

## COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENT REPORTING

**Appointment:** Community Services Advisory Board

**Classification:** Advisory Committee

**Councillor(s):** Councillor Jo-Anne Wright

**Reporting Period:** November 1, 2022 - April 30, 2023

### Mandate

The mandate of the Community Services Advisory Board (CSAB) is quite broad in scope. CSAB provides advice to Council and the City of Edmonton to assist in long term planning for community services in Edmonton. The Board raises issues and offers advice on social policy, arts, culture, multiculturalism, parks, recreation and sports.

The Board also recommends the allocation of funds under the Family and Community Support Services Program (FCSS) legislation and applicable Community Investment Operating Grants (CIOG) along with other awards.

### Background

Community Services Advisory Board works under the guidance of Judy Smith, Director of Community Resources and FCSS. In the past, CSAB members have used their knowledge and experience to provide feedback on such projects as:

- Priority Based Budgeting Process
- Community & Recreation - Fees and Service Review
- Community Safety & Wellbeing Task Force
- Increasing Diversity in Fire Rescue Services
- Warehouse Park
- Alcohol in Parks

### Shared priorities and advocacy areas

- Opening the application process to all community organizations providing preventive social services, both through FCSS and CIOG, aligns with the Community Safety & Well-Being Framework.
- CSAB members support City of Edmonton's goals and priorities in collaboration with the Social Development Branch.

### Report on activities, projects, and outcomes

- November's meeting was cancelled to allow time for budget related activities and December's meeting was a holiday gathering at Muttart Conservatory - the first in-person event for CSAB in years.

- At the January 2023 meeting, members were updated on the Alcohol in Parks pilot and administration's recommendation in advance of the report coming forward to Community and Public Services Committee.
- In February, the CIOG sub-committee reported to CSAB on the upcoming recommendation to Council. As a result of reduced funding approved by Council in the 2023 - 2026 budget, CIOG eligibility criteria was revised to direct the focus of funding to small and medium community organizations that serve primarily Edmontonians.
- March's meeting included a presentation on the Public Places Bylaw Review and outlined the process for CSAB to provide input to the engagement process.
- When CSAB met in April, members received a presentation on the Community Safety and Well Being Framework. It provided an overview of the current strategy and how the work of Community Services supports the outcomes

The current CSAB Work Plan identifies three priorities for 2023:

- Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention (presentation made at February 2023 meeting);
- Public Spaces Bylaw Review (presentation made at March 2023 meeting); and
- Community Safety and Well Being (presentation made at April 2023 meeting).

### **Upcoming events and milestones**

May 1 - October 31, 2023

- As new members come on board in May 2023, the priorities and projects will be further defined.
- CIOG grant recommendations have been proposed based on reduced funding levels and revised eligibility criteria. After the appeal process is complete, CIOG recommendations will be confirmed in May.
- With new FCSS outcomes better defined, 2023 will become a two-step funding process. A priority for Edmonton FCSS is to fund organizations that demonstrate an ability to plan programs with an intersectional lens and/or that are equity-led.

### **Evaluation**

It is strongly recommended that the City of Edmonton continue to work with Community Services Advisory Board to advance municipal priorities related to social policy, arts, culture, multiculturalism, parks, recreation and sports and to continue to advocate for the City's interests.