

Town of Milk River

Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021



Town Of
Milk River

Strategic Plan 2018-2021

Overview

Since being elected to Council on October 16, 2017, Town Council and members of administration have been involved in several training and educational sessions, tours of the community and priority planning sessions, which all contributed to a formal planning process that concluded on January 19, 2018. Further, numerous plans, processes, and long-term planning documents were reviewed throughout this process.

Council reviewed the progress made by the previous Council while developing a new set of ideas, initiatives, and goals that will be utilized as the guiding principles for this Council. These guiding principles are the foundation of setting clear strategic direction through progressive leadership and long-term planning. Council feels it is important to both celebrate our past successes and utilize our areas needing improvement as building blocks for the future. We believe Milk River residents are innovative, hardworking, creative and community minded, which all contribute to making Milk River such an attractive community.

Key Participants & Contact Information

Town Council

Mayor Peggy Losey – losey@milkriver.ca

Councillor Suzanne Liebelt – liebelt@milkriver.ca

Councillor Margaret McCanna – mccanna@milkriver.ca

Councillor Leonard McCulloch – mcculloch@milkriver.ca

Councillor Phil Wright – wright@milkriver.ca

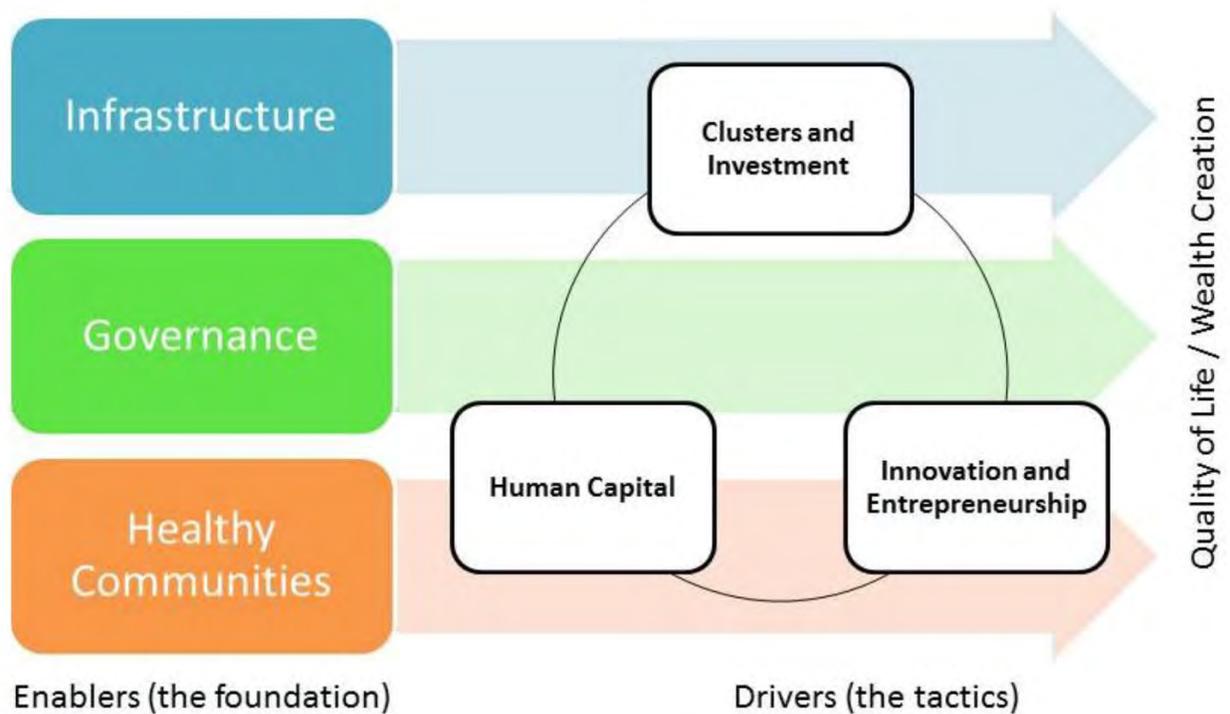
Administration

Ryan Leuzinger – Chief Administrative Officer – cao@milkriver.ca

Samuel Beliveau – Public Works Foreman – publicworks@milkriver.ca

Pillars of Success

Council examined the key aspects that define a successful community and came up with the following diagram to highlight the importance of high quality infrastructure, progressive leadership through good governance, and ensuring the dynamics of a healthy community. The success of this plan will be reviewed annually and may be amended to ensure that we are a dynamic community that can respond quickly and strategically.



Infrastructure

Council is committed to managing, investing, and planning safe infrastructure that contributes to the high quality of life all residents, as well as enabling the ability to grow and attract new business opportunities well into the future.



Actions

- Short and long-term infrastructure maintenance programs are in place and followed
- Ensure short and long-term plans are up to date and utilized to help planning
- Ensure cost effective and innovative solutions to infrastructure repair and maintenance
- Ensure the core infrastructure is in place and maintained to enable economic and commercial development within the community

Short Term Success Indicators

- Booster station upgrade
- Main street water main and sewer main replacement
- Storm drainage (ie. curbing or bio swales) on the west side of the 7th hole on the golf course along 1st Ave SW
- Completion of the Raw Water Reservoir Expansion project
- Completion of the Riverside Wetlands Enhancement project
- Essential infrastructure services continue to adhere to legislation
- Sidewalk repair and replacement program

Long Term Success Indicators

- Infrastructure Master Plan update and continued implementation
- Implement alternative energy options with Town facilities
- Road resurfacing program
- Completion of water line looping throughout Town
- On or off stream dam or reservoir on the Milk River to ensure a stable water supply for Town
- In river energy generation and alternative energy options are explored and implemented

Governance

Council is committed to being progressive leaders that will provide strong governance where fiscal responsibility and strong intergovernmental relationships are encourage.

Actions

- We effectively leverage our market and local strengths to maximize economic and tourism development
- We actively participate and enable regional & intergovernmental partnerships
- Promote Milk River as a Town that is business-friendly and open for business & investment
- Seek innovate ways to conduct business to ensure the affordability of taxes

Short Term Success Indicators

- Development of a joint Milk River and Coutts water conservation bylaw
- Implementation of a curbside recycling program in conjunction with the Chief Mountain Solid Waste Authority
- Continue to participate in and promote regional partnerships
- Increased communication with the community through varied approaches
- Continue to introduce online services to increase customer service
- Continued strong relationships between Council and administration

Long Term Success Indicators

- Innovative partnerships that yield long lasting mutual benefits
- Continued stabilized tax rates
- Sustained growth over the long term
- Operating and capital reserves are maintained and/or increased to meet future needs



Healthy Community

Council is committed to ensuring the Town is a healthy and vibrant community that encourages healthy and active lifestyles.



Actions

- Town initiatives and actions to ensure a clean and attractive community
- Council supports initiatives that contribute to a sustainable and healthy environment
- We ensure opportunities to participate in all aspects of the community that foster a sense of belonging

Short Term Success Indicators

- Hiring a recreation and community building focused position within administration
- Town beautification
 - North and South entrances into Town
 - Along Railway St
 - Additional Flower Pots
- Varied and affordable residential and commercial subdivision options are available
- Walking path development
- Implement water conservation projects
 - Rain barrel program, xeriscaping, etc.
- Writing on Stone Provincial Park obtaining World Heritage Site designation

Long Term Success Indicators

- Development of a new recreation center
 - Outdoor swimming pool and splash park, Curling rink, etc.
- Additional businesses are developed within Town because of other supporting actions by the Town
- Active promotion of what the Town has to offer both potential residents and businesses

Additional Opportunities

Council is aware that many important projects are beyond the scope of this plan; however, as additional grant and funding opportunities arise, the following projects and initiatives are under consideration:

- County road oiling – mainly from 8th Ave NE to 10th Ave NE
- Outdoor exercise equipment
- New curling rink
- Outdoor ball hockey rink
- Disc golf course
- Gun range



2017 Strategic Successes (to name a few)

- 8th Avenue Road Rehabilitation
- New wheelchair ramp, sidewalk extension and drainage repairs at the Prairie Rose Lodge
- Provided free recycling bags for the new yard waste recycling program
- Approved for a grant for up to \$1,395,000 to help build a new Raw Water Storage Reservoir, which will more than double our storage capacity
- Approved for a grant for \$1,497,600 for the Riverside Wetland Enhancement Project, which will create 3 wetlands on the golf course, amongst many other benefits of this project
- Continued with the sidewalk trip hazard removal program
- All streetlights were converted to LED bulbs
- Realized 44% voter turnout during the 2017 General Municipal Election
- Completed the review and redrafting of the Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plan
- Finalized the land sale to Green Living Agricultural Company to enable the business to develop a medical marijuana growing facility in Milk River.
- Hosted the *13 Ways to Kill Your Community* presentation with Doug Griffiths
- Received a grant for \$3,000 from FORTIS Alberta to be used towards the playground project
- Implemented the Towns' new Facebook page

For more information, contact us at:



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