

Town of Riverview

Economic Development Department

Monthly Report – April 2018



To: 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 local developers to market their available space for lease• The Greater Moncton Economic Development Team is meeting this week with senior ONB staff to ensure continued support and collaboration• The Southeast Workforce Attraction Team (SWAT) met recently to develop and action plan for 2018. Finding talent is the single largest issue facing employers today in New Brunswick.• The Director was nominated as Chair of the Local Immigration Partnership's Immigrant Entrepreneurship sub-committee.• Staff attended a steering committee meeting for the Regional Destination Marketing Organization. The Committee has hired a consultant, NuFocus, to develop an RFP to develop a Regional Tourism Marketing Strategy.• Two new applications have been received to use the Food Incubator Kitchen at Coverdale Centre.• Staff developed a Financial Incentive Program to focus on accelerating commercial development in the Town's commercial zones for Council's consideration.

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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainapalooza 2018 will take place April 26, 27, 28.• Micro grant pitches will take place and a judging panel will award successful pitches at Town Hall, April 28.

A SAFE & WELCOMING COMMUNITY	Status
<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"> • Staff supported the NB Multicultural Council's province wide tour, New Conversations, which highlighted the critical importance that immigration has for the province's future sustained growth. • The issue of suitable housing for a certain demographic in Riverview that are looking to downsize and move into a rental unit was raised recently. Specifically, retirees with a high net worth are needing to consider a move out of Riverview to find the type of quality rental unit they seek. Staff have arranged for the next multi-unit developer at the Fairways to engage with this group in advance of construction in order that these needs are being addressed and the Town can retain these citizens.

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"> • The Director attended an information session by Infrastructure Canada that outlined the various initiatives and funding streams that the federal government is rolling out. The major takeaway from this session was that, unlike previous federal infrastructure funding programs, any future investment applications will be reviewed through a "climate change lens". Senior Staff will meet shortly to discuss how future funding applications can meet these objectives.

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"> • Green Team rolled out "Green Acts" Initiative last week encouraging employees to consider small sustainable activities that support the Envision Riverview Sustainability Plan. • Nearly 1000 plastic water bottles were eliminated from waste at the Town Hall water bottle filling station since end of December • Green Team will also begin a campaign to promote paperless billing to residents in next water+ sewer bill

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

- The CEDO position was reposted as Economic Development Coordinator and we are collection g resumes until April 22nd.