

Youth Advisory Committee 2021/2022 Annual Report

Purpose: To provide advice and considerations on issues and opportunities involving or affecting youth.

2021

Membership

Sydney Courville (Vice Chair)
Michael Frank
Teren Hazzard (Interim Chair)
Emilia Housch (Chair)
John Perozok
Zachary Stoddard
Patrick Tonita
Seth Rynning
Kiara Vroman
Councillor Dave Anderson
Councillor Bill Tonita

Membership

Michael Frank (he/him)
Gabriella Hartwick (she/her)
Teren Hazzard (Chair) (he/him)
Keegan Kirchen (he/they)
Jonah Peters (he/him)
Seth Rynning (he/him)
Patrick Tonita (he/him)
Eva Tomashewski (Vice Chair) (she/her)
Councillor Corey Ann Hartwick
Councillor Dave Anderson

2022

2021/2022 Focus Areas

- Community Safety and Wellbeing
- Pandemic Impacts
- Environmental Sustainability
- Youth Engagement Opportunities in the Municipal Election
- Youth Spaces
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Strathcona County Youth Strategy
- Transportation

01

- Provided input and advised on the development of the Strathcona County Community Safety and Wellbeing Strategy
- Received information from Strathcona County RCMP regarding the impacts of the School Resource Officer Program

Community Safety and Wellbeing

ACTIVITIES



STRATHCONA
COUNTY

Community Safety and Wellbeing

HIGHLIGHTS, KEY LEARNINGS AND CONSIDERATIONS

YOUTH NEEDS

- COVID 19 has escalated mental health challenges for youth and young adults
- Peer-to-peer judgment around personal risk tolerance around COVID-19
- Increase in polarization and hatred in online communities
- In school disturbances and interruptions

CONSIDERATIONS

- Advertising and awareness of supports and services
- Community building events and opportunities
- Uplifting and celebrating diversity and inclusion

02

- The Committee learned about the mental health impacts of COVID-19 from the Saffron Sexual Assault Centre



COVID-19 Impacts + Mental Health

ACTIVITIES

COVID-19 Impacts + Mental Health

HIGHLIGHTS, KEY LEARNINGS AND CONSIDERATIONS

YOUTH NEEDS

- Uptick in stress, anxiety and grief as a result of COVID-19
- Increase in violence and youth aggression

CONSIDERATIONS

- Drop-in and accessible mental health supports for youth
- Hard copy materials

Environment Sustainability

Activities

- Provided input and advice to Strathcona County Utilities department about the Strathcona County 2021-2031 Waste Management Roadmap
- The Committee received information about, and provided input to the Strathcona County Environmental Sustainability Framework

Activities

- The committee learned about the New Grocery Movement, an organization committed to restructuring the food system by incentivising a shift towards local, sustainable and just grocery alternatives
- Strathcona County Planning and Development Services shared updates on the Centre in the Park Area Redevelopment Plan and the Bremner Area Development Plan and the environmental consideration of these planning initiatives.

Environmental Sustainability



HIGHLIGHTS, KEY LEARNINGS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- Sustainable green energy transportation options
- Accessibility of compost and recycling
- Green energy considerations for new capital builds
- Resident incentives for green habits
- Promoting, protecting and sustaining wetlands
- Green urban planning considerations

04

- The committee hosted and moderated a Mayoral Candidate Forum which took place online.
 - o The event provided first-time voters with information about the election and voting process
 - o Candidates provided their perspectives on youth issues in the County
 - o Participants had an opportunity to ask questions to Mayoral Candidates

Youth Engagement Opportunities in the Municipal Election



ACTIVITIES

Youth Engagement Opportunities in the Municipal Election

HIGHLIGHTS, KEY LEARNINGS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- Opportunity to meet Council members in person
- Regular dialogue opportunities with council
- Promotion of youth to attend council and priorities committee meetings
- Opportunity for council to talk to schools
- Important for youth to know they can reach out to Council
- Encouraging youth to attend and participate in Council Meetings

05

- The Canteen youth hub opened in 2020 and is a safe and positive place for youth to hangout. BGC representatives provided the committee with an overview of their program and services.
- The committee provided feedback to help inform the development of the proposed multipurpose indoor fieldhouse project.
- The committee provided feedback on how to better utilize county assets for youth needs

Considerations for Youth Spaces

ACTIVITIES



STRATHCONA
COUNTY

Considerations for Youth Spaces



HIGHLIGHTS, KEY LEARNINGS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- Create opportunities for youth and young adults to feel welcomed in County facilities to promote wellbeing
- Create inclusive spaces for Strathcona County residents, including gender neutral washrooms and changerooms
- Embrace principles of universal design to ensure spaces are accessible to all residents
- Add wayfinding to County spaces that are not easily accessible

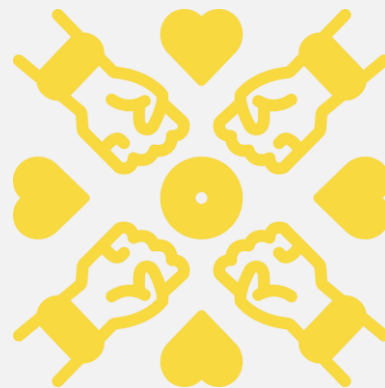
- The Committee received information about and provided input to the implementation of Strathcona County's Diversity and Inclusion policy.
- The Committee received information about altView's work and why inclusive programs, policies, and communities are essential for all community members.
- The Committee received information about initiatives supporting Truth and Reconciliation

Diversity And Inclusion

ACTIVITIES

Diversity and Inclusion

HIGHLIGHTS, KEY LEARNINGS AND CONSIDERATIONS



- Public education opportunities are important
- Prioritizing and uplifting Indigenous voices
- Enhancing awareness of supports and services
- Prioritization of events that celebrate diversity

07

- Guests representing different community organizations who have been supporting the Next Gen Strategy Project provided the committee with an update on the progress of the Community Led Youth Strategy initiative.

Strathcona County Strategy for Next Gen



ACTIVITIES



STRATHCONA
COUNTY

Strathcona County Next Gen Strategy

HIGHLIGHTS, KEY LEARNINGS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- Importance to collaborate and work together
- Collaborate to make Strathcona County a better place for youth and young adults

08

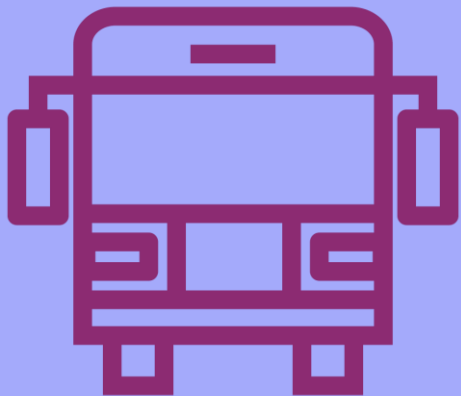
- The committee provided feedback and advise to help inform the Integrated Transportation Master Plan project.

Transportation

ACTIVITIES

Transportation

HIGHLIGHTS, KEY LEARNINGS AND CONSIDERATIONS



- Increased connectedness to Greater Edmonton Region
- Public education around rapid transit
- Enhancements to bike infrastructure
- Creation of 15 minute communities

Considerations for Priorities Committee



Promotion
and
Communication
to
Youth



Accessibility
and
Accommodation



Educating
Youth on
Local and
Global
Issues



Celebrating
Culture
and
Diversity

Thank You +
Questions