

MEETING DATE: June 27, 2022

SUBMITTED BY: A. Ulrickson, Acting Director, Community & Social Development

PREPARED BY: A. Ulrickson, Acting Director, Community & Social Development

REPORT TITLE: Homelessness Prevention and Poverty Framework Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Framework presented on March 21, 2022 provided a strong foundation for short term, intermediate and long-term decision making that will guide the strategic implementation of solutions in response to a need for plans, policies and initiatives targeting homelessness prevention and poverty. The Framework must complement and facilitate other efforts already underway; as well as, guide collaborative partnerships in planning for a community response.

BACKGROUND

At the December 2, 2019, Council Meeting the following motion was passed: *Moved: Councillor B. Beckett – That Administration be directed to investigate homelessness in Leduc and create a strategy of how Council can provide support.*

January 13, 2020 – Council presentation on steps taken to collaborate with local agencies supporting those experiencing homelessness.

August 17, 2020 – Committee-of-the-Whole meeting: the FCSS Advisory Board provided an update on homelessness and advised of next steps for an approach to identifying the City's needs and foundational information to make decisions on a Homelessness Strategy.

February 6, 2021 - Council's Strategic Planning session: the presentation provided a summary of statistics and research regarding homelessness and poverty in the City. At that time, Council agreed to create a Task Force comprised of community stakeholders who would discuss the current environment in terms of poverty in Leduc and create a road map to addressing homelessness prevention and poverty in the City. The Request for Proposal process was conducted, resulting in Applications Management Consulting Ltd. being the successful proponent responsible for developing a homelessness prevention framework.

March 21, 2022- Applications Management Consulting Ltd., presented the Homelessness Prevention and Poverty Framework which was a result of their research and consultation. Council approved the Framework as presented.

NEXT STEPS

Administration has identified areas of targeted focus for the remainder of 2022 and to guide focus on for future plans, strategies and actions in early 2023 and in coming years:

Strategy 1: Improve Access to Services

- 1.A. Explore options for a Mobile Community Navigator service level.

COUNCIL INFORMATION ITEM

1.B. Collaborate with Leduc Transit to work along side them and the progress already being championed in order to explore, expand and enhance the existing affordable transit options for our community.

1.C. Investigate and invest in early conversations regarding options for a Centralized Community Resource Centre.

Strategy 2: Everyone in Leduc has housing that is affordable, safe, secure and suitable

2.B. Support immediate short-term shelter/housing needs in our community.

2. A. & C.- Advocacy:

Explore levels of advocacy available in this regard. Work closely with internal stakeholders to cultivate and refine messaging specific to our needs to ensure our advocacy asks are measurable and centred on deliverables that will be meaningful.

2.D. Begin exploration and investigation of options for transitional and permanent supportive housing.

Strategy 3: Mental Health & Addiction

3.C. Develop a collaborative, broad-based community engagement and education initiative concentrating specifically, on the destigmatizing of perceptions of the causes of homelessness and poverty in our community.

ATTACHMENTS

Leduc Homelessness Prevention and Poverty Framework

Council June 27 PowerPoint