

city of

Wetaskiwin

PRESS RELEASE



City of Wetaskiwin Launches Long-Term Community Visioning Project

Wetaskiwin community members of all ages and backgrounds are encouraged to participate.

WETASKIWIN, AB – September 28, 2020 – Today, the City of Wetaskiwin is pleased to announce the launch of a community visioning project, which will create a long-term, community-built vision for Wetaskiwin. The new community vision—called #Wetaskiwin2070—will help guide what the city will look like in 50 years and help us all better understand what it will take to get there.

“I think this gives us the opportunity to not only envision what our City will look like in 50 years, but also empower those living here to start creating the change they want for their community and what that could look like starting today,” said Wetaskiwin Mayor Tyler Gandam.

The City of Wetaskiwin has hired an independent consultant—Stormy Lake Consulting—to engage the community in various activities and workshops to gather feedback, perspectives, and opinions to help shape the 50-year vision. Community engagement activities will begin immediately and will wrap up later this year, followed by the official launch of the new community vision.

There are several ways community members can participate in the project:

Visit the Website

Visit Wetaskiwin’s [Have Your Say](#) website to learn about the 50-year community vision project and directly share thoughts about the vision by answering a few questions. Responses can be shared through written submissions on the site, or by uploading a photo.

Paint a tile for the Vision Mural

The City invites the public to express their vision for Wetaskiwin in a creative way, by participating in a collaborative vision mural. The mural will be a mosaic of individual tiles, and community members are invited to write, paint and sketch their vision for #Wetaskiwin2070 on a tile. Any medium can be used on the tile, but permanent markers and paint are recommended.

Blank tiles will be available for distribution and pick-up throughout the City at various locations starting October 1. Completed tiles will be accepted until October 25, with the final mural being displayed in the community upon completion. Additional details regarding tile drop-off and pick-up will be shared on social media and on the [City of Wetaskiwin](#) website.

Participate in a Workshop

Two workshops will take place on October 21 (in-person) and October 22 (virtually). Community members are invited to participate in one of the workshops to discuss questions that explore Wetaskiwin’s 50-year vision. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, participation is limited and will be granted on a first-come, first-serve basis. There is no charge to attend the workshops. To register for the in-person workshop or virtual workshop, please visit <https://www.research.net/r/Wetaskiwin-vision-workshop>.

Workshop details are as follows:

- **In-person workshop**

Wednesday, October 21 from 5:30 – 8 p.m.

Civic Centre, Drill Hall (4519 – 50 Avenue)

Physical distancing measures, PPE and AHS health and safety guidelines will be put in place to ensure the safety and comfort of participants.

- **Virtual workshop**

Thursday, October 22 from 5:30 – 8 p.m.

A Zoom conference link and instructions will be provided to participants who register.

Get Engaged on Social Media

Individual community members, organizations, businesses, clubs, groups, schools and teams are encouraged to share their thoughts and perspectives about the 50-year community vision on social media, using the hashtag #Wetaskiwin2070. Your vision could take the shape of a written post, image, video or visual graphic. Top social media posts will have an opportunity to win a prize from the City of Wetaskiwin.

Write a letter to future residents

Another component of the engagement process will be collecting a variety of artefacts which will be placed in a time capsule that will be buried at a secret location until 2070. The intention behind the time capsule is to provide a treasure trove of insights and reflections about what life was like in Wetaskiwin in 2020, and to provide the future community with material to compare and contrast how close the city came to meeting its visioning ideals. Community members are encouraged to write a letter to themselves or to their community, to talk about life today. Selected letters will be printed and added to the time capsule to be revealed in 2070.

You can email your letter between October 1 and 31 to haveyoursay@wetaskiwin.ca with the subject line "Letter to Wetaskiwin 2070", or send by post to:

Attn: Community Visioning Team

City of Wetaskiwin

Box 6210

Wetaskiwin, Alberta

T9A 2E9

Celebrating Our Future

Once the community visioning process is complete later this year, the new 50-year community vision will be widely shared and celebrated.

The City of Wetaskiwin would like to thank community members in advance for their participation in this monumental project that will shape the city for decades to come. Regular progress updates will be shared through media updates, social media, the City of Wetaskiwin website and [Have Your Say Wetaskiwin](#).

About the City of Wetaskiwin

Wetaskiwin is a secure, connected, and inclusive community home to a diverse population of 12,655 people. Located only 30 minutes south of the Edmonton International Airport, the City of Wetaskiwin provides a high quality of life through ample recreation opportunities, diverse cultural activities, and a modernized, business-friendly downtown.

For more information:

Ren Goode

Communications Manager, City of Wetaskiwin

(Phone) 780-361-4417 | (Cell) 780-335-4061

(Email) ren.goode@wetaskiwin.ca