INFORMATION NOTE

Title: **World Council on City Data - Benchmarking**

Date Prepared: September 23, 2020

Report To: Committee of the Whole

Councillor and Role: Mayor Danny Breen, Governance & Strategic Priorities

Ward: N/A

Issue: To provide Council with an update on the status of the World Council on City Data (WCCD) benchmarking and ISO certification initiative

Discussion – Background and Current Status:

The World Council on City Data (WCCD) was founded in 2014 and exists to help communities of all sizes - in Canada and across the globe - to embrace standardized, independently verified, and globally comparable city data to become more sustainable, resilient, prosperous inclusive and smart. Since its founding, the WCCD has been working with 100 cities worldwide and has helped these cities to adopt ISO 37120, the first international standard for city data. The WCCD and ISO 37120 are a truly "Made in Canada" initiative – with their ultimate creation primarily spearheaded by Canadian urban thinkers and city leaders. The standard includes 104 indicators across 19 themes and standardizes a set of city services and quality of life including:

Economy · Health · Sport & Culture · Education · Housing · Telecommunication · Energy · Population & social conditions · Transportation · Environment & climate change · Recreation · Urban/local agriculture & food security · Finance · Safety · Urban Planning · Governance · Solid Waste · Wastewater · Water

ISO 37120 provides cities with quantitative, globally comparable and independently verified local-level data enabling any city, of any size, to measure and compare its social, economic, and environmental progress internally year over year, and also in relation to other peer cities locally and globally.   The WCCD Global Network includes one hundred cities across more than thirty countries.

The City of St. John's has received WCCD ISO 37120 Platinum Certification, reporting over 90 of the 104 indicators within WCCD's ISO 37120 standard, as part of the Government of Canada supported Data for Canadian Cities Project (DCCP).

This is the highest level of certification that a city can achieve and reflects the calibre of the data reported in conformity with ISO 37120. Through DCCP, the City of St. John's joins a network of thirty data-driven Canadian cities, and 100 cities globally across more than 30 countries.

Key Considerations/Implications:

1. Budget/Financial Implications:
    $30,000, two thirds of which is covered by the Government of Canada over three years.

2. Partners or Other Stakeholders:
    Various third-party organizations who provided data to be used within the indicators.

3. Alignment with Strategic Directions/Adopted Plans:
    This project was identified as a 2020 action item in the Our City, Our Future Strategic Plan under the strategic direction of Effective Organization.

4. Legal or Policy Implications:
    None currently.

5. Privacy Implications:
    None currently.

6. Engagement and Communications Considerations:
    Information collected through the initiative and the outcomes of the data and benchmarking will be shared across the organization and with the broader community in partnership with the WCCD.

7. Human Resource Implications:
    None currently.

8. Procurement Implications:
    None currently.

9. Information Technology Implications:
   WCCD is moving towards an online portal which will improve the data collection and reporting process for 2019 data.

10. Other Implications:
    City specific data and benchmarking provide information that can inform several strategies and plans including economic development, sustainability, marketing, continuous improvement and the city's overarching strategic plan directions and goals.

    Data collected through Year 1 is based in 2018.

Conclusion/Next Steps:

Review the outcomes of the Year 1 data (a high-level flip book is available here) and move forward with the data collection for Year 2 (2019). A summary document and the certification are included with this package.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	World Council on City Data - Benchmarking.docx
Attachments:	- WCCD Presentation St. John's ISO 37120 Certification.pptx
Final Approval Date:	Sep 25, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Derek Coffey - Sep 24, 2020 - 10:54 AM

No Signature - Task assigned to Kevin Breen was completed by workflow administrator Shanna Fitzgerald

Kevin Breen - Sep 25, 2020 - 3:31 PM