

REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: December 2, 2024

TITLE: Council Delegation - Youth Advisory Committee - 2024 Year End

Report

DIVISION: Strategic and Communication Services

SUMMARY:

The Youth Advisory Committee will present a summary of their 2024 work plan.

PROPOSED MOTION:

A motion is not required.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

On March 25, 2024, the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) presented their work plan and priorities to City Council. In their presentation, the YAC committed to learning about the work of municipalities, hearing from City of Spruce Grove departments, and fulfilling their direction under their bylaw as it relates to the following priorities:

- 1. Creating more social spaces for youth, increasing youth participation, focusing specifically on keeping community youth engaged.
- 2. Exploring opportunities for youth-orientated activities and events, including partnering and advising on partner led events.
- 3. Connecting with and protecting the environment.
- 4. Supporting local arts, culture, and a variety of small business.
- 5. Raising awareness and supporting the vulnerable and equity seeking communities.

The YAC participated in events, initiatives, and / or received Administrative presentations on every priority.

Highlights of the 2024 year include:

- Over 111 hours of volunteer time in the community.
- Nine events were supported.
- The first ever YAC led event, the Teen Zone, at the City Center Business Association June Jamboree.
- Sponsored the Allied Arts High School Art Show, with prizes for the grade 10, 11, and 12 winners.
- Sponsored Spruce Up Spruce Grove with a classroom pizza party.
- Donated 18 "Birthday Bags" to the Parkland Food Bank.
- Donated winter mitts to the Late Night Café.

In addition to those priorities, the YAC learned about the City's Strategic Plan, Corporate Plan, Committee Code of Conduct, Urban Agricultural Plan, proper meeting procedures, how to respectfully debate, how to create a high functioning team, and the work of municipal departments.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

n/a

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

n/a

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

n/a

IMPACTS:

The 2024 YAC developed an ambitious work plan and contributed to each priority. However, the priorities were not supported equally, mainly because of available opportunities. It is recommended that the number of priorities be reduced for 2025.

As the YAC is becoming more established, the committee members were able to reflect on past initiatives and how they connect to the mandate of the committee.

Recommendations for the 2025 YAC include:

- Having more opportunities for Administrative presentations to provide youth perspective.
- Looking at ways to 'spread the word' to get more youth involved.

- Focusing on events that specifically target youth.
- Ensuring YAC remains an advisory committee and not an events committee.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The YAC has a \$5,000 budget for events.

• \$2,623 has been spent to date and approximately \$1,000 will be spent in December.

The YAC has a \$5,500 budget for bursaries.

• \$160 has been spent to date.