

Building the Calgary Region: Steering Committees Lead the Way

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Building a prosperous Calgary Region starts from pivotal work done by the [Calgary Regional Partnership's](#) (CRP) steering committees. They are made up of elected officials from all member municipalities and meet every other month. These committees, along with their staff committee counterparts, form strategies and implement plans that have significant impact to the Region. They just had their inaugural meetings since the municipal elections in October 2013. These meetings had many new faces and brimmed with anticipation of future work. (Also check out our [governance page](#) to see how the steering committees are integral to CRP)

Here's an update:

Calgary Metropolitan Plan and Regional Servicing Steering Committee:

February 13, 2014 was the inaugural meeting for the Calgary Metropolitan Plan Implementation and Regional Servicing Steering Committee. Elected officials and staff representatives from around the region were presented with an overview of the committee responsibilities and project focus areas for 2014. This committee will be focusing on

initiatives related to water and wastewater servicing, planning, regional growth and environment. Councillor Barry Williamson from the Town of Turner Valley will serve as Chair, and Mayor Ivan Brooker from the Town of Cochrane was nominated as Vice Chair. The next committee meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2014.

Regional Transportation and Complete Mobility Steering Committee:

The Regional Transportation and Complete Mobility Steering Committee had its first meeting on February 6, 2013. A summary of the past, present and future direction of the program work plans was presented for the benefit of the committee members. [ZGM Collaborative Marketing](#) also presented the history of the development of the [new regional transit brand](#) and the future of the advocacy campaign related to communicating the brand. ZGM presented the possibility of developing an early adopters program for the brand for the partnership and its members. The brand “[On-it](#)” is a complete mobility brand that could be used for branding things like bike and walking paths within the Calgary Region. Mayor John Borrowman from the Town of Canmore will serve as Chair. The next committee meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2014.

Economic Prosperity Steering Committee:

This Committee’s first meeting was held on March 13, 2014. The CRP’s [2013-2015 Economic Prosperity Work Plan](#) was presented to Committee members. The CRP’s role in regional economic development has evolved since inception, now fully integrating its responsibilities as the Province’s designated [Regional Economic Development Alliance](#) (REDA) for the Calgary Region. A new region-wide marketing strategy and campaign is in the works.

CRP is setting the stage for the introduction of transit services across the Calgary Region in the next 3-5 years. A Transit-Oriented Development project (a ‘toolkit’ of strategies and actions to leverage transit opportunities) is being piloted with two communities – Okotoks and Strathmore.

The CRP is also looking to strengthen the transportation & logistics sector in the Region and is actively working towards creating a Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) on a region-wide scale. FTZ’s provide a number of benefits to businesses and member municipalities.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2014.