



Report Type: Community Development Report
For Meeting Date: March 5th, 2024
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We have been working towards making the shift from the “recreation” department into the “community development” department. We are building capacity within all employees under the community development department which allows each employee to find their niche and really excel in it while still having opportunities to continue learning and growing.

Economic Development:

Economic Development is seeing an increase in the Town of Outlook. We are happy to see new businesses come to the community as well as seeing our existing businesses grow and expand. I have been meeting with local business owners to understand their needs and goals and how we as a municipality can continue to support them. On the residential side of economic development, we have received a grant from CMHC which gives us the opportunity to work with and support new residential development. We have been working on developing policy initiatives to support developers in the process of development. Highlights from this area:

- Business owners appreciate the Storefront Enhancement Grant as well as the Industrial/Commercial development incentive
- Business owners share a common issue of recruiting adequate staffing - has mentioned housing is an issue
- Business owners have shared a networking event with a speaker presentation is something they miss and would participate in if there was an event put on in town
- Residential development is about to take off in the community. We have numerous new developments coming in 2024-2025
- Policies such as “Demolition of Derelict Buildings Incentive” and the “Residential Housing Affordability Incentive” will support the developer with costs such as permit fees, landfill fees, etc.

Community Collaboration Events:

We are proud to work in a community that values partnerships and collaboration. A few highlights from our community collaboration this year:

- Pickleball at OHS - Very Successful this year! THANK OHS!
- CO-OP Community Rink prep and floods - Outlook-Rudy Fire Department, Derek Derald, Austin Ballek - THANK YOU!
- Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Committee - Final draft of plan is being done currently!
- Canada Day Planning 2024 (Outlook & District Regional Park, Outlook & District Heritage Museum, Senior Ice Hawks, Town of Outlook, Outlook Stock Car Association, Outlook & District Arts Council) - we have LOTS of fun and unique ideas this year for Canada Day!
- St. Patricks Day Scavenger Hunt - multiple businesses are participating in this activity!

- To all of our monthly skating sponsors - THANK YOU! KALM Mechanical and Welding, Outlook KidSport, Thirdson Builders, Living Sky Refrigeration, DLN Construction, KTM Exteriors.
- To all of our weekly bowling prize sponsors for this year's bowling leagues: THANK YOU! Outlook Liquor Store, Family Pizza, A&E Enterprises, Top Tier Golf, Outlook Esso, Prairie Centre Credit Union, DLN Construction, Outlook Medical Pharmacy, Lotus Revival Yoga, Living Sky Refrigeration, KALM Mechanical and Welding

Tourism:

Upcoming Tourism Events:

- Outlook and District Heritage Museum has their annual festival coming up in May
- Equinox Theatre has a production coming up in May
- Mothers Day Tradeshow in the park and Town Wide garage sale are coming up in May
- River and Rail Artventure is coming up in June
- Outlook & District Regional Park camping has opened up to everyone
- Canada Day celebrations are being planned
- Outlook Stock Car Association race dates have been set
- Outlook Riverbank Rodeo annual event is set for August 2024

We will have a tourism guide available on our website for people to view and see what is all going on in our community this spring/summer and fall!