

ELCPAP

Communications Update

Chapter Five

Oct 2, 2023

On January 18, 2023, Bishop William T. McGrattan publicly announced the East Lethbridge Catholic Parish Assessment Project (ELCPAP) that will culminate with local recommendations to him in January 2024. This is the fifth in a series of regular Chapter updates to keep you informed of the status of the project and explain how current activities are related to the overall project.

Current Activities

Very strong progress has been made over the summer by the ELCPAP subcommittees, and those teams are to be commended for their dedication and the countless hours they have donated to bring the project to this pivotal point. On Sept 29, the Evaluation and Recommendation Team launched with a mandate to take all the input from the previous teams, and to begin to form the actual recommendations to the Bishop.

In one sense, it is difficult to briefly sum up the quantity and quality of work that has been completed by the Option Generation Team led by Dorothy Boras and by the Data Collection and Analysis Team led by Cyndi Lilienthal. While this recap does not do justice to both teams efforts, key highlights have been captured.

Option Generation Team

The mandate of the Option Generation Team was to identify ideas from various stakeholder groups that would make All Saints as successful as possible. First the team designed an open ended Start/Stop/Continue questionnaire to capture ideas at a broad level. Next, they identified a spectrum of stakeholders, and then team members worked hard to liaise with those stakeholders and prompt their input, either by hardcopy or electronically. The Option Generation Team collected nearly 400 responses! In addition, the team then went back through historical data and reformatted ideas from earlier efforts and added them into the current Option Generation efforts. But the work had only just begun. The team then dug in to sort all those diverse ideas into manageable buckets. Finally, thanks largely to the untiring efforts of team member Oscar Tavernini, the data was well organized into a thorough and balanced 45 page Analytical Report. This report has been forwarded to the Evaluation and Recommendations Team

Needs Analysis and Data Collection

Cyndi Lilienthal's team had not one, but two, huge deliverables.

Needs Analysis Survey

The first mandate was to canvass All Saints Parishioners to find out from them what they felt was needed from their parish. Relying on Cyndi's in depth expertise with the Survey Monkey tool, the team then designed a survey tool that ranked parishioner needs in order of importance. Nearly 800 parishioners completed the hard copy and electronic survey resulting in a strong snapshot of what the parishioners felt their needs were. From that data, Cyndi's team then produced a very well-grounded report capturing the responses, and has since forwarded that report to the Evaluation and Recommendation Team.

Data Collection

The second mandate was even more daunting. The team was asked to identify and compile a vast spectrum of data points that the Evaluation and Recommendation Team could rely on when developing recommendations. Data points are such things as Lethbridge City demographics, parish demographics, Building Condition Assessments (BCAs), renovation cost estimates, alternative properties and their valuations, Urban Renewal Plans, Five Year Plans, new Church costs, etc. In the end, Cyndi's team may end with thousands of pages of data. Too large to print, that data will be placed on a drive electronically so that the Evaluation and Recommendations Team can benefit from all the information that has been collected.

Next Steps

The mandate of the Evaluation and Recommendation Team, led by Ryan Tarnava, is to review and synthesize this mountain of ideas and data, and to begin formulate recommendations to the Bishop over the next two months. Like the committees that preceded them, Ryan's team also has their work cut out for them.

If you are interested, there is a schematic on the All Saints Website that shows how all of this ties together at this stage (Subcommittee Workflow Model).

If you have any questions, or would like more information on the project, please ask me directly, or refer to the website including the Bishop's January 18, 2023 PowerPoint.

Father Kevin