



## **COMMUNITY & CORPORATE SERVICES – AGENDA REPORT**

**Meeting Date:** 22 April 2025

**Subject:** Veterans Crosswalk Information

**Directorate:** Community Services

---

### **Issue:**

The Community and Corporate Services Committee is being provided with information on the best practice to honour the contributions of Veterans in a crosswalk setting.

### **Policy / Council Direction:**

The Veterans Crosswalks are an enhancement of the Veteran's Memorial Project and align with the goal of the initiative to honour and recognize Airdrie's Veterans in a highly visible way, while driving and walking by, becoming a visual focal point in the community.

### **Background:**

The Culture and Heritage department leads the creation of memorials and commemorative initiatives to honour significant events and figures such as the veterans who have fought for Canada. Culture and Heritage is bringing forward to Committee an enhancement to the Veterans Memorial Project by adding Veteran's Crosswalks in select locations to recognize the over 200 local veterans living today in Airdrie and countless others who have sacrificed their lives.

In fall of 2024, after the Veteran's Crosswalks were unveiled in Cochrane, the City of Airdrie received feedback from the community through the Mayor's Office, and social media as to why the City of Airdrie does not have Veteran's Crosswalks. Both the Legion and the Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans in Canada (ANAVETS) also reached out with the same request. Veterans Crosswalks are designed to honour and recognize the contributions of Canadian military veterans. The concept has gained traction across various municipalities to visually acknowledge the sacrifices made by veterans. These crosswalks typically feature symbolic elements, Canadian maple leaf military insignia, or other commemorative designs that resonate with the local veteran community and broader public.

Administration conducted research to understand the inputs needed to replicate a similar project in Airdrie. Examples of similar installations in Cochrane and Calgary were reviewed to understand the best places of where they have installed Veteran's Crosswalks. In Cochrane, the Town installed an alternating red and white crosswalk with a silhouette of a soldier and the phrase Lest We Forget. The crosswalk symbolically leads to the cenotaph. In Calgary, the crosswalks were installed at the intersection of 36th Street and 8th Avenue Southeast within the neighborhood of Forest Lawn, near the Royal Canadian Legion and the Home for Heroes.

There are two locations chosen to be painted as Veteran's Crosswalks: 1) the roadway adjacent to the Field of Valour Park; and 2) on 1st Avenue NE adjacent to the Legion building. The Legion and ANAVETS supported these locations. Parks and Public Works have reviewed these locations and support their suitability for painted crosswalk applications.

#### **Location #1: Field of Valour Park**

This is an ideal location because it leads to the Field of Valour Park which contains the Cenotaph and the Gapyeong War Memorial and will recognize the almost 200 veterans living in Airdrie today. As this location is within a School Zone, the City's standard is to utilize zebra crosswalk markings. Existing zebra markings will need to be milled out and paved prior to installation.



## Location #2: 1st Avenue NE

The second location is on 1st Avenue NE in front of the Airdrie Legion Branch building. It is an ideal location not only for its proximity to the Legion building but as a more pedestrian friendly neighbourhood setting.



The Veteran's Crosswalks will be painted with traffic paint. Based on Administration's assessment, traffic paint is the recommended material to use because it has a lower initial cost and can be repainted multiple times. Other options such as thermoplastics when applied in high wear locations (such as through a turning radius) could wear quickly, with fewer options for repair other than replacement.

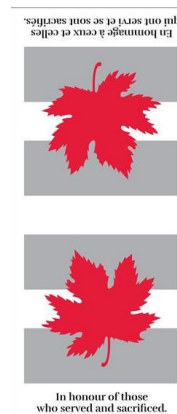
The Canadian Legion (national) has recently designed a standard crosswalk design template that could easily be used and reapplied periodically. The design that Cochrane and other municipalities have is also acceptable. The preferred design will be chosen based on consultation with the Legion and ANAVETS.

The two images below are concepts only for the Veterans Crosswalks.

### **Cochrane Installed Design**



### **Legion Approved Concept**



### **Next Steps**

Administration will include both crosswalk locations, as the cost is minimal and can be accommodated through the Veterans Memorial Project. The Veterans Memorial Project including Veteran's Crosswalks will be completed in summer 2025 in time for Remembrance Day ceremony.

### **Administration Recommendation:**

That the Community and Corporate Services Standing Committee accept the Veterans Crosswalk report for information.

### **Alternatives/Implications:**

That the Community and Corporate Services Standing Committee does not accept the Veterans Crosswalk report for information.

### **Budget Implications:**

The Veterans Crosswalk is an element of the Veterans Memorial Project which can be accommodated under the project budget. The approximate cost of painting a crosswalk is \$12,000 to \$14,000.

### **Communications and Engagement:**

N/A

**Recommendation:**

That the Community and Corporate Services Standing Committee accepts the report entitled “Veterans Crosswalk Information”, for information.

---

Kim Harris, Culture Specialist

|                     |                                |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Staff Presenter:    | Kim Harris, Culture Specialist |
| External Presenter: | N/A                            |
| Department:         | Culture and Heritage           |
| Reviewed by:        | Clay Aragon, Michelle Lock     |
| Attachments:        | N/A                            |