



March 2022



Saskatoon is a vibrant, prosperous and dynamic community that thrives during winter months and works together to support an active winter lifestyle that is inclusive and accessible for all.

– WintercityYXE Vision

The WintercityYXE Strategy serves as a roadmap to turn this vision into a reality. As we move toward realizing this vision, we have a number of initiatives that are ongoing in 2021/2022 that will help to set the stage for making Saskatoon a true Winter City.

saskatoon.ca/wintercityYXE



Action: Research Best Practices for Winter Economic Opportunities

We will be working with the University of Saskatchewan to research best practices to support the winter economy. This research will focus on learning from other municipalities and gathering input from community partners on how we can better support the winter economy, with a focus on social return on investment. The research will provide recommendations on current policies and programs.

Action: Support a variety of existing and new winter activities and events for all ages and abilities including the development of new ideas and concepts

In 2022, WintercityYXE capital funding provided \$25K to the WintercityYXE grant to support the many grant applications we received. Micro-grants of up to \$2000 were awarded to 28 applicants. <https://www.saskatoon.ca/business-development/planning/programs-projects/wintercityyxe-strategy/wintercityyxe-grants>.

Action: Provide and promote information to residents on “how to winter.”

Working with newcomer agencies, we created [How To Winter materials](#). *How to Winter* provides guidance on how to dress, keep cozy at home, prepare your home, make the best of winter, and how to get around during the winter months.

Action: Examine the need and benefit of a comprehensive winter lighting strategy and invest in projects that advance learning for the development of a lighting strategy.

With anticipated funding from the Federal Government, we will be undertaking a lighting analysis for two parks and five park buildings that will be undergoing upgrades in the near future. This analysis will provide recommendations on how we can enhance the existing lighting and explore alternatives for new infrastructure, such as solar lighting.

Other initiatives have been ongoing throughout 2021/2022 as well:

- ❖ The [background report](#) on the WintercityYXE strategy was developed.
- ❖ Resources are being created to support communications for WintercityYXE for years to come, including videos, photography and other materials.
- ❖ Support for programs and initiatives with a winter lens (e.g., winter parking patios and the federal grant request for support for public washrooms).

