

Town of Riverview

Economic Development Department

Monthly Report – April 2019



To: CAO, Mayor & Council

From: Shane Thomson, Director

Section 1: Status of Department's Operational Priorities for 2018

SMART & SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	Status
<p>Retain and grow our strong local business community.</p> <p>Create a thriving niche retail business environment that has a regional draw.</p> <p>Attract location neutral enterprises.</p> <p>Grow Riverview's tourism product offerings in line with regional strategies.</p> <p>Promote Riverview's business offerings to local and surrounding communities.</p> <p>Encourage commercial and retail businesses to be accessible and inviting for all ages (public transit, cycling, walking)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to work with commercial property owners to fill vacant space.• Met with local franchisees of Barter Pay, an Ontario company expanding into the area. They will begin to offer small business loans for startups locally. Barterpay.ca• The Director, serving as Chair of the Local Immigration Partnerships' Entrepreneurship Committee is working with ACCES Employment, a national organization to develop a series of Bootcamps for immigrant entrepreneurs seeking to grow their businesses in partnership with 3+ and Business Development Bank of Canada.• With 3+ and neighbouring municipalities awarded consultants MDB Insights, to develop a Workforce Strategy for Greater Moncton. Shortage of skilled labour is the single largest challenge to business growth.• The Director was featured in a variety of media opportunities to provide the Town's perspective on the proposed Cordova development.• Service provider has been chosen and Envision Riverview micro-site development has begun.• Incubator kitchen is listed on the website and ready to take applications for fall cohort; following branding exercise staff will conduct a media blitz.

A SAFE & WELCOMING COMMUNITY	Status
<p>Promote Riverview's natural beauty/cultural heritage and its benefits to the community.</p> <p>Foster civic engagement and volunteerism.</p> <p>Promote Riverview as an inclusive community offering a good quality of life.</p> <p>Design community events and programs to instill pride and encourage community engagement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with ONB and recently hired Onboarding Coordinator to develop a portfolio of current and future housing and rental stock in the Greater Moncton area. The TD Finance file highlighted the current short supply which would be an impediment to growth of the labour market. • Staff will be developing a "Welcome to Greater Moncton" event to be held in June. This is in partnership with the City of Moncton who have held similar events the last 2 years which celebrates the value that newcomers bring to our region. • Planning 5th annual sustainability event with local partners; Sustainability Symposium targeting 150 attendees at Moncton Golf Course on April 25 with lineup of eight speakers and four panelists. • Launched applications for Sustainability Micro-Grants with pitching scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 27.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE	Status
<p>Utilize AMP to understand infrastructure needs and guide decision making.</p> <p>Maintain/grow Town's road network to attract business investment and support economic growth.</p> <p>Collaborate with community led/Town supported committees to ensure facilities and programs meet residents' needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff worked with Colliers to acquire the land necessary at Pinewood and Pine Glen for a future roundabout. • Staff attended 2019 BOMA AGM

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY & SERVICE EXCELLENCE	Status
<p>Provide high quality customer service to residents and businesses.</p> <p>Foster a positive and engaging work environment for Town employees.</p> <p>Promote a safe work culture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating official opening for Beltone Riverview

Section 2: Other Notable Development & Highlights for Council's Attention