

Municipality of Central Manitoulin Strategic Plan 2016-2021



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Executive Summary

When the Municipality of Central Manitoulin Strategic Plan 2010-2015 expired a plan was put in place to develop a new five-year plan. Input from the community was gathered and used to identify priorities and the long-term goals of the municipality. The themes that emerged are listed below.

The new strategic plan process had three focus group meetings to reflect on our community history and envision a greater future, to identify our strengths, and to begin to set priorities based on what was heard. These sessions were held separately with municipal staff, municipal council and the community at the end of May and the beginning of June 2016.

There were some common values expressed by all three focus groups. These centered on achieving balance. Finding a balance between providing services for the residents and using resources to attract tourists. As well as finding a balance between embracing nature and supporting development. Working together as one community was also expressed by many participants.

The common themes that emerged from the focus groups were, in no particular priority:

1. Assisted Living and Housing
2. Beautification
3. Recreation
4. Tourism
5. Municipal Infrastructure and Services
6. Commercial Development and Employment
7. Arts and Culture
8. Health Care

The purpose of developing a strategic plan is to have an action plan for long-term priorities. Council will use it as a guide in decision making. This plan was developed with community input and has priorities identified that will make our community a better place to live, work and visit. Implementing the plan takes an investment of time and resources. With less government funding available, additional resources from the municipality may be required to achieve these goals.

An annual review of the strategic plan will provide the opportunity to update the status and discuss priorities to ensure that the goals remain relevant and continue to reflect the priorities of the community. Evaluating our progress ensures that the municipality is moving in the right direction.

Vision Statement

“With deep roots, the sky is our only limit”

Central Manitoulin will enable an environment for sustained growth in the community and in all municipal services while maintaining a strong relationship with the community and supporting family values. The municipality will be both fiscally and environmentally responsible.

Mission Statement

Central Manitoulin is a progressive municipality that provides quality services, well maintained infrastructure, supports economic development and is a friendly community for both seniors and families to live.

Principles

We will be fiscally, environmentally and socially responsible.

We will be forward thinking and innovative.

We will treat all people respectfully, with equality and fairness.

We will be accountable at all times.

We will support our local economy.

Values

- Community
- Stability
- Leadership
- Balance
- Citizenship
- Service
- Growth

Strategic Priorities

1. Assisted Living and Housing

To ensure residents of Central Manitoulin can remain in the community throughout their life.

- i. Support opportunities for the development of assisted living facilities
- ii. Support the increase of number of accessible and affordable housing units

2. Beautification

To create an attractive community that is welcoming for both residents and visitors

- i. Develop policies for designated park-like areas
- ii. Increase exposure of floral displays through social media
- iii. Install welcome signs at the entrances to the municipality
- iv. Increase awareness of property standards by-law

3. Recreation

To promote a healthy and active lifestyle for all ages

- i. Promote our hiking trail to increase use
- ii. Continue to support efforts that promote cycling through our municipality
- iii. Feasibility of developing accessible pedestrian/cycling trails throughout the municipality that connect communities with amenities
- iv. Support recreation programs for all ages
- v. Feasibility of central recreation complex for multiple activities

4. Tourism

To develop tourism products that preserve nature

- i. Promote Central Manitoulin with signage on Highways 6 and 17 and possibly 69
- ii. Develop a niche attraction that promotes nature
- iii. Support local fishery efforts
- iv. Remove invasive plant species that threaten our natural ecosystems and support efforts to protect species-at-risk
- v. Maintain boat launches across municipality

5. Municipal Infrastructure and Services

To recognize the need to maintain essential and appropriate infrastructure and services

- i. Improve all municipal parking lots
- ii. Feasibility of proper sidewalks in Mindemoya to increase the safe travel of our citizens and supports mobility
- iii. Support fire services (building, equipment and human resources)
- iv. Promote our recycling program to help divert waste from the landfill
- v. Explore the reduction of municipal buildings based on use, asset condition and level of service.
- vi. Ensure community emergency plan is adequate and communicated to the public in a timely manner
- vii. Increase the availability of communications of municipal business through our website

6. Commercial Development and Employment

To support and promote Central Manitoulin as a development-friendly community

- i. Promote incentive programs for commercial development
- ii. Provide business supports and consultation services
- iii. Attract industry

7. Arts and Culture

To expand from preserving our history to expressing our story through the arts

- i. Develop and support a mandate for arts and culture

8. Health Care

To support the stability of health care services for our residents

- i. Provide support, assistance, and incentives to improve and keep our various health care services

Coming together is a beginning

Keeping together is progress

Working together is success

Henry Ford