



## **Executive Summary**

This report provides highlights and key accomplishments of the City of Edmonton Youth Council (CEYC) during the past 9 months; September 2021 to May 2022. The City of Edmonton Youth Council provides information and advice to City Council in relation to issues involving or affecting youth and educates and empowers youth to provide meaningful input and take action on local issues. The City of Edmonton Youth Council makes progress on their mandate through completing various strategic and collaborative projects on issues identified by youth. The City of Edmonton Youth Council saw an increase in the number of members, and volunteer hours during the 2021-2022 term.

## **Report**

The City of Edmonton Youth Council is a Council Advisory Committee comprised of 20 appointed community members and approximately 80 youth at-large volunteers. The Youth Council provides opportunities for youth to volunteer and provide meaningful input to shape their city. It is supported by city Administration, as well as Councillors Salvador and Janz - our appointed City Council Advisors.

CEYC's Strategic Planning Goals:

- Mobilise youth on local issues through community, events, and projects.
- Empower youth through education, skill building, and experience to be active citizens.
- Provide opportunities for meaningful participation in Edmonton's local government.

## **2020-2021 Highlights and Accomplishments**

In 2021-2022 the Youth Council was active with 97 volunteers. The 2021-2022 term was the first full term following the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Most meetings occurred online, while events slowly moved back to an in-person format. Additionally, the executive structure was modified from a chair/vice-chair model to a co-chair model for subcommittee chair and council chair positions. This system was a result of lessons learned from past years, and enables the executive team to better support each other and other CEYC members.



#### Key Accomplishments Thus Far:

- Partnered with the University of Alberta Students' Union to hold a mayoral forum on September 29th; several CEYC members attended and participated.
- Created a group dedicated to working on Indigenous projects. Collaborated with Enoch Cree Youth Council; sat on a panel together during the 5 year anniversary of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding and sponsored part of a special during the Enoch Cree Nation Spring Powwow.
- Youth council members appeared on news media (CTV Edmonton, CBC Radio Active, CBC Cross Country Checkup) to speak about issues pertaining to youth such as municipal leadership and learning during a pandemic.
- Held a demographics survey to establish gaps in CEYC's representation; this data was then used to make recommendations for changes to the recruitment process.
- Sent a delegation to speak about the Anti-Racism Strategy that was passed by council on February 14th.
- Worked with administration to continue policy work from last term:
  - Following up on the Community Safety and Wellbeing Report work.
  - Creating a Report of Implementation for the Food Waste and Insecurity Report.

#### Ongoing Initiatives for the remainder of the term (through July 2022):

- Codifying CEYC Elections Procedure (Completed)
- Demographics Survey and VCM Appointment Process Reevaluation
- Virtual School Visits
- Covid-19 School Survey
- Social Equity Initiative
- Urban Planning and Transportation Initiative
- Youth Community Involvement Webpage
- Training and Information Initiative
- Edmonton Art and Writing Contest
- Sexual Violence Awareness & Art Night

#### Attachments:

- 2020/21 Strategic Plan