

# ELCPAP

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## Communications Update

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### Chapter 4

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July 23, 2023

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On January 18, 2023, Bishop W.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 fourth 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*

Progress continues at a very good pace with our project. Two major milestones have now been completed by the Parish Assessment Team (PAT) since our last update. We anticipate that our progress will slow a little during August and September but will pick up full steam in early October. We will then get down to the business of evaluating all the options, data, and needs that have been collected in order to provide recommendations to the Bishop by January.

#### *Option Generation Team*

The Option Generation Team, led by Dorothy Boras, concluded their survey which canvassed stakeholders and parishioners on their ideas for what we need to consider making our parish more successful.

Using the Survey Monkey tool, the OG team asked open-ended questions to get feedback on what we need to start doing, stop doing, and continue doing. The survey collected 398 responses from around the city and from people outside the city. Then Dorothy's team got down to the big task of sorting all those broad ideas into more easily manageable buckets. Finally, the team conducted an in-depth analysis of those responses and captured their findings in a forty-five-page report. Dorothy's team will then pass on summarized options and the analysis to the Evaluation and Recommendations Team.

A powerful secondary benefit has also been achieved by Dorothy's OG team. A treasure trove of ideas were collected and categorized from stakeholders and parishioners. Those ideas go far beyond ideas for church buildings and will be a fountain of information for the Parish Pastoral Council in helping determine future strategies for the Parish.

#### *Needs Analysis*

The Data Collection and Needs Analysis Team, led by Cyndi Lilienthal, have also completed their own survey using Survey Monkey. The Program and Space Needs survey generated 798 responses. The purpose of this survey was to focus solely on parishioners and (to) ask them to rate various Parish needs

in order of importance. Cyndi's team will now use the various sorting and analysis tools in the Survey Monkey data base to rank and interpret the data.

Cyndi's team is also charged with a monumental second task. That task is to collect several Data Points that will be used as context for making recommendations. While data points tend to be statistical (such as Lethbridge and Parish demographics and trends,) they can also be evaluative (such as Building Condition Assessments (BCAs) for Church assets or availability of commercial properties on the market that could possibly be renovated for church use).

The BCA's are on the critical path for this project. We need to know clearly and firmly what we can anticipate for long- and short-term operating costs for our three churches. While there have been engineering studies in the past, they are now stale dated, and deficiencies have been identified in some past reports.

BCA's are expensive but necessary. To reduce costs, a decision was made to stage the work as it is \$19K cheaper to do so. We will take on a little more project risk related to timeline by doing this, but we think it is manageable.

#### *Next Steps*

The next steps involve designing and approving an implementation plan for the Evaluation and Recommendations Team. That team will launch in early October, and they will have all the benefit from the information gained from the subcommittees that preceded them. Specifically, as a foundation for their deliberations, they will have the following inputs:

- from Option Generation, they will receive a summary of options put forward as well as ideas from past projects. They will also receive the Analysis Report from that team.
- from Data Collection and Analysis, they will receive the Data Point reports, the Data Analysis Report, and the Needs Analysis Report.

I want to thank all the subcommittees for their exemplary efforts to date. Thanks to them, we are well positioned to move into the final phases of our project.

If you have any questions, or would like more information, please ask me directly, or refer to the website including the Bishop's January 28, 2023 PowerPoint.

Father Kevin