

Cultural Plan Task Force – Second Interim Report to Council

April 25, 2016

The Cultural Plan Task Force presented its first interim report to Council in October of 2015. A lot has happened since.

The Task force has now completed the public engagement portion of the process and has received over 2300 individual comments on Culture in Summerland. These are a compilation of 15 community conversations, written submissions and sticky notes placed on display boards around the community.

These comments were in response to four questions.

1. What is working well with respect to Culture in Summerland?
2. What is not working so well with respect to Culture in Summerland?
3. What is on your wish list for Culture in Summerland?
4. How would you implement your wish list?

These were analyzed by the group and consolidated into 7 categories.

- Communication
- Coordination
- Downtown
- Events
- Facilities
- Funding
- Identity

A workshop was held with Dr. Bernard Momer, a celebrated professor at UBC Okanagan specializing in Community Culture. Dr. Momer has published a number of books including *“Whose Culture is it Anyways: Community Engagement in Small Cities”* and *“Our City Ourselves: A Cultural Landscape Assessment of Kelowna, British Columbia”*. Dr. Momer reviewed our data and provided invaluable suggestions on data analysis and suggestions for moving forward.

The Cultural Plan Task force has now grouped the community’s comments into 5 themes and have started the process of drafting the Cultural Plan. These themes were referred to throughout the community engagement process and include:

- Lifestyle/Community Character
- Natural Environment
- Agriculture
- History and Heritage, and
- Arts and Culture

The Task Force is now drafting Summerland’s First Cultural Plan that will include recommendations moving forward. We look forward to presenting the first draft to Council and the community in the near future.