

Intergovernmental Relations Strategic Framework & Action Plan

Committee of the Whole – December 7th, 2020

IG in Action in 2020

Worked collaboratively with other City departments to:

- Secure over **\$92.5M** in new funding for capital projects and emergency relief for operations and transit
- Coordinate **13** City meetings with Provincial/Federal Ministers
- Organize **10** Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM, formerly LUMCO) meetings featuring **18** Ministerial/Leader appearances
- Coordinate **31** (and counting) consultation responses
- Prepare **22** legislative submissions and ministerial letters
- Provide **17** IG updates, Info and Staff Reports

Why create a new IG Strategic Framework?

- Establish a Council-approved framework to guide IG activities for the rest of Council term
- Refresh the City's IG Strategy
- Align the City's IG approach with the Strategic Plan and in support of the Community Plan

Consultations

- Mayor Guthrie as Chair of Governance Committee
- Municipal partner consultations (with intergovernmental staff):
 - City of London
 - City of Kingston
 - City of Cambridge
 - City of Burlington
 - Halton Region
 - Durham Region
 - Niagara Region

Goal of the City's Proposed IG Strategic Framework

The City of Guelph successfully leverages local, regional, provincial and federal partnerships to create a future ready and innovative community for all.



4 Objectives/Areas of Focus to Implement the IG Framework

Promote - Elevate the City's reputation as a 'future ready' thought leader, innovator, trusted government partner and responsible local government

- Main area of focus: Seek out opportunities to celebrate the City of Guelph's successes

Advocate – Influence decision-makers to advance the City's strategic interests and the wellbeing of our local community

- Main area of focus: Annual and ad-hoc Advocacy and Outreach Action Plans

Engage – Nurture relationships with other orders of government, municipal partners, associations and key community stakeholders to create broad-based support for our story, priorities, challenges and ambitions

- Main area of focus: Community-based advocacy (Guelph Advocacy Days)

Inform – Provide strategic information and advice to City leaders on the latest legislative and policy developments and challenges of the day

- Main area of focus: Development and implementation of a dedicated IG Communications Plan

What's New?

Alignment with Strategic Plan - Alignment of thematic advocacy priorities with the priorities of the Strategic Plan

'Community-based' Advocacy – Build off past experience to leverage (virtual and eventually in-person) “Guelph Advocacy Days” at Queen’s Park, the Hill and in Guelph to engage local partners in advocating on behalf of the community to advance shared priorities

Ensure Election Readiness - Establish a process to quickly ramp up election-related advocacy should the writ drop federally or provincially

Communications Plan - Refine the tactics used to strategically communicate with other orders of government, Council, internally within the corporation, with municipal partners and with the public

First Nation Engagement – Annual intergovernmental meeting between the Mayor and the Chief of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation

2021 Proposed Advocacy Priorities and Action Plan

Powering Our Future	Sustaining Our Future	Navigating Our Future	Working Together for Our Future	Building Our Future
Focus on supporting local businesses and economic recovery, including the City's economic development strategy and plan	Promoting and advancing the City's 100% renewable energy and net zero carbon community by 2050 goals	Promoting interregional transportation	Securing further municipal pandemic supports, including for operating expenses and transit	Community infrastructure-related advocacy to maintain existing assets and build new ones
Highlighting the work of Our Food Future	Funding for brownfield remediation	All-Day-Two-Way GO and Metrolinx issues	Advocating for supports for municipal modernization	Increasing the availability of housing that meets community needs

Proposed 2021 Outreach Plan

- Provincial/Federal “Guelph Advocacy Days” with key community stakeholders focused on our community’s economic and social recovery and ensuring future readiness
- Council and staff participation in the 2021 AMO Conference and ministerial delegations
- Annual meeting between the Mayor and the Chief of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
- Regular ‘three-levels’ meetings with Mayor/MP/MPP with a focus on local issues and priorities
- Ongoing staff outreach with federal/provincial/municipal counterparts

Recommendations to Council:

1. That Council approve the Intergovernmental Relations Strategic Framework to guide intergovernmental and advocacy activities for the rest of council term
2. That Council approve the 2021 Advocacy Priorities
3. That Staff report back to Council in Q4 2021 to provide an update on IG performance in 2021 and to propose advocacy priorities for 2022