

JANUARY

15th - SAC Committee Meeting and Highlights:

Committee Members:

Welcome to returning members, Suzanne Clements, Gerry Ewert, Steve Friedenthal, Abel Urbina, Lori Jack and Sharon Brown.

One new member joined, Charmaine Ferstay.

A warm welcome to Councillor Sheena Hughes and the administration staff: Renee McDonald, Legislative Officer and Tricia Boonstra, Staff Liaison.

Election of Chair and Vice- Chair:

Sharon Brown accepted the position of Chair and Lori Jack is the Vice- Chair

2024 Census Report Brief Review and Discussion - G. Ewert

G. Ewert provided highlights from the 2024 Census Report provided to the committee from St. Albert's Municipal Census held in the Spring of 2024.

Motion to City Council:

The committee proposed a motion that the Senior Advisory Committee 2024 Annual Report be approved as amended and be presented at the February 4, 2025 City Council meeting.

Setting SAC Priorities for 2025

The committee discussed the Seniors' Advisory meeting schedule and priorities for 2025.

The priorities are:

- a) Continue with the Elders/Seniors Service Awards Program
- b) Provide input on Community Vision and Pillars of Sustainability
- c) Seniors Advisory Committee Bylaw review
- d) Understand seniors and their issues in the City of St. Albert through participation in community groups, educational sessions and reviewing statistical data

FEBRUARY

No scheduled SAC meeting held in February

February 4, 2025. Past Chair S. Clemens presented the 2024 SAC Annual Report.

February 27, 2025 SAC members participated in a Seniors Housing Learning Workshop

Presented by Lori Scott in administration. They also had the opportunity to meet and Network with the Older Adult Working Group during this event.

MARCH

March 19, 2025 SAC committee meeting and highlights

Senior and Elders Service Awards: nominee appraisal and recommendations

to council. T. Boonstra reported the Awards will be presented June 6, 2025 during Senior week at St. Albert Seniors Centre.

Mock Election - Ballot Count - G. Magyar - Legislative Services Provided a presentation and is looking for volunteers for mock sort and count and ballot counting starting April 16, 2025.

Members Feedback on Term Start and End Dates

R. McDonald led a discussion on changing members term dates.

Potentially changing from January to December, to September to August.

The committee determined start and end dates to remain the same keeping member terms to January to December.

Community updates

Update from St. Albert Housing Coalition - Steve Friedenthal

Steve provided an update to the committee for their information. He will be attending the next meeting on March 20/25.

Update from Older Adult Working Group - L. Jack

Lori attended their meeting on February 27/25 on Senior's housing. Information was invaluable and beneficial for the Seniors organization.

March 20/25 Lori presented a talk on "Enriching Your Memory" at St. Albert Library to an older adult audience that was co-ordinated by OAWG member Janice Cheung.

Staff Liaison Update: T. Boonstra

Provided an update to the committee of which included Senior's week, the Intergenerational Quilt to Combat Ageism project and the opportunity to participate in an Aging Rights are Human Rights survey.

APRIL

There was no scheduled SAC meeting held in April, 2025

On April 1, 2025, Tricia Boonstra and Sharon Brown met with Paul Specht - Police Advisory Committee. Paul requested this meeting to gather information about Senior groups in the city. We talked about several groups like SASA, OAWG who work with Seniors and for Seniors. We explained the role of SAC is an advisory committee who through a seniors' lens gives the council our feedback. His committee works with RCMP/ Public Complaints.

MAY

There was no scheduled SAC meeting held in May, 2025.

May 6, 2025 - Request to Sharon Brown to attend the Council meeting to speak to SAC recommendations of the Seniors/Elders Awards to be presented to eleven citizens. We had submitted this report to the council, who had no further questions, and our recommendations were accepted.

JUNE 6, 2025

The SAC in full attended the Senior and Elders Service Awards.

June 16th. SAC committee meeting and highlights

Guest, Darija Slokar, Community Vision and Pillars of Sustainability
A presentation requesting our feedback Cultivating Our Future.
This included discussion on the following topics.
Community Vision, Social, Economic, Built Environment, Natural Environment and Culture.

JULY

No scheduled SAC meeting held in July

AUGUST

No scheduled SAC meeting held in August

SEPTEMBER

No scheduled SAC meeting held in September
Supported Board and Committee recruitment process (Lori and Sharon)

NOVEMBER

November 27th. SAC meeting and highlights
2026 Seniors and Elders Service Awards planning.
A brief outline of advertising to start in January.
Some changes to be made to the nominees application form to request more details of the applicant. Per T. Boonstra

Reviewed bylaws - the committee had no changes.

St. Albert Housing Coalition update by S. Friedenthal
Older Adult Working Group update by L. Jack

Leg Services update C. Wong - SAC recruitment and interviews on Saturday, November 29, 2025.

Councillor Sandy Clark : Reminder that St. Albert Council will be hosting a second annual appreciation night for all boards and committees on December 9 th. at the Arden theatre. Doors open at 5 pm, program begins at 6. Opportunity to meet the Councillors. Families are invited as well. The movie “ Home Alone” will be shown. SAC members are planning to attend.

SAC Priorities for 2026 will be done in January, 2026 with the new committee.

In closing, out going Chair Sharon Brown expressed her appreciation to the committee, Tricia Boonstra. Staff Liaison and Councillor Sheena Hughes.
Best wishes to SAC in the future.

DECEMBER

No scheduled SAC meeting held in December