



Chestermere's Path Forward

2024–2029 Strategic Plan



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A Letter From Council

Aligned with our commitment to accountability to our community, your city council is pleased to introduce the 2024-2029 Strategic Plan for the City of Chestermere. This plan will direct the activities of both Council and Administration while providing a long-term vision for the future of our community.

In July 2024, Council and our senior administrative staff met to establish a clear direction for the community by setting priorities for the next year. Our process involved looking towards success for Chestermere over the next generation, but with a focus on the next few years. This plan incorporates goals and priorities we have openly expressed for the city, as we work to ensure that the City of Chestermere is a welcoming and diverse community for many generations to come.

Council will reference the plan often to ensure that our decisions remain consistent with the values and priorities identified within. Administration will use it to set objectives and develop work plans as a way of ensuring that the people who live and work in Chestermere are best served by their city.

We are committed to providing essential services to our ever-growing community.

Sincerely,

Mayor Dean & Chestermere City Council



Mayor Shannon Dean

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Councillor Murray Grant

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Murray Grant'.



Councillor Ritesh Narayan

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ritesh Narayan'.



Councillor Kiran Randhawa

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Councillor Janelle Sandboe

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Councillor Robert Schindler

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Councillor Rob Wawrzynowski

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Vision, Mission, & Values

Our Long-Term Aspirations For The City

With a collective foresight, Council members have worked to define the municipality's long-term aspirations through the creation of vision and mission statements. These statements serve distinct purposes, focusing on different aspects of the community's identity, growth, and goals.

Vision

A Vibrant Lake Community: Thriving, Connected, and Welcoming.

Our vision for Chestermere is a thriving community that balances economic growth with sustainability, fostering opportunities for all. We aim to create a connected city that promotes meaningful relationships among residents and regional neighbors through accessible infrastructure and civic engagement. Most importantly, we envision a Chestermere that is welcoming and embraces diversity, ensuring everyone feels a true sense of belonging.





Mission

The Leader In Municipal Services, Recreation, and Community Connections.

Chestermere aims to become a leader in municipal services, providing efficient, high-quality support to residents. The City prioritizes recreation, offering diverse programming that promotes active, healthy lifestyles. It also fosters community connections, creating opportunities for residents to engage, collaborate and build a stronger, more united Chestermere.

Values

These values, as determined by City Council, are the guiding principles that will determine how the City of Chestermere Council operates, both publicly and internally.

Connectivity

We work to ensure our community is welcoming and supportive for all.

Courage

We make courageous decisions that are for the betterment of our community.

Fun

We serve our community in an open, joyful and excited manner.

Integrity

We work for our community with honesty, transparency and truthfulness. We do what we say we are going to do.

Respect

We recognize our significant responsibility to the community and acknowledge that we are entrusted to serve our residents.

Key Areas of Focus, Goals, & High Priority Tactics

This Plan Identifies What The City of Chestermere Will Be Working On Over The Next Five Years.

It is divided into Key Areas of Focus, Goals, and High Priority Tactics, all of which support each other.

Key Area of Focus: Area of major concentration for City of Chestermere Council over the term of this strategic plan.

Goal: Change that is supported by Council. This becomes the answer to “what does Council hope to accomplish?”

High Priority Tactic: Important and timely activity in support of our Goals. This becomes the answer to the question “how will the City achieve the Goal?”



Council's High Priorities for 2024-2025

Our High Priority Tactics and Supporting Goals

Within the full list of goals that appear in this strategic plan, the City of Chestermere Council has created a subset of three 'high' ranked tactics that support some of the goals. The items on this list reflect the priorities that Council sees as both important and timely for the coming year.

The high-priority tactic list is expected to change over time as some high-priority items near completion, and new priorities emerge.

As determined by the City of Chestermere Council, the top priorities for 2024-2025 are:

Key Area of Focus	High Priority Tactic
Focused and Effective Leadership	Work to lobby school boards and the provincial government to ensure school sites are prepared for future school growth
Mindful and Responsible Community Stewardship	Balance residential and commercial development within the community so that Chestermere remains an attractive place to live
Strong and Varied Economy	Engage in strong business attraction and retention efforts in collaboration with local and regional business communities
Inclusive and Diverse Social Connections	Determine how best to support local and regional recreational needs through public, private, and joint partnership of existing and new facilities

Key Area of Focus:

Focused and Effective Leadership

The City of Chestermere works to ensure strong principles of governance are instilled within the organization, enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of services provided to residents.



Goal 1: Ensure proper governance roles and structures are identified and followed

Potential Tactics

- Ensure Council is pursuing professional development opportunities to provide better governance
- Ensure a succession plan is in place for administration
- Ensure that cross-training and professional development are budgeted and occurring throughout Council and administration
- Ensure the City's guiding governance documents are updated and reviewed on a regular basis



Goal 2: Increase internal and external communication and engagement

Potential Tactics

- Ensure that Council communicates and engages regularly with residents
- Increase internal engagement of staff as a way to build a strong and responsive culture
- Provide timely and effective communication to residents and staff



Goal 3: Become a leader in building strong regional relationships

Potential Tactics

- Work to lobby school boards and the provincial government to ensure school sites are prepared for future school growth
- Conduct ongoing, timely, and effective engagement with regional partners. This includes, but is not limited to, other municipal governments, not-for-profits, businesses, provincial government, etc.
- Host regular meetings with regional governments and industry partners to promote shared interests
- Seek out partnership opportunities that involve our regional neighbours for the benefit of us all



Key Area of Focus:

Mindful and Responsible Community Stewardship

Residents and City team members take pride in Chestermere. We are committed to ensuring our environment is respected and well-maintained, so that our city remains a great place for everyone to enjoy.



Goal 1: Promote increased beautification of the community

Potential Tactics

- Address unsightly properties when they impact others' enjoyment of their own property
- In collaboration with the Western Irrigation District, work to ensure the Chestermere Lake Reservoir shoreline and beaches are properly maintained
- Ensure the watershed within the community is well-maintained
- Increase and promote future accessible green spaces within the city
- Work with local partners to increase beautification efforts throughout Chestermere



Goal 2: Ensure infrastructure meets the needs of a growing city

Potential Tactics

- Balance residential and commercial development within the community so that Chestermere remains an attractive place to live
- Build and maintain long-term storm water infrastructure that will serve the community for decades to come
- Complete a transit study to identify how people can more easily move around Chestermere and into Calgary
- Ensure Chestermere has an up-to-date transportation master plan



Goal 3: Ensure proper planning and preparedness for natural disasters and other Emergencies

Potential Tactics

- Expand local and regional emergency services as Chestermere grows
- Review and update the Emergency Management Plan for the community



Key Area of Focus:

Strong and Varied Economy

A strong and varied economy provides a pathway for our city to grow and thrive. With a mix of business and commercial activity, Chestermere can become a community where people can both live and work, and the city can provide a variety of top-tier services and amenities for residents and visitors.



Encourage Additional Growth within the City's Business Sector

Potential Tactics

- Create an environment that will attract anchor businesses to come to the city
- Determine how the city can best support the growth of business partnerships within the community
- Engage in strong business attraction and retention efforts in collaboration with local and regional business communities
- Work with local partners to increase beautification efforts throughout Chestermere in commercial and industrial areas
- Encourage talented workers to pursue career opportunities within the community



Goal 2: Seek out additional funding in support of the local economy

Potential Tactics

- Research various opportunities to obtain grant funds for the community
- Invest in the pursuit of grants, sponsorships, and donations
- Meet and network with various orders of government to advocate for the city

Key Area of Focus:

Inclusive and Diverse Social Connections

The City of Chestermere is dedicated to serving residents. We strive to establish city programs and services that meet the needs of a variety of people who call our community home.



Goal 1: Support Not-for-Profit Organizations in Ways that Enable Them to Serve the Community

Potential Tactics

- Create a not-for-profit task force
- Clarify the role of interagency groups
- Promote, market, and assist not-for-profits
- Increase communication with not-for-profits



Goal 2: Support the Growth and Diversity of Recreation and Social Opportunities Available in the Community

Potential Tactics

- Determine how best to support local and regional recreational needs through public, private, and joint ownership of existing and new facilities
- Complete a recreation and culture master plan
- Form a recreational task force to move forward with ensuring appropriate recreation for the community
- Research the cost and resources required to create new community spaces
- Support arts, cultural, faith, senior and literary groups with the city
- Upgrade beach areas and green spaces

Conclusion

The City of Chestermere's 2024-2029 Strategic Plan provides a roadmap that was developed by Council members and administration. We will work within our realms of authority and expertise to achieve the priorities outlined in this plan.

Also important is the recognition that the external environment in which the city operates may shift. In response, this strategic plan also may need to shift to remain relevant. As with any plan, regular reviews and updates are important and will be mandated by Council policy.

