



CITY OF ST. ALBERT CITY COUNCIL POLICY

NUMBER	TITLE
C-CAO-24	St. Albert Poet Laureate
ORIGINAL APPROVAL DATE	DATE LAST REVISED
CB-20-017 – February 18, 2020	January 23, 2024

Purpose

To support development of a robust cultural and literary community in St. Albert by establishing the position of Poet Laureate.

Policy Statement

In collaboration with the St. Albert Public Library, the municipal council of the City of St. Albert champions literary and cultural development in our community by:

- (a) creating the role of Poet Laureate for the community;
- (b) setting expectations for the role of Poet Laureate;
- (c) prescribing a process for selection of a candidate for appointment as Poet Laureate, once every two years;
- (d) appointing a new Poet Laureate at two-year intervals; and
- (e) considering approval of a yearly budget to support the Poet Laureate program.

Responsibilities

1. Council adopts the Poet Laureate Policy, appoints a person once every two years to the position of Poet Laureate, and in its discretion approves an amount within the City's annual operating budget to support the Poet Laureate program.
2. The CAO, working with the Board and Administration of the St. Albert Public Library, facilitates delivery of the Poet Laureate program within the approved budget.

Service Standards / Expectations

1. Recruitment for a new Poet Laureate shall commence in February, every other year commencing in 2020.
2. The task of reviewing applications and recommending a person for appointment by Council as Poet Laureate for St. Albert is assigned to an independent Poet Laureate committee or panel appointed by the CEO of the St. Albert Public Library which shall include a person who is also a member of the Arts Development Advisory Committee.
3. Applicants for the role of Poet Laureate will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
 - a. Current residence in St. Albert or a significant connection to St. Albert;
 - b. 16 years of age or older;
 - c. A body of literary work of superior artistic merit;
 - d. Preference given to applicants who have not previously served as Poet Laureate for St. Albert.
4. A new Poet Laureate shall be appointed by Council and proclaimed by the Mayor in April (National Poetry Month), every other year commencing in April 2020.
5. The Poet Laureate shall serve a two-year term as a literary and cultural ambassador of the City of St. Albert. Annually the incumbent shall:
 - a. produce at least one original literary work that reflects and represents culture, ideas, and issues of importance to the people of St. Albert and the community abroad;
 - b. perform a minimum of three public events in the City of St. Albert, featuring the Poet Laureate's own literary work and/or the work of other writers;
 - c. deliver a program for the St. Albert Public Library.
6. This St. Albert Poet Laureate Policy shall be implemented in collaboration with the St. Albert Public Library.

DATE REVIEWED	NEXT REVIEW DATE	REVISIONS
January 18, 2024	2026 - Community Services	January 24, 2024