;
- A recognition that strengthening cooperation and mutual support by working in partnership with Indigenous communities towards respective community goals and objectives is vital to fostering more inclusive communities; and
- A summary of some ways that the City of Saskatoon and some First Nations have partnered on projects over the last 30 years.

The proposed wording of this section is based on wording contained in the following documents:

[Year of Reconciliation Begins July 1st \(PSA\):](#)

“One goal in the Quality of Life section of Saskatoon’s Strategic Plan, is to strengthen relations with local Aboriginal organizations. A four year priority is to develop partnerships and programs with Aboriginal organizations that will assist in enhancing economic, employment and training opportunities.”

[ayisiyiniwak: A Communications Guide](#)

(pg. 4). *“The City of Saskatoon plays a leading role in supporting and enhancing relationships with First Nations peoples in a wide range of areas. Saskatoon has led in the development of urban reserves that have mutually benefited economic advancement and community level engagement. Through this Guide, the City of Saskatoon is furthering their leadership role by encouraging civic administration to practice an appreciation of the Indigenous cultures of the region (Treaty 6 Territory).”*

The information was then reviewed by City staff with particular knowledge and experience regarding local history and Indigenous communities. This included Director of Indigenous Initiatives Gilles Dorval, Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Coordinator Becky Sasakamoose-Kuffner, as well as staff from Community Development, Planning & Development and Communications & Public Engagement. Former Executive Director of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, Harry Lafond, also reviewed the section and provided additional advice and content.

Reconciliation

This is a new section that provides an overview of the City of Saskatoon’s commitment to reconciliation. This includes:

- An overview of the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s (TRC) findings and the importance of Truth and Reconciliation as a means of honouring and strengthening relationships with Indigenous people;
- An acknowledgement of the impacts of Canada’s colonial history and residential school system on local Indigenous people, their families, and communities; and
- A summary of the City of Saskatoon’s work towards addressing the TRC’s municipally directed calls to action and a commitment to continue that work.
- A commitment to continued partnerships with Indigenous people and organizations that create opportunity for meaningful dialogue and participation in the future of Saskatoon that benefits all residents.

The proposed wording for this section is based on wording contained in the following documents:

[The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action and The City of Saskatoon’s Response:](#)

(pg. 9): City Council, at its meeting held on June 22, 2015, resolved that:

“1. the Administration report back to City Council about what will be required to adopt and implement the relevant calls to action highlighted in the Truth and Reconciliation Committee report of June 2, 2015, including any financial implications and that any implementation costs be included in the 2016 budget deliberations.”

2. *the City of Saskatoon declare July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 the year of reconciliation and that the Administration work with the Office of the Treaty Commission, and other community groups, leaders and institutions in Saskatchewan, to promote reconciliation in our province.*

Year of Reconciliation Begins July 1st (PSA):

“The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Report issued 94 recommendations, nine of which apply directly and indirectly to municipal levels of government. The areas include language and culture, health, reconciliation, repudiation of European sovereignty, training for public servants, missing children and burial information, National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation and sports reconciliation. (Recommendations 17, 23, 43, 47, 57, 75, 77, 87, 88)”

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(pg. 4). *“The City of Saskatoon plays a leading role in supporting and enhancing relationships with First Nations peoples in a wide range of areas. Saskatoon has led in the development of urban reserves that have mutually benefited economic advancement and community level engagement. Through this Guide, the City of Saskatoon is furthering their leadership role by encouraging civic administration to practice an appreciation of the Indigenous cultures of the region (Treaty 6 Territory).*

City of Saskatoon Indigenous Initiatives – Reconciliation Saskatoon website:

“The 98 member initiative, known as Reconciliation Saskatoon, joined together to further a citywide conversation about the process of Canadian reconciliation, provide opportunities for transformative experiences at events, and inspire citizens to engage in calls to action.”

The information was then reviewed by City staff with particular knowledge and experience regarding local history and Indigenous communities. This included Director of Indigenous Initiatives Gilles Dorval, Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Coordinator Becky Sasakamoose-Kuffner, as well as staff from Community Development, Planning & Development, and Communications & Public Engagement. Former Executive Director of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, Harry Lafond, also reviewed the section and provided additional advice and content.

Wanuskewin Heritage Park

This section provides a short overview of the history of Wanuskewin Heritage Park and its importance of as a historical, cultural and educational space. The wording highlights the importance of the site itself, as well as the history that led to the creation of the Wanuskewin Heritage Park.

The proposed wording for this section is based on materials produced by Wanuskewin Heritage Park and has been reviewed by Wanuskewin staff.

Meewasin Valley Authority

This section provides a short overview of the history of the Meewasin Valley Authority, its history, legislative context, mandate, and the value it provides to the City and its residents.

The proposed wording for this section is based on wording contained in the [City of Saskatoon Municipal Manual 2018](#) and has been reviewed by Meewasin staff.

University of Saskatchewan

This section highlights how the University of Saskatchewan and the City of Saskatoon work cooperatively and in partnership with each other in a number of different areas including land use planning matters. It highlights the recent signing of a Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of strategically building upon the existing collaboration between the two partners as directed at the [September 18, 2017 City of Saskatoon Governance and Priorities Committee](#).

Federal and Provincial Government

This section highlights importance of the City working with the Government of Canada and the Province of Saskatchewan to promote Saskatoon and secure funding for projects and programs to enhance the quality of life for residents.

Public Engagement

This section highlights the importance of public engagement in creating a healthy and sustainable community. It acknowledges that:

- Knowledgeable and involved residents, with opportunities to make meaningful contributions to decision-making processes, are better equipped to address community challenges and more likely to value their community; and
- Engagement can help residents understand the importance of sustainability and the links between social, cultural, economic, and environmental issues.

The section also provides an overview of the community engagement process that City Council has adopted and when it is applied and identifies the recently approved Public Engagement Policy as the means through which the City provides a consistent approach to engagement with the public.

The proposed wording for this section is based on wording contained in the following documents:

Saskatoon Speaks

(pg. 24): *“Saskatoon Speaks demonstrated the city’s commitment to engaging the community in planning the city. There is a strong desire to see this commitment extended and to find more ways for people to be involved in meaningful dialogue about planning issues and proposed initiatives.”*

(pg. 29): *“People are actively engaged in their communities and the governance of their city. Saskatoon’s community spirit is strong and people’s well-being comes first. By collaborating, we work as one community to address challenges and succeed. Everyone enjoys a sense of belonging and a good quality of life.”*

Community Engagement Manual

(pg. 5): *“On July 19, 2004, Saskatoon City Council adopted a community engagement process to provide a consistent approach to engagement of the public*

in civic matters. The engagement process is applied when the Administration or City Council want to inform the public, gather face-to-face comments or get input on specific initiatives, projects, new bylaws, bylaw amendments or other civic responsibilities prior to final recommendations, approval or endorsement.”;
(pg. 5, Section 2 pg. 2): *“Community engagement is an ongoing process involving communication and interaction between the City of Saskatoon and its residents. The extent of public involvement spans a continuum from simply informing to consulting to involving. By communicating directly, all parties become better informed about the range of views on issues and proposals. Done well, community engagement results in decisions that are more sensitive and responsive to public concerns and values.”*

[Public Engagement Policy](#) (approved by Council July 29, 2019):

The above section was initially drafted prior to the new Public Engagement Policy, but was updated with direction from City of Saskatoon Community Engagement Manager, Dazawray Landrie-Parker, to ensure it aligns with the direction and wording used in the new Public Engagement Policy.