CR_6249 Attachment 1



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CHINATOWN AND AREA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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Ratan Lawrence	Chinatown and Area Business Association
BIA Executive Director	10563 – 97 Street, Edmonton, AB

Mission Statement

Our mission as the Chinatown and Area Business Association is to create, promote and maintain an attractive, vibrant and prosperous business district; that reflects the unique multicultural identity of the McCauley community.

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The BIA is an economic and social support that help to stabilize, and overall, improve Chinatown; as an important destination in our city, that we see as a safe, healthy, and vibrant place to conduct business in.

Chinatown is a one-stop-shopping area, being "a walking community:" we are connected to the surrounding communities with public transit, trails, and the city's roads. As a community, we have a rich history and our cultural diversity surely is a part of it! We also attract Edmontonians with our speciality shops and restaurants.

101 Street (would like to be known as First Street) it is hoped that 101 Street will one day attract businesses and will be visually appealing. As the BIA, we wish to turn our warm and inviting vision of Chinatown into a reality; this would make the community (as well as us) very proud and would improve the quality of life in the area. Keep in mind, our main street is part of the face of Edmonton.

The BIA is also working towards increasing safe and fun on-foot activities that will engage us as a community and encourage collaborations with other neighbourhoods; hosting or sponsoring special events will encourage positivity on our streets and combat negativity, bringing people back to Chinatown. An investment grant from the city would attract young investors to start up business in Chinatown. A plan to draw young people back to Chinatown will help to develop the next generation of our leaders.

Façade Improvement continues to be one of the strong focuses for property and business owners in Chinatown. There are more and more businesses making use of this incentive program and turn the frontage of their business more attractive.

Injection sites -

Injection sites in Chinatown have contributed to a belief that the community is not a safe place for visitors. Since their installation in Chinatown, there are more needles found in our alleyways; and the BIA has received more reports of social disorder, assaults and safety issues.in the area. Our community should not be struck with fear; and Chinatown should be perceived as a family-friendly place. People may start to leave Chinatown, and that could cause destabilization and unoccupied buildings/houses can lead to more crime.

The Chinatown Economic Development Plan is involved with the idea of a prosperous future, and has been developed with an integrated economic approach; which brought diverse citizens to work on the revitalization and address its long-term development. Members of the Chinatown Task Force are working towards narrowing the gap between our most deprived neighbourhood and the remainder of the city, focussing on improving the sense of safety and security within the community.

Mary Burlie Park – Mary Burlie Park houses a monument that successfully memorializes the 14 victims of the Montreal Massacre, but it's vandalized and is missing parts (including name plates); Mary Burlie Park is clearly no long an ideal place for the memorial. The BIA and the French Quarter BIA have been collaborating trying to find a more respectful home for the monument, and Dean of Campus Saint Jean is interested; though moving it will be a difficult task, and just the cost of the preparation of its future site is high, and delaying the move.

106 Avenue Parking - The 2-hour parking restriction for the pilot project on 106 Avenue has to be reviewed, as residents along the avenue are actively requesting residential parking permits or the restriction to be lifted.

Capital City Clean Up (CCCU), and had a cleaning contract from May to August 2017 with the non-profit group to do weekly litter clean-ups, and was impressed by the team's exemplary work.

Submitted by: Ratan Lawrence Executive Director Chinatown and Area Business Association