

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Executive Standing Committee

SUBMITTED BY:


Annie Sherry, Legislative Assistant, for Ellen Smith, Chair, Youth Advisory Committee

DATE: July 19, 2022

SUBJECT: Youth Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan

ORIGIN

June 23, 2022 meeting of Youth Advisory Committee, Item 7.2:

MOVED by Jane Elliott, seconded by Abraham Amusan

THAT the 2022 work plan of the Youth Advisory Committee be approved and forwarded to the Executive Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Administrative Order 2017-011-GOV, *Respecting the Youth Advisory Committee in the Halifax Regional Municipality*, section 18:

18. The Committee may make reports to the Executive Standing Committee on the activities of the Committee as necessary, or as requested, together with such other presentations that the Committee may deem advisable.

Administrative Order One, Schedule 6, *Executive Standing Committee Terms of Reference*, section 15:

15. The following Committees shall be advisory committee or liaison with the Executive Standing Committee:

... Youth Advisory Committee

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Executive Standing Committee review and approve the Youth Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan as set out in Attachment 1 of this report.

BACKGROUND

On January 16, 2018 Regional Council adopted the Youth Advisory Committee Administrative Order (AO-2017-011-GOV) which created a pilot project to re-establish a Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). Consultation, engagement, and recruitment took place throughout 2018, resulting in the appointment of 12 members to the YAC at the February 12, 2019 meeting of Regional Council.

On August 31, 2021, Regional Council approved amendments to the Youth Advisory Committee Administrative Order, establishing the body as an official Advisory Committee of the Halifax Regional Municipality. Fall recruitment followed shortly thereafter, resulting in the appointment of 10 new and two returning members to the Committee by Regional Council. The first meeting of the Youth Advisory Committee took place on April 21, 2022.

DISCUSSION

At the April 21, 2022 meeting of the Youth Advisory Committee, the Staff Liaison supported Committee members in a brainstorming session to identify themes for the 2022 Work Plan. Over the course of two meetings, the Committee worked with staff to select three priorities for the year, align these priorities with the Terms of Reference, identify stakeholders and partners, and identify action items under each priority. As the majority of the membership were only recently appointed to the Committee, members agreed to prioritize becoming more informed about municipal programs and services that impact youth in the HRM, and to gain a broader understanding of issues facing youth in the HRM to effectively perform their role as an Advisory Committee.

On June 23, 2022, the Committee unanimously approved the 2022 Work Plan with the following three priority areas:

- **Youth Perspective and Engagement on the HRM's Social Policy Priorities** with emphasis on food security, access to housing, and the Public Safety Office.
- **Climate Action** – Advising the Executive Standing Committee on how to continually incorporate input from youth of all races, genders, and ability levels in HaliFACT (HRM's climate action plan).
- **Supporting Youth Self-Reliance** – Raising awareness about and advocating for sustainable and affordable resources for youth in the HRM, especially when transitioning to self-reliance.

For further information refer to Attachment 1.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

RISK CONSIDERATION

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendation in this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Committee is comprised of 12 resident members and meetings are live webcast on Halifax.ca. The agendas, reports, videos and minutes of the Committee are posted on Halifax.ca.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

ALTERNATIVES

The Youth Advisory Committee did not provide alternatives.

The Executive Standing Committee could request amendments to the Youth Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan to address specific issues or concerns.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Youth Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan

A copy of this report can be obtained online at halifax.ca or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Annie Sherry, Legislative Assistant, Municipal Clerk's Office 902.943.8741

Youth Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan

The duties of the Youth Advisory Committee are outlined in sections 6-9 of Administrative Order 2017-011-GOV (AO 2017-011-GOV)¹, as indicated below:

Duties of the Committee

6. *The Committee shall advise Council, through the Executive Standing Committee, on matters related to youth as follows:*

- (a) identify and advise on youth access to existing and proposed municipal services and facilities;*
- (b) advise and make recommendations about strategies designed to achieve the objectives of the Committee; and*
- (c) receive and review information directed to it by Council and its committees, and to make recommendations as requested.*

7. *To advise business units in responding to issues and concerns of youth, when requested to do so by the Chief Administrative Officer.*

8. *To host community consultations related to youth in the Municipality, including an annual Town Hall Meeting, and report to the Executive Standing Committee on the issues identified through such community consultations.*

9. *Significant municipal matters, plans and programs having an impact on youth shall be referred to the Committee for its consideration and recommendations to Regional Council through the Executive Standing Committee*

To effectively carry out the duties specified above, it is important for YAC members to be informed about programs and services that impact youth in the HRM, and to gain a broad understanding of issues facing youth in the HRM.

The three items listed in the Subcategories/Action column listed below were approved by the Youth Advisory Committee in June 2022.

Subcategories/Action	Alignment with Terms of Referenceⁱ	Person/ Group Responsible	Resources required other service providers, Government, Funds, etc.	Time Frame	Desired Outcome	Performance Indicators: How will you measure your accomplishments
Priority 1: Youth Perspective and Engagement on the HRM's Social Policy Prioritiesⁱⁱ with emphasis on food security, access to housing, and the Public Safety Office.	Sections 5(a)-(d) and 6(a)	All Committee Members	Expertise of Committee members, staff members of HRM (Government Relations and External Affairs, Community Developers, Parks and Recreation, Diversity & Inclusion Office, Public Safety	2022	Invite Business Units and organizations in the HRM working in this area to present to the committee, compile information and pass recommendations	Committee members will receive presentations from Business Units/Organizations, and information gathered will be forwarded to the Executive Standing Committee through motions and/or a report.

			Office) and HRM community organizations (Nova Scotia Farmer's Market Organization) with specialized knowledge on items 6 b and 6 c of the HRM's Social Policy Areas of Focus: food security and housing.		along to Executive Standing Committee. Committee members will become more knowledgeable about issues and solutions on housing and food security in the HRM so that they may effectively perform their role as an Advisory Committee.	
Priority 2: Climate Action - Advising the Executive Standing Committee on how to continually incorporate input from youth of all races, genders, and ability levels in HaliFACT (HRM's climate action plan).	Sections 5(a)-(d), and 6(a)-(b)	All Committee Members	Expertise of Committee members, staff members of HRM (Property, Fleet & Environment, Public Safety Office) and HRM community organizations (Ecology Action Centre, Dalhousie University Sustainability Society) with specialized knowledge the topic.	2022	Invite Business Units and organizations in the HRM working in this area to present to the committee, compile information and pass recommendations along to Executive Standing Committee. Committee members will become more knowledgeable about HaliFACT and its impact on youth in the HRM so that they may effectively perform their role as an Advisory Committee.	Committee Members will receive # of presentations from Business Units/Organizations presented, information gathered and passed along to the Executive Standing Committee through motions and/or a report.

<p>Priority 3: Supporting Youth Self-Reliance - Raising awareness about and advocating for sustainable and affordable resources for youth in the HRM, especially when transitioning to self-reliance.</p>	<p>Sections 5(a)-(d), and 6(a)-6(b)</p>	<p>All Committee Members</p>	<p>Expertise of Committee members, staff members of HRM, and HRM community organizations (Mental Health Association of Nova Scotia, Black Cultural Centre, Dalhousie Student Union) with specialized knowledge the topic.</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Invite Business Units and organizations in the HRM working in this area to present to the committee, compile information and pass recommendations along to Executive Standing Committee.</p>	<p>Committee members will receive presentations from Business Units/Organizations, and information gathered will be forwarded to the Executive Standing Committee through motions and/or a report.</p>
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ⁱ [Administrative Order 2017-011-GOV - Respecting the Youth Advisory Committee | Halifax.ca](#)

ⁱⁱ [Administrative Order 2020-002-GOV, Social Policy Administrative Order | Halifax.ca](#)