

## GROWTH COMMITTEE REPORT

M&C No.	# found on Sharepoint
Report Date	December 06, 2018
Meeting Date	December 11, 2018
Service Area	Growth and Community Development Services

His Worship Mayor Don Darling and Members of the Growth Committee

***SUBJECT: 2019 Growth Work Plan***

### ***OPEN OR CLOSED SESSION***

This matter is to be discussed in open session of Common Council.

### ***AUTHORIZATION***

Primary Author	Commissioner/Dept. Head	City Manager
<b><i>Phil Ouellette</i></b>	<b><i>Jacqueline Hamilton</i></b>	<b><i>Neil Jacobsen</i></b>

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

Staff will facilitate a discussion with Growth Committee to gather input on key priorities for the 2019 Growth work plan.

### ***REPORT***

In preparation for the 2019 fiscal year, the Growth Committee is encouraged to establish expectations and priorities for itself and the work plan for corresponding departments and agencies. The Growth Committee established a 2018 Growth Plan, which allowed for staff and the community to have a clear understanding the Committee's focus as well as define the content of Growth Committee agendas.

An annual report will be submitted to the Growth Committee in early 2019 on the progress of the 2018 work plan, achievements and challenges associated with the 2018 Growth Work Plan, but staff is encouraging the Committee to begin working through key priorities and focus areas for 2019.

Staff has assembled an initial high-level overview of key growth-related deliverables for 2019 (**see below**), which is intended to support the Committee's discussion around 2019 priorities. From staff's interpretation, the key growth focus areas for 2019 include:

- Focus on the implementation of existing plans and delivering results in the community;
- Important decision-point on the City's investment towards tourism;

- Finalization of two major plans: ESJ's 2019-2021 plan and Neighborhood Plan/Heritage Bylaw;
- Spurring catalytic development in Saint John's primary development area;
- Ongoing pursuit of transformational change through the City's financial sustainability efforts.

The facilitated session during the Growth Committee meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup> will require the participation of Growth Committee Members (*see attached presentation*), and solicit feedback on the progress of the 2018 growth work plan. In addition, Committee Members will be asked the following questions about the 2019 work plan:

1. Are there key growth outcomes that should be added to the draft list of 2019 growth priorities?
2. What do you believe are the City's most important growth priorities for 2019?

### **Key 2019 Growth Outcomes**

#### **Growth enhancements**

- Completion of Discover Saint John's five year contract
- Introduction of Marketing Growth coordination
- Implementation of the new 2019-2021 Enterprise Saint John Plan
- Filling Unfilled Jobs Task Force

#### **Completion of Neighborhood Plan for the Central Peninsula**

- Initiation of Neighborhood Plan for the Central Peninsula Action Plan
- Introduction of new design guidelines framework including the new Heritage Bylaw
- Continued pursuit of major catalytic development projects (school, museum, and residential development)

#### **Continued implementation of the Population Growth Framework**

- Introduction of Saint John Local Immigration Partnership resources into City of Saint John
- Introduction of the revamped Arts and Culture Coordinator position into the City of Saint John
- Implementation of the Succeed and Stay project
- Pursuit of a renewed website for the City of Saint John aligned with growth outcomes

### **Customer Service Excellence**

- Enhancements and efficiencies introduced to the planning approvals process
- Continued refinement of the one-stop development shop experience for customers

### **Reporting and Monitoring**

- Quarterly dashboard of economic indicators (Growth Committee and Common Council)
- Periodic updates to Growth Committee on activity of One-Stop Development Shop
- More deliberate updates and orientation on Growth initiatives with Common Council
- Delivery of mandate letters for Enterprise Saint John and Develop Saint John

### **Program Delivery**

- Vacant and Dangerous Buildings Program
- Community Standards Program
- Heritage Development
- Urban Development Incentive Program

### ***PREVIOUS RESOLUTION***

N/A

### ***STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT***

Common Council has adopted a new set of Council Priorities: 2016-2020 in early November 2016, and under the heading of “Growth and Prosperity,” the following is stated: “Saint John is recognized by residents and businesses as a positive and supportive city. We grow in a smart way and attract talent, innovation and opportunities so all people can thrive.” In addition, Council adopted key performance indicators to evaluate its ability to *Grow SJ*, including, among others: “Building permit value,” “Change in tax base assessment within the City,” “Change in population.” Finally, Saint John Common Council adopted the Roadmap for Smart Growth on Monday March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

### ***SERVICE AND FINANCIAL OUTCOMES***

The intended outcomes of the City of Saint John's growth-related efforts and investments are to achieve new levels of employment, population and tax base growth.

***INPUT FROM OTHER SERVICE AREAS AND STAKEHOLDERS***

N/A

***ATTACHMENTS***

2018 and 2019 Growth Work Plans