

EDMONTON BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREAS 2022 BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the appointments of the Boards of Directors to the Business Improvement Area Associations, as set out in Attachment 1 of the December 6, 2021, Urban Planning and Economy report UPE00303, be approved, and that the term of appointment be January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.
2. That Attachment 1 of the December 6, 2021, Urban Planning and Economy report UPE00303 remain private, until approved by City Council, pursuant to sections 17 (disclosure harmful to personal privacy) and 24 (advice from officials) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Report Purpose

Council decision required.

City Council approves Business Improvement Area (BIA) Association board membership annually, pursuant to the province's *Business Improvement Area Regulation* (Alberta Regulation 93/2016), the City's BIA bylaws, and City Policy C462B. Boards of Directors of the 13 associations have provided their business members with names of proposed 2022 board members which have been voted on for member approval at their respective annual general meetings. Each BIA has forwarded prospective board rosters to City Council for approval in compliance with provincial and municipal processes and regulations.

Executive Summary

- This report requests approval of the 2022 Boards of Directors for the 13 Business Improvement Area Associations.

REPORT

A Business Improvement Area (BIA) is a defined geographic area in which businesses combine resources and work together through a formal association to enhance the economic development of their area. Edmonton's 13 BIAs and their board members are critical partners in

achieving the City's strategic goal of regional prosperity and the ongoing development of Edmonton's economic strategy.

A BIA and its related association is created by City bylaw, and each BIA has its own bylaw. Each year, City Council must review nominations and appoint individuals to serve as directors on the boards of these associations. This requirement is pursuant to the provincial Business Improvement Area Regulation (Alberta Regulation 93/2016) and the City's BIA bylaws.

Individuals are eligible to be directors on a BIA association board if they have been nominated by a tax-levy paying member of the BIA and have consented to act as a director. All 13 BIA associations have completed their required annual general meetings, which included soliciting nominations to their boards, reviewing nominations and selecting recommended candidates. In accordance with each individual BIA bylaw and City Policy C462B Business Revitalization Zone Establishment and Operation, all recommended board candidates have accepted their nomination to stand for appointment. Each BIA may have up to 15 directors on their board.

COMMUNITY INSIGHT

In September and October each year, Edmonton's 13 Business Improvement Areas hold their Annual General Meetings where BIA members are invited to participate and vote on the composition of their board of directors for the coming year. All 13 board member lists presented to City Council with this report (Attachment 1) were voted on and approved by the membership in attendance for the AGMs, according to provincial and municipal processes and regulations.

GBA+

BIA administrators (i.e. Executive Directors and boards) recognize the importance of anticipating the needs of equity seeking groups and business owners. Administration is working to develop training for our partner organizations to help them to learn about and apply an equity lens on the planning and execution of BIA initiatives. Integrating GBA+ processes can help ensure that the work and board membership contributes to the accessibility and equity of BIA services.

While BIAs are independent entities with their own procedures and operating guidelines, City Administration will:

- Review the bylaws, policies and procedures that govern BIA's to ensure they require a GBA+ process in board composition processes, as these documents are scheduled for renewal.
- Collaborate with all 13 BIA partners to ensure they have the support to understand, appreciate and apply a high quality GBA+ process in the formation and recruitment of potential board members as well as in regular business planning.

ATTACHMENT

1. Edmonton Business Improvement Areas - 2022 Boards of Directors (PRIVATE)