

Committee System Restructure

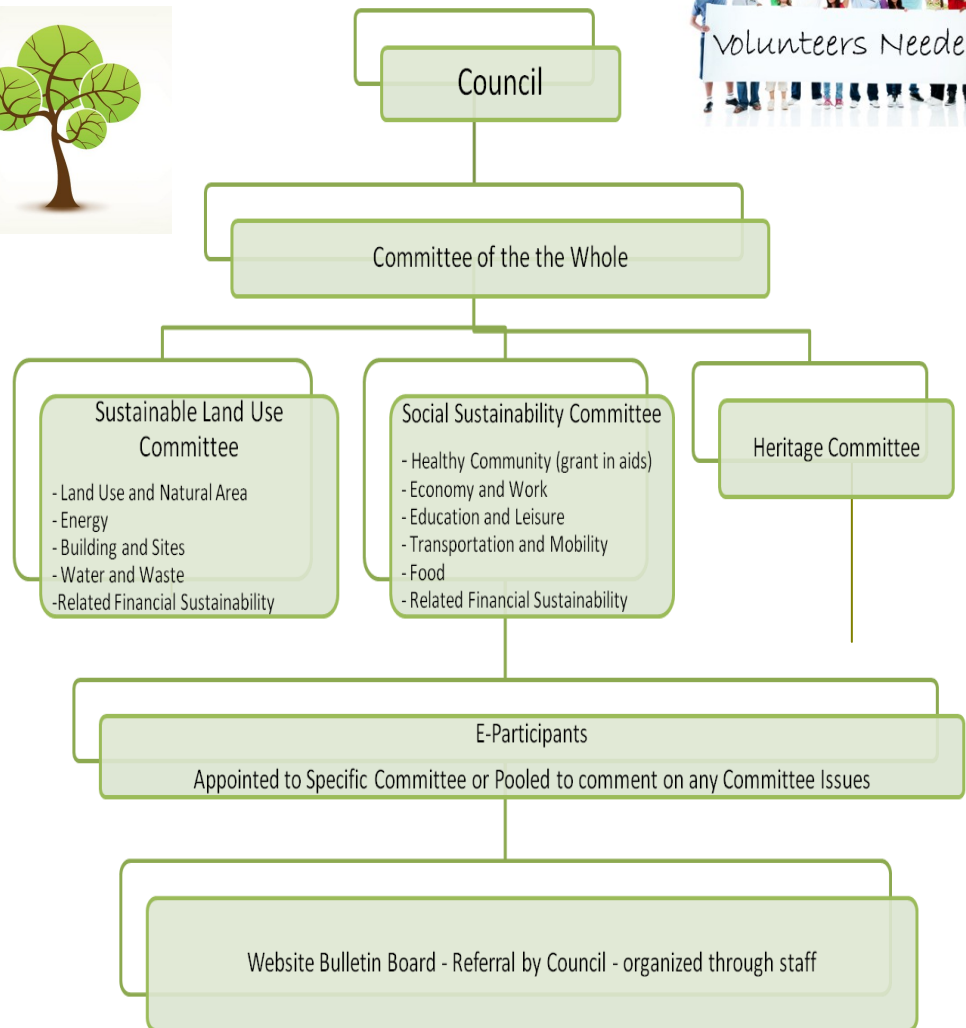


District of Highlands Advisory Committees

District Council has restructured the District's Advisory Committee system. Council looked for ways to revitalize citizen participation to help guide the future of Highlands. Recently Council approved a two tier committee system that would enable residents to participate either by attending meetings as a voting Committee member or as an Electronic Participant providing comments for consideration by the Committee .

Principles covering terms of reference could look like this:

- ICSP serves as guide for ongoing Committee Work (Heritage Task Force Report for Heritage Committee)
- Referrals from council made from time to time
- Voting Committee membership between 5 and 7 members (voting)
- One appointed Council Liaison (non-voting)
- Staff support for agenda preparation and electronic distribution. Meeting attendance when appropriate
- Term of appointment 2 years
- Electronic Committee Participants to a maximum of 20 to provide input for the consideration of the voting members. These may or may not be associated directly with each Committee or may be a pool of participants.
- Committees recommend priority work plans annually for council consideration.
- Committee Recommendations brought forward to Committee of the Whole



District of Highlands Advisory Committees

Council adopted the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) in late 2012 and completed the updating of the Official Community Plan (OCP) in 2013 to create synergies between the ICSP and the OCP.

The ICSP contains nine Strategy Areas which have been grouped together to form the framework for three new Committees that would replace all of the existing Committees and Task Forces currently in place. The ICSP outlines many tasks and issues that would be beneficial to have community based input on. Examples of these tasks include:



Strategy Area: Food

Create a volunteer Local Food Production Task Force that would promote local food production and consumption.

Strategy Area: Transportation and Mobility

Create a carpooling and park-n-ride strategy. Implement the Roadside Trail Plan and cycling lanes. Provide annual recommendations to Council on strategies to reduce car use in the Highlands.

Strategy Area: Energy

Create an ongoing, interactive sustainability section on the District of Highlands website.

The purpose of the Highlands Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) is to provide a framework to identify what kind of community the Highlands residents want in the year 2030 and what needs to happen now in order to get there. Based on sustainability objectives, it contains the community's vision statement, nine strategy areas and descriptions of success. A set of indicators was also developed to measure the Highlands' progress as it works to become more sustainable. Each year, the indicators will be measured and reported, and performance will inform future action planning with the engagement of the community. By undertaking this planning process on an ongoing basis, the Highlands will continue to move toward a sustainable future.



STRATEGY AREA: HEALTHY COMMUNITY

The Highlands' Healthy Community Strategy is concerned with meeting community members' physical, mental, emotional, spiritual health through services, infrastructure, interactions, relationships and a strong community fabric. It also includes community safety. From an individual perspective it addresses access to local and regional care services and health promotion, and to lesser extent, health enablers of such as recreation.

If you are interested in having input into this proposal please attend the April 14th Committee of the Whole meeting to help to shape the Committee system that can provide input to Council in these key areas.

