

Mayerthorpe Youth Consultations for MSP/BRM  
June 11, 2009 – 10am

**Where do you see Mayerthorpe in 5 years?**

- Rec centre
- More paved roads
- 1 form of major industry
- Stop burning garbage
- Small recycling facilities
- More job opportunities
- Very little change
- Maybe arena will be started (being built)
- School population will be lower
- \* People need to realize we need a change NOW! Starting today!
- Main street more attractive
- Less options in school
- Mediocre roads
- New arena/pool
- Small population

**Where do you see Mayerthorpe in 10 years?**

- Marked increase in population
- New housing developments
- More restaurants
- More stores
- Better facilities
- More major industries
- Efficient recycling facilities
- Thriving community
- More businesses
  - o More job opportunity
- Better looking town
  - o Stores looking up to date
- More active community
  - o People who are motivated to help
- Better schools with more options
- Recreation boost
- Business – across highway
- Hub closed down
- Bigger population

**Where do you see Mayerthorpe in 25 years?**

- Self-sufficient, stable community
- Stable population
- You don't have to leave town to get stuff
- Research & education facilities
- Existence of some small franchises
- Possible population of 10,000
- Advanced services
  - o Hospitals
  - o Schools
  - o Stores
  - o Recreation facilities
  - o Environmental services
- Movie theatre
- Shopping centre

### **Issues affecting Mayerthorpe and possible solutions**

#### **1. Issue: There are few fast-food restaurants and stores in town.**

##### **What types of restaurants and stores would you like to see in Mayerthorpe?**

- a. Fast food restaurants (McDonalds, A&W, Subway, Boston Pizza)
- b. More grocery centres, so that we can have more options for prices and food
- c. A small Chapters
- d. Restaurants: McDonalds, Starbucks, Boston Pizza; Stores: Stitches, Warehouse One, Claires, HMV
- e. Subway, Sport Chek
- f. McDonalds, Subway, Quizno, Pizza, donair
- g. Quiznos, clothing store, Tim Hortons
- h. Fast food restaurant like a Subway that is healthy
- i. I would like to see locally owned and operating stores/restaurants. Could be franchise or not, need an upscale restaurant.
- j. People should bring business to Mayerthorpe and own them and provide jobs for kids and such.
- k. Chapters

#### **2. Issue: There is a lack of job opportunities in Mayerthorpe.**

##### **What types of job opportunities would you like to see in Mayerthorpe?**

- a. More jobs for students
- b. Waitressing jobs, more large enterprises that can hire more people to attract more job sectors
- c. More availability for teens and even parents to work at, there are a lot of families that have to drive to Whitecourt, Onoway or Blueridge just to work. Reality is kids will do anything for money so we need jobs!
- d. For jobs and businesses to let kids work more than 1 day a week according to behaviour and commitment

- e. Nursing, photography, acting
- f. More music (musicians) and art (artists)
- g. More manufacturing places
- h. Research and development industries so I have something to come back for
- i. Jobs that require education above grade 12 so there is something to come back for, jobs for youth so I can afford to go to college
- j. Higher paying, more to pick from, ability to walk onto the job after graduation and not have to work a second job
- k. Get more business in town that will hire a lot of people
- l. A well known name restaurant Tim Hortons or something that could expand

3. **Issue: Mayerthorpe is too small.**

**What can Mayerthorpe do to attract more people?**

- a. Expand Mayerthorpe. Get businesses to set up shop here
- b. More job opportunities & recreational activities
- c. We need more businesses and a plant or factory of some sort
- d. Advertise affordable housing as a suburb of Whitecourt
- e. Have more attractions such as movie theatres, Tim Hortons & gas station, shopping, pool, hockey arena
- f. Provide more job opportunities with possibility of advancement, maybe a college or university
- g. New facilities for people to use
- h. Promote, promote, promote development of residential areas i.e. sidewalks, roads, utilities
- i. To have more advertising or something to attract on the other side of the highway
- j. More stores for kids, teens, and adults, and more things to do. Ex: skate park, arena, more kids would come to the town if we had a cool skate park, or an arena
- k. More opportunities to do things recreation wise, theatre, movies, park, and other things.
- l. Fix roads, replace crappy buildings with newer ones, clean

4. **Issue: People are lazy and lack interest in the community.**

**How would you get people interested in the Mayerthorpe community?**

- a. Community events
- b. Movie theatre
- c. Have attractions, better hotel, restaurants, movie theatres
- d. Have fun activities for everyone to take place in
- e. Comedy fundraisers to help bring people together for stuff
- f. Groups like Kinettes, Lions, etc.
  - i. More community events
- g. Have activities that allow for involvement of the entire community; it seems like anything interesting that is done is always targeted @ the same group of ppl
- h. Getting groups that work together

5. **Issue: The town's roads and sidewalks are in bad shape.**

**Aside from raising taxes to pay for new roads, what else can the Town do about the condition of roads and sidewalks?**

- a. Try not to rough up the roads and abusing them. Getting everyone from the community to pitch in, fundraiser
  - b. Address the issue to families in the town and hold a fundraiser to raise money for the town. If this fails....that sucks.
  - c. Make them better in the first place so they don't crumble to the current state
  - d. Put more trash cans to keep them clean, get students to fix the roads as work experience or volunteering or credits
  - e. They have <undecipherable> of teens my age who need jobs pay 1 or 2 of us to fix roads for a summer
  - f. Fundraiser to pitch in for the cause
  - g. Apply for gov't grants → there must be some available
  - h. Have a fundraiser and put money towards sidewalks and roads
  - i. Find someone who is willing to donate materials and see if any volunteers are willing to help with the process
  - j. Hold tournaments, baseball and put money to roads
6. **Issue: There is not enough for young people to do.**

**What recreation opportunities would you like to see in Mayerthorpe?**

- a. Proper recreation facilities (pool, arena, skate park, field house, gym, running track)
- b. Movie theatre, swimming pool/arena
- c. Music
- d. Organized sports, for children and adults
- e. Skate park, arena, pool, field activities, stuff for adults as well as kids
- f. Better roads that don't wreck peoples vehicles
- g. Shopping, arenas, swimming pool, restaurants
- h. Movie theatre – could have it open a few days a week from 5-10 or something. That way cost of power etc could still be @ an efficient cost. It wouldn't be running all day.

**Attractions of a community found in Mayerthorpe**

- Wezgotz concerned citizens
- Basic, basic, BASIC services
- Relatively safe (RCMP)
- Golf course, campground
- Small town atmosphere
- Close to good towns
- Relatively low housing costs
- Farmers fest/fair

**Name ten things that would attract you to a community. (example: lots of stores to shop from, parks, trails for exercise, safety, etc.)**

- Jobs, services (stores, recreational, sports teams), community services (hospitals, schools), aesthetics → parks, looks well kept, etc., roads, culture → people care (clubs – Lions/Kinettes), good management → council → fair taxes
- Small town, nice people, redneck/hillbilly, comfortable setbacks, farming community, where I can be free, no neighbours that I can see, easy living, family, not that far away from other places to get food and clothing, attractive town, jobs, safety
- Malls, trileisure centres, restaurants, movie theatres, parks, kind & helping people, nice houses, good roads, camp sites, lakes & rivers
- Paved walking trails, efficient waste management, recreation facility, convenient shopping centres, is aesthetically pleasing, affordable housing, existence of a college/university, friendly population, crime prevention is strong, good place to raise a family
- Mall (lots of things to do and it's convenient), clean (no or hardly any litter in the community), nice roads (gives it a nice look and feel about the town), theatre (shows community is interested in the arts), scenery (nice looking and pretty), the people (if it is a very friendly environment), various businesses (nice job opportunities), safety (not much violence), housing, schools
- Fast pace life of the city, being able to walk down the street and there's always stuff to do, shopping malls, clubs (dancing, upbeat, hip), parades, concerts, sense of pride, recreational possibilities, jobs, aesthetics, schools
- Sports, stores, people, community activities, businesses, fundraiser they do for the community, services, clean
- Recreation options (things to do for fun), decent shopping venues, good schools, a community where everyone is involved and friendly, safety and security (knowing your safe to walk the streets at night), decent restaurants, affordable housing, job opportunitys, clean
- Music stores, HMV, theatres, fast food, concerts, coffee shop like Seinfelds, safe neighbourhoods, paved roads, big car washes, places to go and "hang out", many work opportunitys
- More jobs for kids in school other than the Co-op, fast food, more doctors at hospitals, more places to shop, for us legal people, a better bar, new skatepark, more food store selections
- Public safety/security, recreational activities such as sports, shopping centres/stores, movie theatre, parks such as ones in Edmonton with many running tracks, recycling, efficient roads/have them maintained, jobs
- Scenery, lots of shopping options, clean, friendly, rec centre/entertainment, well-maintained, affordable, many job opportunities, good schools with options, low crime
- High paying jobs, good education, organized sports/leisure activities for all ages, good hospitals, pleasant views and landscaping, facilities for sports and other leisure activities, jobs for youth, parks and such
- Restaurants + other services, good schools – plenty of options, jobs – lots of quality employment opportunities, secondary schooling, events – fairs, shows, etc. ; places like the Millar Centre in Whitecourt, good hospitals
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