



## Bylaw 1597/22 Diversified Agriculture & Events

### Council to Consider Potential Second Reading of Bylaw 1597/22 (Diversified Agriculture and Events) in September 2022

On June 14, 2022, Sturgeon County Council held a Public Hearing regarding Bylaw 1597/22. This bylaw encompassed the Agribusiness and Agritourism Review Task Force recommendations and proposed the following amendments to the County's Land Use Bylaw:

- Include Diversified Agriculture within the AG-Agriculture District as a permitted use, and also create a new AG2 – Agriculture 2 District that supports more intensive permitted uses. Diversified Agriculture includes value added ag processing, retail sales of ag products, and allows for commercial experiences and events related to farming or farm life. If approved, operators could seek permits for these uses without the need for neighbour advisement and potential appeal.
- The proposed bylaw also allows for event venues to be located within AG parcels, as a discretionary use. This means that operators could apply to have an event venue, and the permit/conditions would be subject to potential appeal by affected parties.

You can access Bylaw 1597/22 at [sturgeoncounty.ca/AgriReview](http://sturgeoncounty.ca/AgriReview).

The County received significant feedback during the Public Hearing, and we want to ensure Council has sufficient time to review and consider that input fully. Therefore, **Council will next be considering the bylaw at the September 13, 2022, Council Meeting.**

Given the extent and nature of the feedback received, there is the potential for further amendments to the proposed bylaw when Council considers second reading. Should there be substantive amendments to the bylaw, Sturgeon County would hold an additional public hearing to allow the public to comment on any proposed changes prior to further consideration.

The agenda for the September 13, 2022, Council Meeting will be published closer to the meeting date, and all materials will be publicly available at [sturgeoncounty.ca/CouncilMeetings](http://sturgeoncounty.ca/CouncilMeetings).

For more information, contact

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# Exhibit explores use of art to cope with mental illness

BY ANNA BOROWIECKI  
Staff Writer

Kimberly Smith creates wall art with fused glass exploring nature and our relationship to it. Instead, Cynthia Carson, a severe brain injury survivor, infuses her personality into pieces constructed from leather.

Smith's fused glass of natural scenery comes across as elegant, serene, and peaceful yet at the same time very sturdy — much like the artist. Carson's work is bold and sassy, a reflection of the artist's larger-than-life personality.

Interestingly, both women are bound by mental illness and adopted art as a positive mechanism to cope with life. Their contrasting works, which oddly complement each other, are currently on exhibit at Visual Arts Studio Association as part of *Divergent Properties*, which runs until Saturday, Aug. 27.

Upon stepping into VASA's entrance, one immediately comes face-to-face with Carson's three-piece showcase of two black and white leopards and one tiger titled *Strength Within*.

"We as humans don't recognize our own strength — not necessarily physically, but mentally and emotionally. It's about finding the strength you did not know was there," said Carson.

The Edmonton artist began her journey crafting visual art as a significant and symbolic step towards working through trauma. The German-born artist moved to the United Kingdom for work and later travelled to South America before moving to Canada.

Once living in Canada, she suffered



SUPPLIED/Photo

Kimberly Smith's glass-fused Mama Bear is a testament to blending colours and shapes to create kiln-fired art. The piece is on display at VASA until Aug. 27.

a crippling and traumatic brain injury that left her unable to control her body. Spending time in rehabilitation, she had to re-learn basic physical movements such as walking and spreading jam on toast. At times Carson felt as if she had fallen through the cracks, but stubbornly refused to give up.

"Once we were visiting my brother-in-law's apartment and I saw a piece of Native art made of leather, and I thought it was interesting. My husband's family is Métis and they taught me to make moccasins. We had a lot of leather at home, and I started cutting it up in five-minute increments because I couldn't concentrate any longer. For me it wasn't about creating art. It was about improving my motor skills, my concentration, my endurance, and overall rehabilitation," said Carson.

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