Township of North Kawartha
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Report to Council

To: Mayor and Council Members

From: Shannon Hunter, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: November 17, 2026

Subject: Strategic Plan Update

Recommendation:

That Council receive the Strategic Plan Update report for information; and further, that Council provide direction regarding the strategic priorities, goals, and objectives to be included in a 2027 Strategic Priorities Plan and 2027 Strategic Economic Development Priorities.

Background:

Each term of Council, Council in collaboration with staff, adopts a strategic plan outlining the future direction for the North Kawartha community. The plan includes strategic priorities, goals, and objectives that assist Township Departments with prioritizing, planning & budgeting. The current strategic plan is for the years 2023-2026.

Council also adopts a strategic economic development plan. The first economic development plan adopted was for the 2023-2026 term. Extensive consultations were conducted with a range of community stakeholders.

Analysis:

New Strategic Plans will ultimately be required to guide Council and staff through the 2027-2030 term of Council. To support an effective planning process, staff are recommending that Council initially focus on identifying priorities for 2027 rather than undertaking a full four-year strategic planning exercise at this time.

This approach will provide Council with an opportunity to review the accomplishments achieved through the 2023-2026 Strategic Plans, consider priorities that remain unfinished, and identify any emerging issues that should be addressed in the coming year. Establishing a one-year priority plan will also provide staff with clear direction for the development of the 2027 budget and work plans.

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Staff are requesting that Council review the current strategic priorities, goals, and objectives and identify those that should be continued, modified, removed, or added for 2027. Council's feedback will be used to develop a draft 2027 Strategic Priorities Plan for consideration.

While a traditional strategic planning process would typically include a broader visioning exercise for the entire term of Council and beyond, staff believe that focusing on immediate priorities for 2027 will allow for a more informed and deliberate strategic planning process later in the year. Following the completion of the 2027 priorities exercise, staff will return to Council with recommendations for developing a comprehensive Strategic Plan and Strategic Economic Development Plan for the remainder of the 2027-2030 term.

Attached is the Strategic Plan Progress Report presented to Council on September 1, 2026, the Strategic Economic Development Plan update for 2026 presented to Council on September 15, which summarizes key achievements and progress made toward the goals and objectives identified in the 2023-2026 Strategic Plans. This report is provided to assist Council in evaluating past accomplishments and identifying future priorities.

Financial Implications:

Nil

Strategic and/or Other Plans:

Maintain a strong, accountable, Municipal Government

Consultant(s) Sourced: Nil

Attachment:

Strategic Plan Progress Report

Strategic Economic Development Plan Updates

Strategic Plan

Strategic Economic Development Plan