

# Horizon Community League Strategic Plan

Creating a welcoming, connected and vibrant Community.

## Horizon Community League Strategic Plan

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## 1. Executive Summary

## About Us

The Horizon Community League, formerly known as the Summerside Community League, was established as a non-profit organization on December 19, 2009 in the City of Edmonton Alberta Canada.

Horizon Community League of Edmonton represents residents of Aurora, Fields of Summerside, Lake Summerside, Orchards at Ellerslie, Rocha, Sunset Valley and Walker Lakes. In 2019 the Community League underwent a process to change the name of the organization to reflect the larger areas that it serves.

The Horizon Community League relies on city grants, sponsorship, fundraising, and volunteers to operate.

The Horizon Community League is run by a board of dedicated volunteers who live within the neighborhoods of the organization. The Horizon Community League provides services to its membership, residents and all those who live and play within its geographical boundaries. The Horizon Community League's boundaries include Ellerslie Road, 50th Street SW, 41st Avenue SW and Gateway Boulevard SW.

In 2019, the Community embarked on a process to review and update the organization's strategic plan. The discussion included a review of the organization's history, an analysis of the current state, and development of a Vision, Mission, Values and Pillars to move the organization forward strategically.

In 2021, using the plan started in 2019, the Horizon Community League once again discussed current strengths and challenges and identified opportunities for the organization to address challenges. Priority areas of focus were identified and strategies were prioritized by the organization to strive in realizing its vision.

This plan will be reviewed annually to ensure priorities are determined and to support an annual plan and budgeting process. The plan should be reviewed in its entirety in 2024.

### VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

#### <u>VISION</u>

Creating a welcoming, connected and vibrant Community.

#### **MISSION**

Enhancing our neighbourhoods of Aurora, Fields of Summerside, Lake Summerside, Orchards, Rocha, Sunset Valley, and Walker Lakes through services, resources and amenities. We achieve this through a network of volunteers, neighbours, business partners and community organizations.

#### VALUES:

| INTEGRITY   | GROWTH                         | PASSION    | COMMUNITY   |
|---|--------------------------------|------------|---|
| <ul><li>Honest</li><li>Respect</li><li>Accountability</li></ul> | <ul> <li>Supporting</li> </ul> | • Energy + | <ul><li>Connection</li><li>Community</li><li>Engagement</li></ul> |

## <u>THE 5 PILLARS</u>

**DEVELOPING AMENITIES-**Ensuring we're building the amenities the community wants through community engagement

**GOVERNANCE-**To create an inclusive team by providing education and clarity to board members

SAFETY -Creating safe and caring communities for everyone

**MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT-**To promote membership and community engagement

**STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS-**Working collaboratively with businesses and organizations in the community to bring value to our membership

## 2. <u>Current State Analysis</u>

| STRENGTHS  | SUCCESSES  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul> <li>A willingness and desire to help<br/>the community with amenities<br/>and growth</li> <li>Large Community with many<br/>residents and families to draw on</li> <li>The people on the board are our<br/>greatest asset and all the strength of<br/>this board comes through them</li> <li>Capacity to bring together to build<br/>facilities in our neighborhoods</li> <li>Diversity</li> <li>Fiscal strength</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Events such as Snowflake<br/>festival, garage sales, block party,<br/>CL day</li> <li>Playgrounds being built</li> <li>Snowbank Rinks</li> <li>Name Change</li> <li>Addition of Non Summerside<br/>resident board members</li> <li>Pop Up Garden</li> <li>Casino</li> </ul> |  |
| CHALLENGES and OPPORTUNITIES   |  |  |
| Unclear goals and direction, taking on too much and off in all directions  |  |  |

- Onboarding of new board members during covid is tough
- A normal transitional phase as boards change
- Lack of communication
- Different leadership styles
- Lack of our own meeting space
- Finding ways to add value to our community members during covid times
- Poor record keeping due to vacant board positions
- Consideration of current league boundaries

# 3. The 5 PILLARS (Area of Focus)

## **DEVELOPING AMENITIES**

Ensuring we're building the amenities the community wants through community engagement

| 4.2 DEVELOPING<br>AMENITIES   | High Priority Strategies   | Other Strategies and<br>Opportunities           |
|---|--|---|
| Ensuring we're building<br>the amenities the<br>community wants through<br>community engagement | Community<br>Engagement<br>• Develop a master<br>plan that covers<br>all areas<br>considering:<br>• Rinks<br>• Sport fields<br>• Community<br>garden<br>• Spray parks<br>• Green initiatives | Recruit for Facility<br>Development<br>Director |
|   | Establish a Community<br>League Infrastructure<br>Committee  |   |
| ACTION PLAN   | 1  | 1   |

## GOVERNANCE

To create an inclusive team by providing education and clarity to board members

| 4.1 GOVERNANCE   | High Priority Strategies  | Other Strategies and<br>Opportunities   |
|--|---|---|
| To create an inclusive<br>team by providing<br>education and clarity to<br>board members | <ul> <li>Bylaw review</li> <li>Reaching out to<br/>members to fill<br/>specific roles</li> <li>Orientation of<br/>new volunteers</li> <li>Welcoming new<br/>volunteers</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Policy feedback<br/>and review</li> <li>Revise the Code of<br/>Conduct</li> <li>Trust building</li> <li>Communication<br/>improvements with<br/>board members</li> <li>Meeting Structure<br/>review</li> </ul> |
| ACTION PLAN  |   |   |

## SAFETY

Creating safe and caring communities for everyone

| High Priority Strategies   | Other Strategies and<br>Opportunities   |
|--|---|
| <ul> <li>Make Neighborhoods</li> <li>Feel Connected: <ul> <li>Get to know your neighbour events such as block parties</li> <li>Abundant community edmonton</li> <li>recruit block connectors</li> <li>Use Communibee and Next Door Apps to build connections</li> </ul> </li> <li>Safer Roads: <ul> <li>Bike Lanes</li> <li>Crosswalk flash lights</li> <li>Solar powered speed sign similar to the one installed at Michael Strembitsky for all other othe one and speed sign similar to the one and speed sign similar to the one installed at Michael Strembitsky for all other o</li></ul></li></ul> | <ul> <li>Keep Connected<br/>with Ellerslie CL<br/>and other<br/>neighbouring CL's<br/>to promote area<br/>wide safety</li> <li>Neighbourhood<br/>Watch</li> <li>Use website and<br/>other<br/>communication<br/>tools to promote<br/>Safety</li> <li>Supporting schools<br/>to access<br/>playgrounds safely</li> </ul>   |
| at Michael   |   |
|  | <ul> <li>Feel Connected: <ul> <li>Get to know your neighbour events such as block parties</li> <li>Abundant community edmonton</li> <li>recruit block connectors</li> <li>Use Communibee and Next Door Apps to build connections</li> </ul> </li> <li>Safer Roads: <ul> <li>Bike Lanes</li> <li>Crosswalk flash lights</li> <li>Solar powered speed sign similar to the one installed at Michael</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

To promote membership and community engagement

| 4.4 MEMBERSHIP and<br>COMMUNITY<br>ENGAGEMENT        | High Priority Strategies   | Other Strategies and<br>Opportunities   |
|--|--|---|
| To Promote membership<br>and community<br>engagement | <ul> <li>Promote community<br/>attendance to monthly<br/>meetings <ul> <li>Develop a calendar<br/>of events</li> <li>Use Facebook to<br/>build community<br/>engagement</li> </ul> </li> <li>Increase membership <ul> <li>Plan and execute a<br/>membership drive</li> <li>Promote the value<br/>of community</li> <li>Builders to provide<br/>1 year membership<br/>for new<br/>homeowners</li> <li>More membership<br/>equals more<br/>volunteers</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Investigative<br/>Committee-Resear<br/>ch and possibly<br/>revaluating<br/>Community League<br/>Boundaries</li> <li>Age specific<br/>programs (youth,<br/>kids, seniors)</li> <li>Utilize the<br/>experience from<br/>the volunteers who<br/>worked on the<br/>playground<br/>committees to<br/>assist the board.</li> <li>Establish<br/>Community<br/>connectors (ACE)</li> <li>Volunteer<br/>recognition</li> <li>Communications<br/>with Organizations</li> </ul> |
| No Action Plan at this time                          |  |   |

## STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Working collaboratively with businesses and organizations in the community to bring value to our membership

| 4.5 STRATEGIC<br>PARTNERSHIPS   | High Priority Strategies   | Other Strategies and<br>Opportunities  |
|---|--|--|
| Working collaboratively<br>with businesses and<br>organizations in the<br>community to bring value<br>to our membership | <ul> <li>HOA's PARTNERSHIPS</li> <li>Subsidizing of<br/>member rates</li> <li>Programming<br/>strategy</li> <li>Event participation<br/>and HCL presence<br/>Hosting HCL Events</li> <li>Business<br/>partnerships to<br/>offer benefits to<br/>community<br/>members</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Recruit Business<br/>Director Role</li> <li>Business inventory</li> <li>OTHER<br/>COMMUNITY<br/>ORGANIZATIONS-D<br/>evelop guidelines<br/>of support</li> </ul> |
| No Action Plan at this time   |  |  |