What is a Parks, Culture & Active Living Masterplan Document?

A Parks, Culture & Active Living Masterplan is a comprehensive long-term strategy document created to guide the development, management, and enhancement of parks, recreational facilities, cultural spaces, and related programs and services. The purpose of the Masterplan is to ensure that community needs are met sustainably, and that facilities and programs remain accessible, inclusive, and aligned with future population growth, trends, and environmental considerations.

Why is a Masterplan Important?

The Masterplan will provide strategic direction and recommendations aimed at:

- Expanding parks, recreation and culture opportunities for all residents and visitors to the community.
- Enhancing the capacity of valued community partners.
- Empowering the community to work together to improve the wellbeing of all.
- Fostering community pride and awareness of our rich culture and heritage.
- Promoting stewardship of our natural environment.

Key elements of the Masterplan are:

- **Vision and Goals**: Establishes a vision for the future of parks, recreation, and culture in the community, along with specific goals and desired outcomes that align with the municipality's broader plans.
- **Inventory and Assessment:** A thorough review of existing parks, recreational facilities, cultural amenities (like museums, libraries, or community centers), and programs is conducted to assess current conditions, usage, and gaps.

- **Demographic and Trend Analysis**: Future needs are projected based on population growth, demographic shifts, and trends in recreation and cultural participation, such as the growing popularity of certain recreation activities or shifts in cultural programming.
- **Recommendations for Infrastructure and Services**: Identification of new parks, facilities, or upgrades needed to meet current and future demand as well as operational improvements and accessibility and sustainability considerations.
- **Funding and Partnerships**: Strategies for funding the Plan's initiatives, which may include municipal budgets, provincial or federal grants, and partnerships with local organizations or private entities.
- **Environmental Sustainability**: Ensuring that the development and maintenance of parks and facilities are environmentally responsible, promoting biodiversity, conservation, and sustainable land use practices.
- **Implementation Plan**: A timeline with defined service priorities for the short, medium, and long term, including responsibilities, costs, and performance metrics.