



# INFORMATION REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	December 6, 2017
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Cultural Plan Progress Update (PED17210) City Wide (Outstanding Business List Item)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
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<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

## Council Direction:

Staff were directed to provide an annual update on the progress of the Cultural Plan (Report PED12117(a) – October 16, 2013) as part of the approval of the city-wide Cultural Plan. The last Progress Update was provided on July 4, 2016 (PED16140). This Report will provide Council with an update on the Cultural Plan by providing an overall status of the actions, highlights of achievements, and next steps.

## Information:

The City of Hamilton has a Council-approved Cultural Plan, which positions culture as a tool for city-building. Culture is one tool which supports Hamilton's sustainable future as a vibrant, successful and complete community. Council approved the Cultural Policy in June 2012 (Report PED12117) and the Cultural Plan in October 2013.

The Cultural Plan has eight transformational goals, which are:

1. Culture as an Economic Engine
2. Downtown Renewal
3. Quality of Life Quality of Place
4. Build Tourism
5. Neighbourhood Revitalization
6. Build Community Identity, Pride, and Image
7. Encourage Welcoming Communities
8. Creativity for All

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*OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.*

*OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.*

*OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.*

The eight transformational goals have a total of 12 recommendations and 84 actions. It is important to note that the action items are led and owned by Divisions and Departments across the Corporation. Although the Tourism and Culture Division stewards the Plan and leads a significant number of the actions, 50% of the actions are a result of collaboration and cross-corporate work.

### **Cultural Plan Actions and Achievements**

There are a total of 84 actions and the overall status of the actions is as follows:

- 60% of actions are completed or embedded/ongoing;
- 11% of actions are underway; and,
- 29% of actions are not currently resourced or will be re-assessed.

It should be noted that 90% of the actions are ongoing in nature (such as a process, principle, policy, program, or strategy); only 10% of the actions represent finite actions.

Highlights of Cultural Plan action achievements are attached as Appendix 'A' to Report PED17210.

Since its development, the City of Hamilton's Cultural Plan has earned National recognition. In 2014, the final public consultation workshop advertisement earned a Dazzling Notice Award which recognizes excellence in government engagement. The Dazzling Notice Award was created by the co-founder of Spacing magazine, Dave Meslin, and is delivered in partnership with the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2). In 2016, the City of Hamilton earned a national Award of Excellence in Cultural Planning from the Creative City Network of Canada for "an excellent Culture Plan with a process that demonstrates outstanding visionary leadership". The criteria included the demonstration of collaborative processes in public engagement using creative engagement techniques and an innovative approach relevant to the community.

In addition, Hamilton is among many cities in Ontario that have developed and implemented a Cultural Plan. The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Support has been tracking Cultural Planning and at last count, 70 municipalities in Ontario have approved Cultural Plans covering 75% of Ontario's population. Cultural Planning has moved from a leading municipal practice to a main stream municipal activity.

Hamilton's Cultural Plan also supports the worldwide movement to embed a cultural lens within City agendas known as UNESCO's "4th pillar of sustainability". In Hamilton, we have confirmed local community support: 92% of Hamiltonians believe Culture is key to the quality of life in Hamilton and the City of Hamilton developed video "What is Culture" which is posted on YouTube continues to garner interest with over 77,000 views.

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## **Next Steps**

The Cultural Plan represents the City's ongoing commitment to view culture as one lens for creating and maintaining a vibrant community. Staff will continue to collaborate on projects which are underway that align to the Cultural Plan.

Hamilton's Cultural Plan will reach its five-year milestone in 2018 and staff is initiating a process to review and update the Cultural Plan. As part of this process, staff will liaise with the Province, other municipalities across Canada, the Staff Advisory Team and the Cultural Roundtable (currently on hiatus pending next steps). The City is committed to reviewing the success and gaps by conducting open consultation in order to move forward with collective ownership and a shared responsibility for culture.

Staff will continue to report on the overall progress of the Cultural Plan and expect that the five-year milestone will provide the opportunity to refresh actions and identify emerging priorities for consideration.

The item respecting an update on the Cultural Plan that was requested at the October 16, 2013 General Issues Committee Meeting, whereby staff was directed to provide Committee with an annual Report Card on the status of the Cultural Plan 2013's recommendations and actions, can now be identified as complete and removed from the General Issues Committee Outstanding Business List.

## **Appendices and Schedules Attached**

Appendix 'A' to Report PED17210 – Highlights of Cultural Plan Action Achievements

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