



## COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENT REPORTING

**Appointment:** **Women's Advocacy Voice of Edmonton Committee**

**Classification:** **Advisory Committee**

**Councillor(s):** **Councillor Jennifer Rice**

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

### Mandate

- Make recommendations to Council about women's gender-based issues and opportunities in relation to Council policies, priorities and decisions
- Promote leadership development to empower Edmonton women to fully participate in civic life
- Research and provide information and resources about women's gender-based issues and opportunities to Edmontonians

### Background

The Edmonton Women's Initiative is a Council initiative that addresses gender equity. Women's Advocacy Voice of Edmonton (WAVE) Committee is composed of 15 community volunteers from diverse backgrounds and experiences who provide Edmonton City Council with advice on policy and affairs relevant to municipal jurisdiction. WAVE was formed in 2014 by former City Councillor Bev Esslinger. In 2013, Bev was the only woman elected to Council for the 2013-2017 term.

### Shared priorities and advocacy areas

A number of City of Edmonton policies in the City Plan reflect WAVE's mandate including:

1. Promote opportunity, equality and personal safety for women, girls and gender minorities in Edmonton.
2. Create safe opportunities for women, girls and gender minorities to meet, connect, participate in and enjoy community and civic life.
3. Participate in multilateral efforts to address violence against Indigenous women and girls.
4. Encourage opportunities for women, girls and gender minorities to participate and engage in municipal mentorship, leadership and governance

### **Report on activities, projects, and outcomes**

- WAVE recently began pursuing a co-chair model similar to the Edmonton Youth Council
- WAVE provided feedback on the Vehicle-for-Hire bylaw
- WAVE honoured the principles of diversity and inclusion while continuing to implement its 2022-2024 strategic plan

### **Upcoming events and milestones**

Effective May 2023, two members of the City Council will be appointed to this committee.

### **Evaluation**

It is recommended that the City of Edmonton continue the work with WAVE to incorporate women and gendered perspectives into City policy.