



Councillor Blog

July 2023

Welcome back fellow residents of White City (and those reading from the surrounding area) for the June 2023 edition of the White City Councillor Blog. This month's blog will focus on the Town's newly implemented Community Safety Officer (CSO) program.

The CSO program was first introduced by the Government in Saskatchewan in 2014 to address low-risk to harm, high-priority policing needs. It has become a significant initiative aimed at enhancing public safety within Saskatchewan communities. As part of White City's 2022-2025 Strategic Plan, the CSO program has been developed with the utmost consideration for the well-being and safety of our residents to enforce select provincial statutes and municipal bylaws.

The primary objective of the CSO program is to ensure a safe and secure environment for all individuals living in White City. This program is designed to complement the existing efforts of law enforcement agencies by providing an additional layer of community-focused support and assistance. The CSOs are dedicated professionals who play a crucial role in maintaining a peaceful and thriving community.

Key Aspects of the CSO Program:

- **Community Presence and Engagement:** CSOs are highly visible members of our community, patrolling our neighborhoods, parks, and public spaces. They aim to build positive relationships with residents, promoting trust and open communication.
- **Public Safety Assistance:** CSOs serve as a valuable resource for residents by responding to non-emergency calls and providing assistance with various safety concerns. They are trained to handle a wide range of situations, including traffic management and bylaw enforcement.
- **Traffic Control and Parking Enforcement:** CSOs play an essential role in ensuring road safety by monitoring traffic flow, enforcing speed limits, and addressing parking violations. Their presence helps promote responsible driving behavior and contributes to a safer environment for pedestrians and motorists alike.
- **Bylaw Compliance and Education:** White City's CSO will also act as a municipal bylaw enforcement officer to educate residents about local bylaws and regulations. They assist in enforcing these bylaws to maintain the quality of life in our community. CSOs can provide guidance and resources to help residents understand and comply with these regulations.
- **Emergency Preparedness and Response:** In emergency situations, CSOs collaborate with law enforcement and emergency services to provide support and assistance to residents. They undergo specialized training to act as first responders, ensuring a timely response to emergencies until professional help arrives.

Turn the page for more info! →

It is important to note that CSOs are not sworn police officers but are trained to handle various non-emergency situations and act as a vital link between the community and law enforcement agencies.

The introduction of the CSO program demonstrates our commitment to a safe and protected community. By having dedicated professionals who prioritize community engagement and public safety, we can collectively work towards creating an environment where everyone feels safe and protected.

Your input and feedback are essential to the success of this program. We encourage you to reach out to Town Council or our CSO Program Manager with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you may have regarding the CSO program or any other matters related to community safety. Together, let us continue to build a thriving community that prioritizes the well-being and security of all its residents.

Meet our Officer – Eric Giroux!

Eric is the new Community Safety Officer (CSO) for the Town of White City and we could not be more excited to welcome him to the team.

He will frequently be patrolling the community in the marked truck, so don't be afraid to give him a wave or say 'hi' when you see him.

