

DOWNTOWN KINGSTON BIA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: March 15, 2023

Submitted by: Marijo Cuerrier

1) COUNCIL/ CITY OF KINGSTON COMMITTEES

Delegations:

- In support of the Memorial Cup
- In support of the Patio Program 2024
- Presentation of Levy

2) BOARD

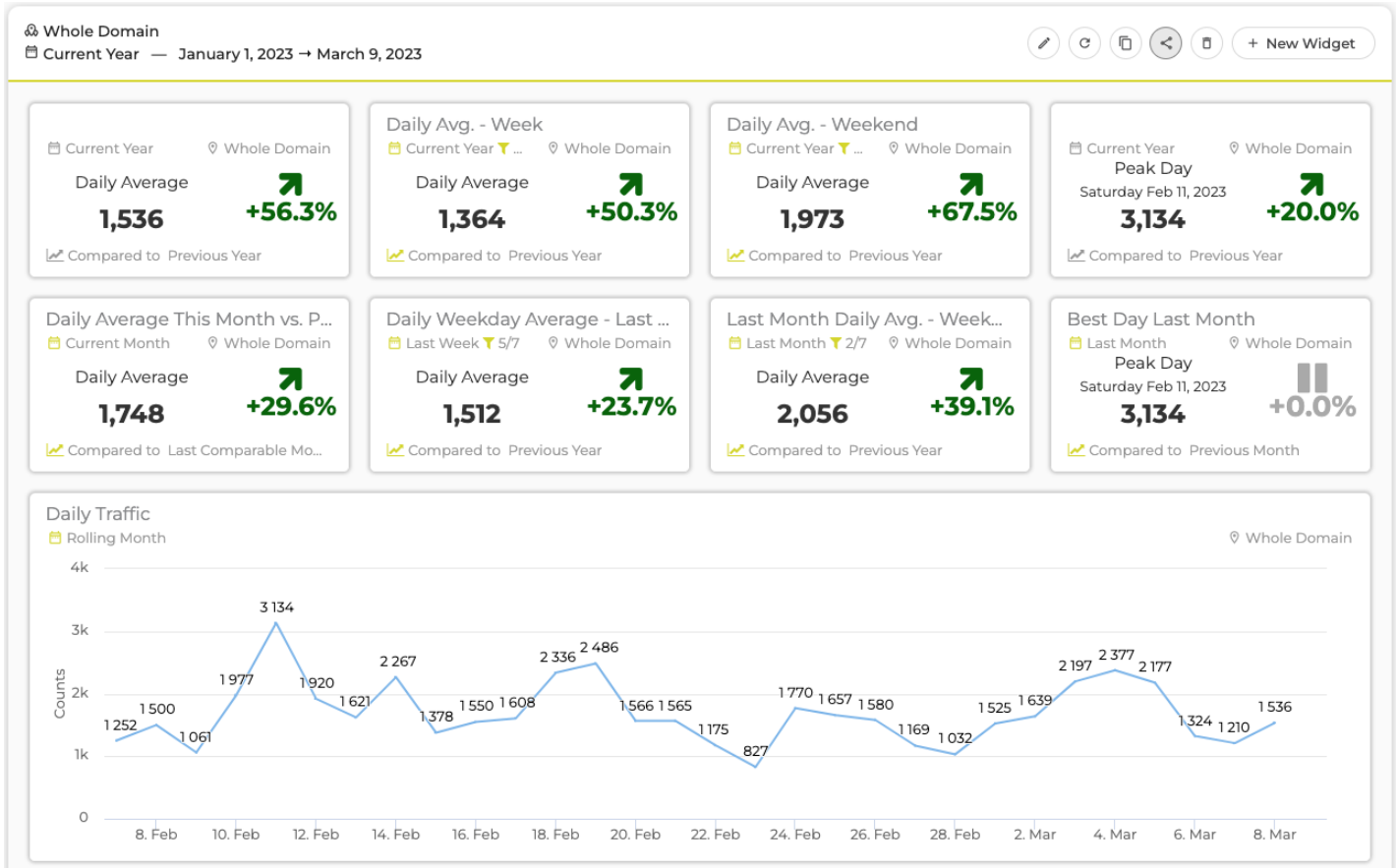
- a) If the Strategic Planning process is approved, we will be working to find a time that works for all Board members to be involved in a one-day working group to develop the 2024-2027 Strategic Plan. Dates the facilitator is available as well as a list of recommended additions to the group can be reviewed here: [Strategic Planning dates and additional participants.pdf](#)

3) TEAM/OFFICE

- a) Welcome Sarika Rana the new Member Services Coordinator to our team. Sarika has been in Canada just 7 months, previously from New Delhi India. Sarika has a fresh perspective on what it's like to be in Kingston as a newcomer. She is already out and about on the streets. Say hello if you see her!
- b) The office will be closed from March 20-31 for a long overdue fresh coat of paint. The office staff will be relocating to Seaway for the 2 weeks that it will take to paint. The office phone will be forwarded to our phones and you can come visit the main floor of Seaway anytime 😊

4) PEDESTRIAN COUNTS

- a) Detailed report is included in the Board Package. Pedestrian counts continue to exceed 2022.
- b) Notice the spike on Saturday, February 11th and a slight spike on Tuesday, February 14th. Many romantics in downtown Kingston ❤️.



5) FINANCES

- a) We have been working with the City to complete Q4 reports. We hope to have December reports for review for the Board meeting.

6) SAFETY & SECURITY

- a) OBIAA has released a letter to the Provincial Government to End Homelessness in Ontario. This is included in your package.
- b) A similar letter will be released via email to our membership encouraging people to send to our MP/MPP's

7) BEAUTIFICATION

- a) I will be meeting with the City regarding plans for garbage management this summer on March 20th. I will be presenting a plan for garbage management improvement.
- b) Big Belly's have arrived! We will have 8 installed in the downtown core for summer, which will make a huge difference in garbage management. For those not familiar with this project, [click to read more about Big Bellys.](#)

8) PARTNERS

- a) We continue to work with Tourism Kingston and The City of Kingston Public Works and Rec & Leisure staff on public spaces in the downtown core. The Community Spaces Committee participated in a meeting where preliminary plans from the urban planning company were shared and discussed. Highlights below:
 - i) Focused on Springer Market Square
 - ii) potential budget: up to \$300K year 1; \$500K-\$1M total years 2-3
 - iii) draft report with all concepts by March 24 – target presentation April 3 to review and discuss
 - iv) heritage committee presentation in April

9) SPECIAL PROJECTS

Waawaateg: Opening ceremonies for this event were very successful, with an estimated 350-400 in attendance for what turned out to be a chilly evening. We heard from several members of the Indigenous community afterwards, thanking us for Visits to the site this weekend both day and evening saw many families and children interacting with the installations.

Here is a thank you from one of the artists that sums it up:

Good morning marijo. I hope you are well rested. I just wanted to say a huge thank you for all your hard work ... it was truly an amazing feeling last night to be able to share our work, bring communities together and most importantly being extremely proud of who we are and where we come from... from our community and others everyone was raised to another level of understanding and togetherness. This was one of the cities biggest positive reconciliation moments... every one left lifted... 🙏 thank you... it really was an amazing event.

I feel this project was a big win for the organization and for the city on a much bigger scale than we can imagine. When people thank me, I am quick to remind them that it was not me. It was a lot of people working together and trusting the process 🙏 Thank you to each of you for supporting this project as a Board. Be sure to take time to visit the installation. It's there until March 31st.

Sydenham St summer activation: No confirmed updates, but the project will be a focus for the next month while we develop a plan to bring to the board.

168 Wellington St.: We have received 2 artist submissions. CaraCo will be reviewing at their next Board meeting. The next stage is to secure funding.