



2026-  
2029

# Council's Draft Strategic Plan



Approved Month Day, 2026

## Letter from Town Council

Your Council has developed a strategic plan that outlines our objectives for the Town and serves as the roadmap Council is choosing to take for the current term (2025-2029). It guides Administration in their work and sets the key strategic priorities Council wishes to accomplish over the course of our term. Some priorities and objectives will extend beyond this term and will also contribute to the success of future Town Councils.

This plan is the result of the responsibility placed on your municipal elected officials to provide strategic direction to municipal administration and what Council has heard from community members.

Our Strategic Plan is not a beginning or an end but rather represents steps along a path toward our long-term vision. We will use our Strategic Plan to lead, direct, and make informed decisions that reflect our values and enhance the quality of life for residents of all ages. As your Council, we are proud to be sharing this plan with you, the residents and ratepayers of Castor.

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## Introduction

The Strategic Plan (2026-2029) describes the areas which Council will focus on during their term and provides direction to Administration to plan and prioritize work and inform future budgets.

Development of the Strategic Plan was informed by the 2026 Interim Budget and Municipal Development Plan, as well as input received from the community through formal and informal opportunities. The plan is reviewed and updated by Council on an annual basis to ensure its relevance and to confirm Council's priorities.

## Background

The 2019-2020 Strategic Plan was adopted on March 11, 2019.

With the expiration of the 2019-2020 Strategic Plan coupled with the 2025 municipal election, Town Council has developed this 2026-2029 Strategic Plan.

## Vision, Mission, and Values

In looking towards the future of the Town of Castor, it is important that Council members agree on what the destination looks like. With this in mind, Council decided on the Town's idea long-term future (Vision) and the general direction it will take to achieve that future (Mission).

### Vision

The vision is a high-level statement that expresses what the future looks like. Our vision has been crafted to be inspiring, energizing and motivating both internally and externally.

The Strategic Plan is intentional about the areas where focus must occur to advance our vision for the Town. It is a roadmap, guiding our vision for the future – a plan to get us from where we are today to where we want to be.

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*The Town of Castor is a vibrant, intergenerational community where people of all ages live, work and play.*

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## Mission

Our mission statement communicates what we do and who we serve.

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*Through effective governance and collaboration, we provide residents with cost-effective services and programs to develop and maintain a safe, viable and vibrant community for all.*

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## Values

The values expressed here, in alphabetical order, determine how the Town operates, both publicly and privately.

### Accountability

Be responsible resource stewards by operating in a safe, efficient and cost-effective manner.

### Collaboration

Seek out committed partnerships by building and maintaining strong relationships through mutual respect and open communication.

### Leadership

Serve our community by listening, engaging in prudent decision-making, and considering the best interests of the community. We encourage residents to take an active role in their community.

### Transparency

Conduct Town business in public whenever possible. Council and administration operate in an open and accessible manner while still respecting privacy legislation.

Act with mutual respect and integrity to build trust and foster transparency.

## Strategic Priority Areas

### Facilities and Infrastructure

We are committed to developing sustainable infrastructure that supports the needs of current and future residents and to maintaining high quality community and recreation facilities that enrich the lives of our residents and attracts visitors to the community.

Strategic Priority: Plan for and develop high-quality, long-lasting infrastructure and facilities that meet the needs of residents and supports future growth.

Objectives	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop, maintain, update or replace infrastructure as necessary to service our current needs as well as future growth.</li><li>• Continue to maintain, update or replace facilities to provide enhanced opportunities for recreation and culture.</li><li>• Manage Castor's current and future infrastructure needs with diligent planning and affordable spending.</li><li>• Continue to seek and obtain additional sources of revenue to mitigate the financial impact on residents and businesses.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The community has the infrastructure it needs, developed in a manner that uses resources sustainably, with a view of the long term.</li><li>• Plans in place for proactive maintenance (i.e. snow and ice removal, asphalt patching, crack sealing, line painting) to ensure public safety, accessibility, and the longevity of transportation networks and facilities.</li></ul>

### Communications

We are committed to being accountable to our residents by providing transparent and accessible information.

Strategic Priority: Provide meaningful communication in a timely, transparent, and open manner.

Objectives	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communicate effectively with our residents, customers, partners, and stakeholders.</li><li>• Increase public access to Town information, programs, and services.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase community knowledge and participation.</li><li>• Enable individuals to find the information they need.</li></ul>

## Economic Development and Tourism

Strategic Priority: Strive for a diverse economy with thriving businesses, quality jobs, and growing business opportunities.

Objectives	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the expansion and retention of existing businesses while attracting new commercial (focus on hotel accommodations) and light industrial.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased business attraction and business diversity.</li> <li>Increased non-residential tax base.</li> <li>Hotel accommodations in Castor or the region.</li> </ul>

Strategic Priority: Promote a vibrant community that meets the needs of residents and attracts visitors and future residents.

Objectives	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Showcase what Castor has and the positive benefits of living and locating businesses in Castor.</li> <li>Communicate the currently available recreational opportunities to our residents and visitors.</li> <li>Castor values parks, trails, open space, and trees as part of our community's natural waterways, beauty, and social culture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Castor is active and inviting.</li> <li>Castor has strong partnerships with community organizations and businesses that enhance our community offerings.</li> </ul>

## Community Health and Safety

Strategic Priority: Support public safety and security of residents as well as strengthen community healthcare services.

Objectives	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support, collaborate and educate on community crime prevention, safety, and well-being as well as emergency mitigation and preparedness.</li> <li>Support the attraction and retention of healthcare professionals and RCMP members in our community.</li> <li>Support the enhancement of local fire and ambulatory services to respond safely and effectively to identified community risks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents take an active role in their security and disaster preparedness.</li> <li>A physician establishes a practice in Castor.</li> <li>RCMP member(s) live in Castor.</li> <li>Fire department members are adequately trained and equipped.</li> </ul>

## Council's Advocacy Priorities

Council recognizes that there are challenges facing our community that are outside of our direct ability as a municipality to address. These issues are very important to Council and as such, have been identified as Advocacy Priorities. Over the course of their term, Council will be advocating to the provincial and federal governments for the following priorities:

- Local Helipad
- Funding Options for Aging Water and Wastewater Infrastructure
- Overall Costs and Municipal Contributions under the Police Funding Model

When Council has been successful advocating for one of the listed priorities, that item will be replaced with a new priority.

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