

2027 COUNCIL INITIATIVES

October 30, 2026

OVERVIEW
Capital Project Plans and Operating Business Cases proposed by Council for the 2027 Budget.

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Chris Johnstone Memorial Field and Track Upgrade

Year of Operating Plan	**2027**
Business Case Name	Chris Johnstone Memorial Field and Track Upgrade
Department Name	Community & Protective Services

Investment Type	One-time Project ☒	New Program or Service☐	Increase LOS☐
Estimated Timeline	Start – Q1 2027	End – Q4 2028	Project Length – 2 year

Project Summary
Upgrade the Chris Johnstone Memorial Field and Track to improve safety, functionality, and long-term usability. Improvements will include turf management and irrigation, field and track lighting, a multi-level midfield facility with digital scoreboard, and conversion of the track to an all-weather surface.

Project Justification
Proactive upgrades will help maintain Town-owned recreation infrastructure, address aging facilities, and reduce the risk of costly future repairs. These improvements will support local sports, enhance user safety, and provide reliable facilities for community recreation and events. Rather than committing funding to this project at this time, Administration recommends updating the Parks, Open Space and Trails (POST) Masterplan. The update would establish where the Chris Johnstone Memorial Field and Track Upgrade ranks in priority relative to the Town's other parks and trails assets, so that future investment is directed where it is needed most. However, a placeholder of $20,000 was included in 2027 to explore the feasibility of this project independently should Council wish to proceed with this project.

Risk Assessment
If the project does not proceed, aging infrastructure will deteriorate further, increasing maintenance costs and potentially affecting user safety and facility usability. Project risks include weather delays, construction disruptions, and impacts on scheduled sports activities.

Community Impact & Engagement
Construction may temporarily disrupt field and track access. Communication will focus on informing users of construction timelines, closures, and access changes.

Sources of Funding			
Taxes ☒	Reserves ☐	Competitive Grants ☐	Other ☐

Financial Impacts	
2027	$20,000 (Feasibility study only)
2028	$ TBD
TOTAL COST $20,000	

Strategic Priority

Economic Strength☒	Livability ☒	Organizational Excellence ☐	Infrastructure Sustainability ☒
Meaningful Relationships ☐	Recreation Centre Modernization ☐		

Approval		
Developed by: (Writer/subject expert)	Name: Lyla Mozel, Councillor	Date: Oct. 14, 2026
Reviewed by: (Manager/Director)	Name: Alexa McEachern, Parks, Recreation & Culture Manager	Date:
Approved by: (Director)	Name: Alex Corpodean, Director of Community & Protective Services	Date: Oct. 20, 2026

Community Mural Program

Year of Operating Plan	2027
Business Case Name	Community Mural Program
Department Name	Community & Protective Services

Investment Type	One-time Project ☐	New Program or Service☒	Increase LOS☐
Estimated Timeline	Start - Q1	End - Q4	Project Length - Ongoing

Project Summary
Partner with local artists and businesses to create murals on selected building walls, with Town funding available to support projects where needed.

Project Justification
Murals would enhance Hinton's appearance, support local artists, and strengthen community pride by transforming underused building walls into vibrant public art.

Risk Assessment
Risks include insufficient business participation, funding shortfalls, property damage, and ongoing mural maintenance. Written property-owner approvals, clear agreements, and defined project budgets would help mitigate these risks.

Community Impact & Engagement
Murals would enhance public spaces and contribute to community identity. Engagement with property owners, local artists, and the community would help identify locations and themes. Communications would promote the program and completed projects.

Sources of Funding			
Taxes ☒	Reserves ☐	Competitive Grants ☐	Other ☐

Financial Impacts	
2027	$15,000
2028	$15,000
2029	$15,000
TOTAL COST $15,000 annually	

Strategic Priority			
Economic Strength☐	Livability ☐	Organizational Excellence ☐	Infrastructure Sustainability ☐
Meaningful Relationships ☒	Recreation Centre Modernization ☐		

Approval		
Developed by: (Writer/subject expert)	Name: Brian LaBerge, Mayor	Date: Oct. 19, 2026
Reviewed by: (Manager/Director)	Name: Alexa McEachern, Parks, Recreation & Culture Manager	Date: Oct. 20, 2026
Approved by: (Director)	Name: Alex Corpodean, Director of Community & Protective Services	Date: Oct. 20, 2026

Discovery Camp Expansion

Year of Operating Plan	2027
Business Case Name	Discovery Camp Expansion
Department Name	Community & Protective Services

Investment Type	One-time Project ☐	New Program or Service☐	Increase LOS☒
Estimated Timeline	Start – Q1	End – Ongoing	Project Length - Ongoing

Project Summary
Maintain the level of service provided through Discovery Camp while increasing the program's maximum enrollment capacity from 50 to 80 children, subject to staffing, space, and applicable licensing requirements.

Project Justification
There is a daily average of 10 children placed on the waitlist for Discovery Camp indicating that existing capacity is insufficient to meet community needs. The proposed increase in summer camp capacity from 50 to 80 children is intended to address the ongoing demand for the program and reduce the number of families placed on the waitlist.

Risk Assessment
The primary risks associated with increasing the summer camp program by 30 spaces includes increased staffing to maintain frontline staffing requirements, maintaining appropriate supervision to meet regulatory licensing compliance, increased programming expenses such as supplies, and transportation for trip days to ensure the quality of program is maintained at the current level. Recruiting qualified staff for just nine weeks may present challenges and could affect the program's ability to operate at the proposed capacity. Additional staffing will also result in increased operational costs. Maintaining the level of service while adding 30 places to the program will incur a 35% increase in costs for staffing, supplies, and food, as the program will need to operate in two separate locations. Those locations are the Family Centre (50 places) and the Guild – Hinton Kids for Success (30 places). These are Town-owned buildings, so there would be no additional cost for facility rental. There will also be a 15% increase in staffing costs due to the need for separate buses on trip days.

Community Impact & Engagement
The increased spaces will allow up to 30 additional children to access the summer camp program, improving access to affordable summer programming and potentially reducing waitlists for families. Increased capacity will provide more families with a structured program option during the summer months. If the project does not move forward, the program will remain capped at 50 children, and waitlists are expected to continue, requiring some families to seek alternative childcare or summer programming. However, maintaining the current capacity may allow for more manageable group sizes and help preserve the quality of care provided. It is important to note

that there are two existing programs that offer licensed childcare for ages six to 12. Both operate more like a childcare facility rather than a summer camp. Communication will focus on informing current and prospective families, local schools, and the public about the increased program capacity, registration procedures, available spaces, and any changes to fees. Public engagement is not anticipated to be necessary, as the level of service involves expanding an existing service in response to demonstrated community demand.

Sources of Funding			
Taxes ☒	Reserves ☐	Competitive Grants ☐	Other ☐

Financial Impacts	
2027	$26,250
2028	$26,981
2029	$27,746
TOTAL COST $80,977 for three years	

Strategic Priority			
Economic Strength☐	Livability ☒	Organizational Excellence ☐	Infrastructure Sustainability ☐
Meaningful Relationships ☐	Recreation Centre Modernization ☐		

Approval		
Developed by: (Writer/subject expert)	Name: Gail Dunn, Councillor	Date: Oct. 19, 2026
Reviewed by: (Manager/Director)	Name: Caryn Bouchard, FCSS Manager	Date: Oct. 20, 2026
Approved by: (Director)	Name: Alex Corpodean, Director of Community & Protective Services	Date: Oct. 20, 2026

Gordon Moore Park Baseball Diamonds Upgrade

Year of Operating Plan	2027
Business Case Name	Gordon Moore Park Baseball Diamonds Upgrade
Department Name	Community & Protective Services

Investment Type	One-time Project ☒	New Program or Service☐	Increase LOS☐
Estimated Timeline	Start – Q1 2027	End – Q4 2028	Project Length – 2 year

Project Summary
Upgrade Gordon Moore Park's baseball facilities to better accommodate older players, support growing participation, and increase the Town's capacity to host regional tournaments. Improvements include expanding Diamond 3, upgrading backstops, dugouts, lighting, scoreboards, electrical infrastructure, the batting cage, and irrigation system. Early spring weed control will also be included to improve playing conditions and safety.

Project Justification
Hinton has a strong and growing baseball community with significant participation across age groups and an expanding girls' program. Participation in minor baseball is comparable to minor hockey highlighting the sport's importance to local families and the community. Hinton also benefits from a strong pool of qualified umpires making the community an attractive destination for tournaments by reducing the travel costs associated with recruiting officials from outside the region. This creates opportunities to attract additional tournaments, generate tourism activity, and support the local economy. Rather than committing funding to this project at this time, Administration recommends updating the Parks, Open Space and Trails (POST) Masterplan. The update would establish where the Gordon Moore Park Baseball Diamonds Upgrade ranks in priority relative to the Town's other parks and trails assets, so that future investment is directed where it is needed most. However, a placeholder of $20,000 was included in 2027 to explore the feasibility of this project independently should Council wish to proceed with this project.

Risk Assessment
If the project does not proceed, facility limitations may continue to affect player safety, user experience, and tournament hosting opportunities. Project risks include cost increases, construction delays, weather, and disruptions to park users.

Community Impact & Engagement
Construction may temporarily restrict access to affected facilities. Communication with the local baseball association and affected park users will help minimize disruptions.

Sources of Funding			
Taxes ☐	Reserves ☐	Competitive Grants ☒	Other ☐

Financial Impacts	
2027	$20,000 (feasibility study only)

2028	$ TBD
TOTAL COST $20,000	

Strategic Priority			
Economic Strength☒	Livability ☒	Organizational Excellence ☐	Infrastructure Sustainability ☒
Meaningful Relationships ☒	Recreation Centre Modernization ☐		

Approval		
Developed by: (Writer/subject expert)	Name: Lyla Mozel, Councillor	Date: Oct. 14, 2026
Reviewed by: (Manager/Director)	Name: Alexa McEachern, Parks, Recreation & Culture Manager	Date:
Approved by: (Director)	Name: Alex Corpodean, Director of Community & Protective Services	Date: Oct. 20, 2026

Hinton Day Annual Community Celebration

Year of Operating Plan	2027
Business Case Name	Hinton Day Annual Community Celebration
Department Name	Community & Protective Services

Investment Type	One-time Project ☐	New Program or Service☒	Increase LOS☐
Estimated Timeline	Start – Q1	End – Q3	Project Length - Ongoing

Project Summary
Establish an annual Hinton Day on the second Saturday of September featuring live music, food vendors, family activities, community recognition, and a fireworks display, subject to weather and fire conditions.

Project Justification
Hinton Day would be an annual opportunity to celebrate community achievements, recognize residents, and bring families together through accessible community programming. The event would strengthen community pride, encourage participation, and create a recurring celebration of Hinton's people and accomplishments.

Risk Assessment
Risks include insufficient funding, low attendance, vendor or performer availability, weather disruptions, and fire restrictions affecting fireworks.

Community Impact & Engagement
The event would provide a family-friendly community celebration, support local vendors, and promote community pride. Communications would include event promotion, schedules, safety information, and updates regarding weather or fireworks restrictions. Community feedback may be gathered to inform future events.

Sources of Funding			
Taxes ☒	Reserves ☐	Competitive Grants ☐	Other ☐

Financial Impacts		
2027	Fireworks display (15-minute show)	$15,000
	Live entertainment / performers	$1,500
	Children's activities and family entertainment	$1,500
	Sound equipment and technical support	$1,000
	Event supplies, decorations and signage	$500
	Event staffing and operational support	$2,500
	Insurance and safety requirements	$1,000
	Contingency	$2,000
	Total Event Budget	**$25,000**
2028	$ TBD – subject to annual budget approval	
2029	$ TBD – subject to annual budget approval	
TOTAL COST $25,000		

Strategic Priority			
Economic Strength☐	Livability ☒	Organizational Excellence ☐	Infrastructure Sustainability ☐
Meaningful Relationships ☐	Recreation Centre Modernization ☐		

Approval		
Developed by: (Writer/subject expert)	Name: Brian LaBerge, Mayor	Date: Oct. 19, 2026
Reviewed by: (Manager/Director)	Name: Alexa McEachern, Parks, Recreation & Culture Manager	Date: Oct. 20, 2026
Approved by: (Director)	Name: Alex Corpodean, Director of Community & Protective Services	Date: Oct. 20, 2026

Switzer Drive Walking Path Extension

Year of Capital Plan	2027
Project Name	Switzer Drive Walking Path Expansion
Department Name	Community & Protective Services

Investment Type	Maintain ☐	Replace/Rebuild ☐	Growth ☒
Estimated Timeline	Start - Q1 2027	End - Q4 2028	Project Length – 2 years

Project Summary
Assess, design, and develop a walking and cycling pathway along Switzer Drive connecting the Dr. Duncan Murray Recreation Centre area to The Brick store, providing a safer active transportation connection between the upper and lower areas of Hinton.

Project Justification
Residents currently walk and cycle along Switzer Drive, but a continuous dedicated pathway is not available along the desired route. This project would assess the feasibility, costs, and infrastructure requirements for establishing a safer connection between the hill and valley, improving pedestrian and cyclist accessibility and supporting active transportation. Given the potential challenges associated with terrain, road access, drainage, and property constraints, an initial feasibility assessment would help establish project scope, costs, and implementation priorities for future budget consideration. Rather than committing funding to this project at this time, Administration recommends updating the Parks, Open Space and Trails (POST) Masterplan. The update would establish where the Switzer Drive Walking Path Extension ranks in priority relative to the Town's other parks and trails assets, so that future investment is directed where it is needed most. However, a placeholder of $20,000 was included in 2027 to explore the feasibility of this project independently should Council wish to proceed with this project.

Risk Assessment
Without this pathway, pedestrians and cyclists may continue using areas without dedicated pathway infrastructure, creating potential conflicts with vehicle traffic and limiting safe connectivity between community destinations. Project risks include challenging grades, drainage requirements, utility conflicts, property constraints, construction costs, and potential impacts to traffic and nearby businesses during construction. A feasibility assessment and preliminary design would help identify these risks and establish realistic project costs before construction is considered.

Community Impact & Engagement
The proposed pathway would improve pedestrian and cyclist connectivity, support active transportation, and provide a safer route between the Recreation Centre area and The Brick store area. Construction may temporarily affect traffic, access, and nearby businesses. Initial engagement with affected property owners, businesses, utility providers, and relevant stakeholders may be required to inform the route and design. Public communications would be

provided as the project progresses, with broader public engagement considered if alternative alignments or significant design decisions warrant it. Communications and engagement costs would be included in the operating budget.

Sources of Funding			
Taxes ☒	Reserves ☐	Grants ☐	Other ☐
Notes:			

Capital Budget Impacts	
2027	$20,000
2028	$ TBD
TOTAL COST $20,000	

Operating Budget Impact	
Ongoing Costs: Yes ☒ No ☐ Estimated amount: $10,000	Life Cycle of Asset 25 - 30 years

Strategic Priority			
Economic Strength☐	Livability ☒	Organizational Excellence ☐	Infrastructure Sustainability ☐
Meaningful Relationships ☐	Recreation Centre Modernization ☐		

Approval		
Developed by: (Writer/subject expert)	Name: Gail Dunn, Councillor	Date: Oct. 20, 2026
Reviewed by: (Manager/Director)	Name: Alexa McEachern, Parks, Recreation & Culture Manager	Date: Oct. 28, 2026
Approved by: (Director)	Name: Alex Corpodean, Director of Community & Protective Services	Date: Oct. 30, 2026