



Policy Statement on Regionalism

Date Approved by Council: July 10, 2017

Resolution No.: 139/07/17/SP

Effective Date: July 10, 2017

Last Review: New

Future Review Date: 2021

Authority: Council

Responsibility: OCAO

References:

Replaces: New

1.0 Purpose: To provide a high level policy statement regarding Council's belief in and direction regarding regionalism.

2.0 Scope: This policy provides high level strategic direction for Council to consider and be guided by when decisions are required in relation to regional developments. This policy provides high level strategic direction to the CAO to ensure alignment of projects and processes with Council approved direction.

3.0 Objectives: The policy objective is to provide a decision framework regarding regionalism. The principles contained in the policy statement shall be considered and utilized to guide the Town into enhanced regionalism.

4.0 Statement: See attached Policy Statement

5.0 Standards: N/A

6.0 Policy Review: This policy shall be formally reviewed by Council every four years.



Policy Statement on Regionalism

The Town of Stony Plain believes in and will continue to advance regionalism through active efforts in planning and action. This belief will guide Council decisions and direction.

Regionalism is a focused approach to collaborative systems that cross municipal boundaries while maintaining a localized autonomy and governance. Regionalism represents a commitment to shared services and local autonomy.

To advance and achieve further regionalism, Council will be guided by these principles.

Autonomy—the ability to act freely outside of external control or influence. For a municipality this entails the ability to identify and set priorities and to choose a manner or method to achieve priorities.

Equity—the principle of equality and justness when specific factors are taken into consideration. For these purposes, a principle of equity does not necessarily reflect equality.

Community Values—the traits, beliefs and shared perspectives of a group. In this instance, these would reflect the community of people that constitute Stony Plain and would also be specifically those that differentiate Stony Plain from our regional partners and the broader Edmonton Metro Region.

Service Levels—are considered as a principle in those instances when they intersect with the other listed principles. For example, a community that believes strongly in its cultural community will want to ensure high service levels related to cultural organizations.

Transparency—is considered as a principle of openness to question, input and engagement. This is an important principle in all governance, more so during regionalism development due to the inherent nature of shared decision making.

Accountability can be considered closely linked to transparency. When coupled with regionalism policy, accountability must be assured as a consideration as decision making can be shared with other bodies not directly accountable to a specific community

Objectives & Goals

Pursuing a regionalism policy is an active effort:

1. To actively represent Stony Plain's community values.
2. To advance and increase service levels to Stony Plain residents.
3. To ensure autonomy is considered during decision making.
4. To highlight transparency and accountability as regionalization advances.
5. To ensure equity amongst regional partners in funding, governance and operations.

