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TAMRMS#: B09

Youth Advisory Committee Annual Report

Presented by: Matthew Jackson, Chair, Youth Advisory Committee & Kyle Ferguson, Past Chair, Youth Advisory Committee

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS:

1. That the Community Living Standing Committee recommend to Council that the Youth Advisory Committee's 2020 Year End Report provided as an attachment to the April 12, 2021 agenda report titled "Youth Advisory Committee Annual Report" be received as information.

2. That the Community Living Standing Committee recommend to Council that the Youth Advisory Committee's Proposed 2021 Priorities:
 - a. Finalize and publish the Cultivate the Conversation Page;
 - b. Build a relationship with more schools to build a base in which to get feedback from the larger youth perspective;
 - c. Continue to work with groups like Amplify, BAM, and Jack.org to support youth in St. Albert;
 - d. Collaborate with the Seniors' Advisory Committee to identify shared concerns to bring to Council; and,
 - e. Work on projects of interest that pertain to the four subcommittees that were established: Mental Health and Disability Accessibility, Communication, Post Secondary & Education, and Environment and Recreation,

be received as information.

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL DIRECTION

The YAC Bylaw 24/2018, provided as an attachment, requires that an annual report be submitted to Council.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The YAC 2020 Annual Report provides a summary of the Committee's activities and advice to Council during the year and the proposed priorities for 2021.

Report Date: April 12, 2021
Author: Brittany Switzer
Department: Legislative Services
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer: Kerry Hilts
Chief Administrative Officer: Kevin Scoble

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Youth Advisory Committee

2020 Year End Report to Council

Message from the Chair

This last year has very much been a test of commitment and drive for not just the Youth Advisory Committee but the community at large. We started 2020 with new members, new ideas and hit the ground running in our first few meetings of the year. We identified our annual priorities and subsequent subcommittees of Mental Wellness, Communication and Transportation with outlined plans of what each wanted to accomplish for the year. Unfortunately, we then went into a period of uncertainty and confusion due to COVID-19, but that did not stop the group of amazing youth that makes up our committee.

Everyone tried their hardest to stay engaged in the community and keep on track with our annual priorities, even if they had to work on it from their own home. Our Mental Wellness Subcommittee members joined the jack.org chapter for the City of St. Albert. Our Transportation subcommittee provided input and feedback to the Transit department on the new bus routes and future planning. Our Communications Subcommittee created presentations for schools and attended some classes online to promote and get our recruitment numbers up. While everything we did had the added challenge of being online and just harder to do in general, our members never gave up. I am so proud of the group that we went through 2020 with.

Looking towards 2021, I am excited for what this year will bring for YAC. We accomplished so many of our goals we set last January and with our highest membership yet, this coming year is sure to be something special. We have already had one meeting and all the new members have brought some amazing ideas and an eagerness that is so refreshing and exciting. We lost some long-time members in the last year and I want to say thank you to them for everything they have done. I know that they will succeed in what ever they choose to do, and we wish them well on their journey. In a few short years we have really built something through this committee and there are no signs of slowing down.

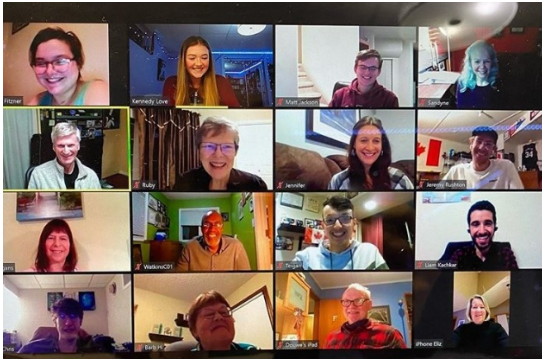
Thank you,

Kyle Ferguson



2020 Highlights

- Provided feedback to the Recreation and Parks Department on the proposed Parks Bylaw changes
- Mental Wellness subcommittee members joined the Jack.org Chapter
- Discussed the impacts of COVID-19 on youth and looked at what we can do to help
- Created a detailed promotion plan for the YAC to create both an online presence and a community presence
- Provided input to Amplify on what youth are looking for, and how can we help each other
- Increased our Instagram following by a large number and created a posting schedule to keep interaction with the community high
- Members presented to schools through online platforms, mainly to increase our membership numbers and encourage youth to get involved in the community
- Provided feedback on the City's Posted Speed Limit Review and members attended the focus group on our behalf
- Had a joint meeting with the Seniors Advisory Committee and discussed many topics that impact both of our demographics, such as transit, low income, and mental health. We also voted to amend the bylaw so there is one scheduled joint meeting per year.
- We created a Cultivate the Conversation page to gather feedback from youth and/or parents in an official City format rather than just through word of mouth and social media
- Provided input to Library Staff on what programs interest youth and they shared ideas they have for online programming during COVID



2021 Plans

- Finalize and publish the Cultivate the Conversation Page;
- Build a relationship with more schools to build a base in which to get feedback from and the larger youth perspective;
- Continue to grow the YAC Instagram page;
- Continue to work with groups like Amplify, BAM, and Jack.org to support youth in St. Albert;
- Collaborate with the Seniors Advisory Committee to identify shared concerns and bring that to Council; and,
- Work on projects of interest that pertain to the four subcommittees that were established: Mental Health and Disability Accessibility, Communication, Post Secondary & Education, Environment and Recreation.

**Photo below was taken pre-COVID*





Consolidated Version
of
the Youth Advisory Committee Bylaw

(being Bylaw No. 26/2016 of the City of St. Albert, as amended by Bylaw No. 24/2018, 5/2019, and 41/2019 consolidated and printed under the authority of the Chief Administrative Officer of the City of St. Albert)

This is certified to be a true copy of consolidated
Bylaw No. 26/2016 of the City of St. Albert.

David S. Leflar
Director of Legal and Legislative Services
Chief Legislative Officer

The text shown in parentheses in various locations throughout this document identifies the corresponding amending bylaw which authorized the change. For example (BL 5/2019) refers to Bylaw No. 5/2019.

CITY OF ST. ALBERT

BYLAW 26/2016

Being a Bylaw to form the Youth Advisory Committee **(BL 24/2018)**

WHEREAS under the authority of the Municipal Government Act RSA 2000, Chapter M-26, as amended from time to time, authorizes the Council to pass, repeal, or amend any Bylaw; AND

WHEREAS under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act RSA 2000, Section 145, and any amendments thereto, a council may pass bylaws in relation to (a) the establishment and functions of council committees and (b) the procedure and conduct of council committees and the conduct of members of council committees established by the council; AND

WHEREAS under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act RSA 2000, and any amendments thereto, under Section 146 a council committee may consist of a combination of councillors and other persons; AND

WHEREAS Council deems it in the best interest of the municipality to form a committee to advise council on issues relating to youth in the community;

The Council of the City of St. Albert duly assembled hereby ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

Title

1. This Bylaw be referred to as the "Youth Advisory Committee Bylaw" **(BL 24/2018)**

Definitions

2. In this Bylaw:
 - a.0 "Chief Administrative Officer" or "CAO" means the individual appointed by Council to the position of Chief Administrative Officer under section 205 of the *Municipal Government Act* and pursuant to the Chief Administrative Officer Bylaw; **(BL 5/2019)**
 - a. "City" means the City of St. Albert.
 - b. DELETED **(BL 5/2019)**

- c. "Council" means the Municipal Council of the City of St. Albert;
- d. "Councillor" means an elected official of the City of St. Albert;
- e. "Committee" means the Youth Advisory Committee established by this bylaw; **(BL 24/2018)**
- f. "Youth" means an individual between the ages of 14 and 24 years;
- g. "Member" means a member of the St. Albert Youth Council; and
- h. "Standing Committee" means the standing committee established pursuant to the Community Living Standing Committee Bylaw 39/2019. **(BL 41/2019)**

Establishment

- 3. A Council Committee is hereby established and shall be referred to as the Youth Advisory Committee. **(BL 24/2018)**

Membership

- 4. The Committee shall consist of a minimum of eight (8) Members with a maximum of sixteen (16) Members, as well as one appointed Member of Council. The appointed Member of Council is entitled to be recognized by the chair for participation in debate or discussion on any matter before the Committee but may not make motions or vote. **(BL 41/2019)**
- 5. Except for the Councillor appointee, to be eligible for nomination an individual must be between the ages of 14 and 24 as of September 1 of that year.
- 6. Council will interview and appoint Members. Appointees shall represent a diverse range of ages, life experiences and personal backgrounds.
- 7. Committee Members will be appointed for one (1) or two (2) year terms with a maximum of six (6) years of continuous service. If a Member vacates his or her membership on the Committee during that Members term, Council may appoint a replacement Member to serve for the remainder of the vacating Member's term.
- 8. Committee Members will receive no salary or honorarium for their voluntary services. The City of St. Albert will reimburse any out of pocket expenses in accordance to the City of St. Albert's policies.
- 9. The CAO shall provide the Committee with such administrative support as is reasonably required. **(BL 5/2019)**

Quorum, Meetings, and Rules of Procedure

10. A quorum of any Committee meeting shall be the majority of its Members.
11. At its first meeting of each calendar year Members shall designate:
 - a. one (1) Member as chair, to act as the spokesperson for the Committee;
 - b. one (1) Member as vice chair, to act in the chair's absence; and
 - c. establish a schedule for meetings of the Committee.
12. All meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public.
13. Public notice of meetings of the Committee shall be given by posting a notice on the City's website.
14. The CAO or designate may attend any regular Committee meeting, including any in camera session, but may not debate, make motions, or vote on any issue before the Committee. **(BL 5/2019)**
15. Any Member of City Council may attend any regular Committee meeting, including any in camera session, but may not debate, make motions, or vote on any issue before the Committee.
16. Minutes shall be taken at each Committee meeting and published on the City's website when approved by the Committee.
17. Members must follow the code of conduct attached to this Bylaw as Schedule A.
18. Except as otherwise provided in this Bylaw, rules governing the procedures of the Committee are as follows, from high to low:
 - a. the *Municipal Government Act*, associated *Regulations* or other applicable legislation;
 - b. the Bylaw;
 - c. any rules of procedure for Committee meetings that have been adopted by the Committee;
 - d. Committee terms of reference, if any;
 - e. Council or CAO approved policies, procedures, and guidelines specifically applicable to the Committee, and; **(BL 5/2019)**

- f. *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.*

Committee Roles and Responsibilities

19. The Committee shall:

- a. research and provide input into policy proposals for Council's or the Standing Committee's consideration, in reference to matters that impact youth in the community; **(BL 41/2019)**
- b. receive and act on direction from Council or the Standing Committee on youth matters; **(BL 41/2019)**
- c. develop and maintain relationships with individuals and organizations that focus on youth matters;
- d. solicit feedback from youth in the community when appropriate at their discretion or at the direction of Council or the Standing Committee; **(BL 41/2019)**
- e. advise Council or the Standing Committee on initiatives that support the well-being of youth; **(BL 41/2019)**
- f. provide a way for youth to experience city governance, procedures and policy making;
- g. consult with City Administration and other organizations supporting youth initiatives and other municipalities; and
- h. inform Council or the Standing Committee of initiatives of other levels of government that could affect youth and where appropriate advocate directly to those levels of government. **(BL 41/2019)**

19.1 The chair shall provide an in-person report to the Standing Committee at least once per year regarding:

- a. the Committee's progress and activities over the past year relative to its mandate;
- b. issues of significance to the Committee; and
- c. the Committee's work plan for the upcoming year, including the Committee's annual priorities and goals.

(BL 41/2019)

- 20. The Committee may form sub-committees to manage specific issues referred to that sub-committee by the Committee.

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Schedule A – Code of Conduct

1. Committee Members must conduct themselves in a positive, respectable, friendly and law-abiding manner.
2. Committee meetings must be a safe place to speak openly, where each Member has a voice and is heard.
3. Committee Members must be committed to attending meetings, in the event a member fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings without prior approval by the committee, that member is disqualified from the Committee.
4. All members of the Committee shall abide by all stipulations of the *Freedom of Information Protection of Privacy Act*.
5. Committee Members shall comply with any additional requirements as outlined in any bylaw or Council Policy that sets out the conduct of Committee Members.

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