



OPTIONS FOR MAYOR'S YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Council / Governance Issue

A number of options are provided for consideration for Mayor's Youth Engagement.

Recommendation

Committee direction is required.

Background and Considerations

The following resolution was passed at the January 8, 2024 Regular Council Meeting:

"That the Mayor's Youth Council Committee draft Terms of Reference be brought back to a future Governance and Priorities Committee meeting for further discussion."

The following resolution was passed at the August 21, 2023 Regular Council Meeting:

"That the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to establish a Mayor's Youth Council that will create space to address specific issues related to youth and young adults; and That Administration bring forward a proposed structure and Terms of Reference no later than December 2023."

A notice of motion was introduced at the August 2023 Regular Council meeting to create a diverse forum of Okotoks youth as a platform to have their voices heard and respected while contributing to the Council decision-making process.

Options for consideration:

1. Create a Mayor's Youth Council Committee. A draft terms of reference for a proposed Mayor's Youth Council Committee is attached as reviewed at the December 2023 Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting.
2. Meet with several schools/youth groups to gauge the level of interest and types of ideas for local youth engagement. Future action for youth engagement activities would be informed by this "what we heard" activity.
3. Create a "Youth Citizen Panel" similar to the existing Citizen Panel that could provide feedback/input on proposed Council policies.
4. Status quo and not proceed with a youth engagement group.

Current Policy or Bylaw Analysis

Committees Bylaw

Municipal Comparisons

City of Calgary's Mayor's Youth Council and Youth Central

City of Edmonton Youth Council

Strathcona County Youth Advisory Committee
City of Leduc Youth Council
City of Airdrie Board of Youth Affairs
City of St. Albert Youth Advisory Committee

CAO Comments

Administration recommends a less structured approach for the committee and would like to dialogue this with the Committee.

Attachment(s)

1. Draft Mayor's Youth Council Committee Terms of Reference

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