

The following is a copy of **Clause F2, Administrative Report No. 1-2008** which was **ADOPTED** by City Council at its meeting held on **January 14, 2008**:

Section F – City Manager

F2) River Landing Destination Centre Consultation Process
(File No. CC. 4130-2 & SPR and CK. 4129-15)

- RECOMMENDATION:**
- 1) that City Council approve the consultation process as outlined in this report; and,
 - 2) that City Council endorse the principles as outlined in Attachment 1, as ones the Administration should follow.

The original South Downtown Plan called for a mixture of uses including a public facility that would function as a destination attraction and include inside space for public use. A site has been reserved, which is the area surrounding the present Persephone Theatre, which could house a potential Destination Centre. Council may wish to initiate a process involving public consultation that will lead to the development of the Destination Centre.

This report recommends a planning and consultation process that is designed to provide for public input and engagement in determining a concept for the Centre, while ensuring the process is timely and fiscally responsible in its structure.

Process Objectives

The following objectives have been generated to guide the planning and consultation process for the destination centre. The process should be one that provides for:

Engagement and Accountability

The process should provide for genuine community input and help create sense of community ownership for the preferred concept. Accountability is required for the process and the end product.

Economy

The process should be as economic as possible - limiting initial expenditures until there is confidence in a preferred concept.

Timeliness

Timeliness is important in maintaining community confidence and in “getting the job done”.

Structure

Steering Committee and Mandate

Council should appoint a nine person volunteer steering committee comprised of one member of Council, one member from the MVA, representatives from the business community, tourism, arts, cultural and heritage sectors, and First Nations.

A staff person with the City of Saskatoon should be appointed as project manager and act as a resource to the committee to ensure the project moves along. This is a part-time assignment.

An architect should be contracted to assist with the concept plans. This individual should be aware that the final design for this project would be subject to a competitive Request for Proposals.

The Committee shall be tasked by Council to make a recommendation on a preferred outline concept for the Destination Centre including uses, size, capital cost and potential funding sources, preliminary operating costs, how the Centre should be operated, and an implementation schedule. The Committee should complete this work within four months of its inception and provide a progress report to Council once a month.

Rather than starting from a blank sheet and inviting the public to provide any and all ideas that may not withstand the simplest of criteria, City Council could establish a set of preliminary design and operating principles that set minimum standards and parameters that would guide the work of the Committee and the subsequent public input. As an example, the Design Parameters for the Abbotsford Museum and Art Gallery are included (Attachment 1). Council could also add other principles such as those relating to operations and funding.

Proposed Process

A four-stage process is recommended.

Stage 1: Initial Consultation

Prepare and conduct a first round of consultations by inviting ideas from the public. This will involve the following material:

- Simple site and potential building footprint plans (potential size of building etc. not a detailed design).
- A site issues and opportunities analysis (views, location relative to theatre, trails, etc.).
- Summarize intent of site in the River Landing plan.
- Provide photos and examples of similar buildings from other communities.

Create and use a simple “workbook”. Use the above material on boards for an Open House.

Consultation in this stage would include:

- An Open House with boards displaying the above information and possible PowerPoint presentation of other similar centres.
- Questionnaire.
- Establish interactive web site (as part of the City's/River Landing site).

Stage 2: Concept Development

In Stage 2, the Steering Committee will oversee the preparation of up to three concept options for the building, drawing on the Stage 1 public input.

This work will include an operating concept, design concept (not detailed), proposed uses, order-of-magnitude capital budget, proposed funding sources, and an outline of operating budgets and arrangements.

Stage 3: Final Consultation

A second Open House will be undertaken – this time over two days. The Open Houses will showcase the three identified options and invite public input. Questionnaires will be handed out plus an online questionnaire will be utilized.

Stage 4: Report to Council

This is the final stage of work for the Committee. The public response to the options in Stage 3 will be considered and a preferred option prepared and recommended in a report to City Council. The report will also be a “road map” for Council recommending how the project can be developed. This plan could be made available to the public in a display at City Hall prior to Council's consideration.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice pursuant to Section 3 of Policy No. C01-021, Public Notice Policy, is not required.

ATTACHMENT

1. Abbotsford Cultural Centre Museum and Art Gallery, Part 3.1: AMAG Overview Design Parameters.

Part 3.1: AMAG Overview*Design Parameters*

The steering committee and preliminary discussions with the community suggest that the Abbotsford Museum and Art Gallery must:

- ❖ be a **centre of excellence**.
- ❖ be a **community hub** for Abbotsford's citizens, a meeting place across generations and cultures.
- ❖ be a **tourist destination**, a place to stage events and festivals, a place for visitors to learn about and appreciate Abbotsford history, culture, and art.
- ❖ have a **heritage focus** that embraces and expands on the traditional museum functions of collection, conservation, exhibition, education, and research.
- ❖ have an **arts focus** suited to the presentation of a broad mix of exhibitions from those locally developed to those international in scope.
- ❖ be committed to the **integration of disciplines**.
- ❖ be a **flexible space** suited to multi-purpose and multi-discipline programming.
- ❖ offer programming spaces – such as studios, and workshops – that foster community involvement and **encourage** community participation in the arts.
- ❖ be a **welcoming place**
- ❖ be **unique in design**, a building that is a visual reflection of the ties of a growing community to the multiple stories of its past.
- ❖ be **built responsibly** within the approved budget envelope.
- ❖ be **developed to accommodate expansion**.

