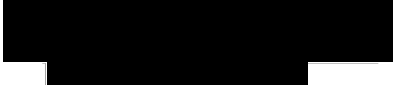


**TO:** Mayor Mike Savage and Members of Executive Standing Committee

**SUBMITTED BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cyril Jurdak O'Brien, Chair, Youth Advisory Committee

**DATE:** June 15, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Youth Advisory Committee 2023 Work Plan

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## **ORIGIN**

June 15, 2023 meeting of Youth Advisory Committee, Item 6.1:

MOVED by Zoya Hussain, seconded by Abraham Amusan

**THAT the 2023 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 2023 Work Plan as set out in Attachment 1 of this report.

## **BACKGROUND**

On January 16, 2018 Regional Council adopted Administrative Order 2017-011-GOV, *Respecting the Youth Advisory Committee*, 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 20, 2023 meeting of the Youth Advisory Committee, the Staff Liaison supported the Committee members in a brainstorming session to identify three priority areas for the 2023 Work Plan. Over the course of two meetings, the Committee worked with staff to select their three priorities for the year, identify stakeholders and partners, and identify action items under each priority.

On June 15, 2023, the Committee approved the 2023 Work Plan with the following three priority areas:

- **Supporting Youth Well-Being** with an emphasis on physical and social supports and resources for youth.
- **Climate Action** with emphasis on HalifACT
- **Youth Perspectives and Engagement in Municipal Elections and HRM's Social Policies** with emphasis on youth involvement in elections, food security, housing, and the Public Safety Office.

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 8 citizen members. The agenda, reports, 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 2023 Work Plan to address specific issues or concerns.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 – Youth Advisory Committee 2023 Work Plan

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca) or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Lama Farhat, Legislative Assistant, Municipal Clerk's Office 902.497.1817

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## Youth Advisory Committee 2023 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), 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 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.*
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, members of the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) will gain a broad understanding of the programs and services available that impact youth within the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) and will provide recommendations to the Executive Standing Committee and HRM staff.

The three items listed in the subcategories/action column were identified by the Youth Advisory Committee at the March 23 YAC Special Meeting as priorities for 2023. The actions listed in the Performance Indicators column indicate the YAC's desire to convert their learning to action.

Subcategories/Action	Alignment with Terms of Reference	Person/Group Responsible	Resources required, other service providers, Government, Funds, etc.	Time Frame	Desired Outcome	Performance Indicators: How will you measure your accomplishments
<p><b>Priority 1: Supporting Youth Well-Being</b> with an emphasis on physical and social supports and resources for youth.</p> <p>The following topics have been identified as important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health supports and resources</li> </ul>	Sections 5(a)-(d); and 6(a)-6(b)	All Committee Members	Expertise of Committee members, staff members of HRM (Diversity and Inclusion/ANSAIO, Parks and Recreation, Community Developers, Public Safety Office, Community Mobilization Teams), and HRM community organizations (YMCA) with specialized knowledge on wellness, safety and supports for youth.	2023	<p>Invite Business Units and organizations in HRM working on this area to present to the committee, compile information and pass recommendations along to Executive Standing Committee.</p> <p>Committee members will become more knowledgeable about</p>	<p>Committee members will receive presentations from at least 2 - 3 Business Units/Organizations.</p> <p>Information gathered will be forwarded to the Executive Standing Committee through motions and/or a report.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social and safe spaces for youth</li> <li>• Newcomer youth supports</li> <li>• Youth self-reliance</li> </ul>					<p>the health, wellness and safety issues that impact youth in the HRM so they may effectively perform their role as an advisory committee.</p>	
<p><b>Priority 2: Climate Action - HalifACT</b></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 (Property, Fleet and Environment, Public Safety Office) and HRM community organizations (Ecology Action Centre) with specialized knowledge on climate action.</p>	<p>2023</p>	<p>Invite Business Units and organizations in HRM working on this area to present to the committee, compile information and pass recommendations along to Executive Standing Committee.</p> <p>Committee members will become more knowledgeable about HalifACT and its impact on youth in the HRM so they may effectively perform their role as an Advisory Committee.</p>	<p>Committee members will receive presentations from at least 2 - 3 Business Units/Organizations.</p> <p>Information gathered will be forwarded to the Executive Standing Committee through motions and/or a report.</p>
<p><b>Priority 3: Youth Perspectives and Engagement on Municipal Elections and HRM's Social Policies</b> with emphasis on <i>youth involvement in elections, food security, housing, and the Public Safety Office.</i></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 (Municipal Clerk's Office, Diversity and Inclusion/ANSAIO, Government Relations and External Affairs, Community Developers, Parks and Recreation, Public Safety Office, Community Mobilization Teams), and HRM community organizations with</p>	<p>2023</p>	<p>Invite Business Units and organizations in HRM working on this area to present to the committee, compile information and pass recommendations along to Executive Standing Committee.</p> <p>Committee members will become more knowledgeable about municipal elections</p>	<p>Committee members will receive presentations from at least 2 - 3 Business Units/Organizations.</p> <p>Information gathered will be forwarded to the Executive Standing Committee through motions and/or a report.</p>

			specialized knowledge on the topic.		and issues and solutions on housing, food security, and connecting communities in the HRM so that they may effectively perform their role as an Advisory Committee.	
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<sup>1</sup> [Administrative Order 2017-011-GOV – Respecting the Youth Advisory Committee | Halifax.ca](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Administrative Order 2020-002-GOV – Social Policy Administrative Order | Halifax.ca](#)