



Director of Planning & Building Services

City of Kenora, Ontario

The City of Kenora is a regional hub located in Northwestern Ontario. Perched on the north shore of the Lake of the Woods, close to the Manitoba boundary, about 210 km east of Winnipeg (by road), Kenora has a rich economic and cultural history. Surrounded by pristine shoreline, Kenora is an attractive summer destination with a population of 15,100 that doubles seasonally with visitors from neighbouring provinces and states who are drawn to this freshwater playground filled with outdoor adventure, boating, beaches, parks, trails, and a vibrant community dedicated to arts and culture.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer, the Director is responsible for leadership and direction in the areas of planning, building, and land acquisition & divestment accordance with various statutory regulations and policies and procedures. This critical role provides strategic vision, leadership, and expert guidance to Council, while ensuring short- and long-term plans are implemented to maintain existing development and anticipate future growth for the City of Kenora.

As an integral member of the senior leadership team, the Director will play a pivotal role in shaping a community, building collaborative partnerships, and leaving a legacy for future generations. Our client is seeking a leader and change agent to join the City of Kenora during a time of growth, provide expertise to a focused portfolio and foster sustainable solutions for modern city development and best practices in a complex municipal setting.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lead and implement projects that are currently underway including the Official Plan, including, Vacant Lands, Harbourfront Business Development Plan, E-Permitting and Highway 17 development.
- Oversees the administration and enforcement of the Ontario Building Code the Building Code Act, the Provincial Offences Act, the Planning Act, the Statutory Powers Procedures Act, municipal by-laws governing the construction, renovation, and alteration of buildings and/or the bylaws concerning land use, and the protection of property rights within the municipality.
- Improve all aspects of Planning and Building services to meet changing needs of a growing community.
- Lead the operational stewardship and planning of the City's real estate assets.
- Fiscal responsibility for the division's overall annual budget process and management.
- Develop alternative funding opportunities related to urban and rural planning, funding proposals and submissions.
- Facilitate cohesive administration and adhere to codes, planning and land-use policies, regulations, and bylaws.
- Provide leadership and encourage a prosperous business environment, vibrant community, and favorable location of choice for future investment.
- Hire, train, develop and retain skilled professionals, fostering an environment focused on a leadership style which seeks to inspire, coach, develop and foster team building.
- Liaise with all levels of government and external agencies, Council, senior management, and the general public.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Degree in Urban, City or Regional Planning, or related discipline.
- 10 years of progressive leadership experience gained in the public sector, preferably related to land development and community development/growth strategy.
- Certified Building Code Official (CBCO) as described in the Ontario Building Code Act would be considered an asset.
- Thorough knowledge of land use principals, applicable statutes, regulations, policy, processes, bylaws, and best practices, particularly the Planning Act and Building Code Act.
- Strategic, growth-minded, analytical, and innovative long-term thinker with the ability to anticipate needs and negotiate solutions through positive and collaborative relationship management.
- Exceptional interpersonal, communication, and conflict management skills.
- Ability to interact skillfully and professionally with various internal and external stakeholders.
- Proven ability to develop and mobilize people to achieve a shared vision and implement strategies.
- Politically astute, visionary leader and solid decision maker with strong business acumen, exceptional people management skills and a high level of integrity.

To apply to this opportunity, please send a resume and cover letter quoting project #40137 to jen@harrisleadership.com