

SELKIRK FIVE YEAR COMMUNITY PLAN

2017 - 2022



COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS

Between August 2016 and February 2017, a seven-member Steering Committee led by the Selkirk Community Renewal Corporation (SCRC), undertook a community consultation process to inform the development of the 2017-2022 Five Year Community Plan for Selkirk. Steering Committee members represented the following organizations: Growing Years Family Resource Centre, Youth for Christ, Gordon Howard Centre, Nova House, SCRC.

The consultation process included the development and distribution of an online survey, resulting in 282 surveys being completed. In addition to the survey, a total of 51 people participated in five focus groups. The focus group sessions were facilitated and recorded by individuals from the local community.

The data resulting from both survey and focus groups provided a profile of the key assets, concerns and priorities respondents felt were representative of Selkirk. Following analysis of this data, the Steering Committee identified 8 priorities for the Selkirk Five Year Plan.

On January 18th 2017, a community meeting was held with 10 participants in attendance. The purpose of the meeting was to share the highlights of the data collected and ask participants to consider if the community's priorities were adequately portrayed and to add to the priorities by identifying groups and partners in the community who were already involved in similar work.

The result of the consultation process is a set of priorities and associated strategies for Selkirk, that can be used to confirm and guide the work of community partners for the next five years. These priorities and strategies are reflective of cares and concerns respondents shared with the Steering Committee and are consistent with the objectives of the Neighbourhoods Alive! program.

SCRC and the planning Steering Committee thank all the stakeholders, interested citizens, businesses, agencies and groups that participated through the community survey, focus groups and meetings. We also acknowledge the assistance provided by Lorch and Associates and Catapult Community Planning, with the planning and consultation process.

FIVE YEAR COMMUNITY PRIORITIES & STRATEGIES

PRIORITY #1: COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLBEING

- Support and coordinate more affordable and accessible sport and recreation programming for youth
- Create affordable and accessible arts and cultural programming
- Increase access to affordable, fresh food
- Create more options for/accessibility to seniors programs
- Enhance and develop parenting programs
- Explore opportunities for creating a multi-use wellness and recreation centre

PRIORITY #2: HOUSING DIVERSITY AND SUPPORTS

- Identify current housing needs and strategies to address those needs
- Advocate for investment in low-income housing units and explore private investment incentives
- Strengthen tenant education and advocacy supports and facilitate relationship building with landlords
- Enhance and promote resources and supports for first time homeowners
- Develop and enhance supports for homeless or those at risk for becoming homeless

PRIORITY #3: COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Develop “Buy-In-Selkirk” initiatives to encourage shopping in Selkirk
- Encourage local business development
- Increase the involvement of local businesses in community building
- Encourage activity and investment on east Manitoba Avenue

PRIORITY #4: COMMUNITY SAFETY

- Identify and address lighting needs in Selkirk
- Increase the accessibility and visibility of police
- Support safe, evening programming and meeting places for youth
- Develop and support strategies aimed at Improving crime prevention
- Increase pedestrian and cyclist safety

PRIORITY #5: AN AWARE & ENGAGED COMMUNITY

- Develop a strategy for sharing information about existing or new programs, services, events and organizations
- Engage and advocate City Council on community priorities
- Encourage neighbourhood-based activities and events through incentives and supports
- Encourage and support engagement opportunities for youth, particularly in revitalization initiatives

PRIORITY #6: BEAUTIFICATION & REVITALIZATION

- Develop a strategy to address abandoned / neglected buildings
- Improve the exterior condition of existing housing/business properties through incentives
- Support the restoration of important natural areas
- Encourage and support further development of the waterfront
- Support and encourage neighbourhood clean-ups and beautification activities

PRIORITY #7: COMMUNITY INCLUSION & HUMAN DIGNITY

- Establish opportunities to increase cultural knowledge and celebrate diversity
- Create and strengthen supports for new Canadians
- Provide supports for community-based mental health services
- Identify those most isolated/overlooked and collaborate on ways to reduce barriers
- Enhance existing Indigenous resources in Selkirk

PRIORITY #8: EMPLOYMENT READINESS & SUPPORTS

- Increase community awareness of and access to existing locally-available skills training and job experience programming
- Strengthen youth mentorship opportunities
- Increase the number of quality, affordable child care spaces in Selkirk
- Create more local employment and training opportunities