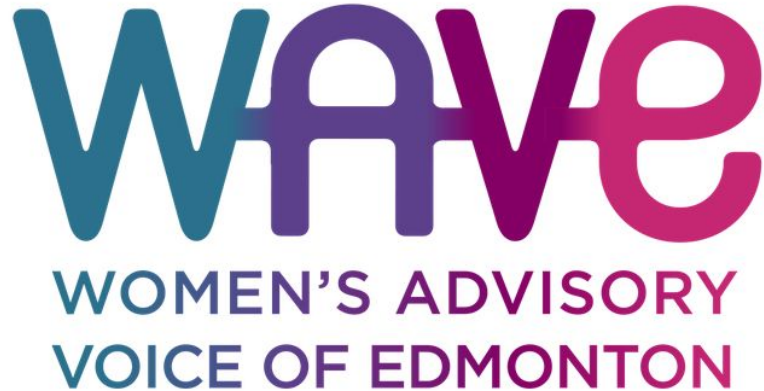


WAVE Annual Report for 2024

Echo Keizer and Jaycee Meneen



WAVE's Mandate and Strategic Goals

Mandate:

- a) Provide recommendations to Council about women's gender based issues and opportunities in relation to Council policies, priorities and decisions;
- b) promote leadership development to empower Edmonton women to fully participate in civic life;
- c) and research and provide information and resources about women's gender based issues and opportunities to Edmontonians.

Strategic Goals:

1. Advocate to Edmonton City Council on critical issues affecting women and gender diverse people.
2. Improve quality of life for women and gender diverse people in Amiskwaciwâskahikan.
3. Empower women and gender diverse people to get involved in different ways with Municipal government.



Overview

Goal 1:

- Developed a formal Policy Subcommittee dedicated to researching and providing feedback on relevant policies and city council initiatives
- Engaged regularly with WAVE council advisors on relevant bylaw and policy announcements, keeping up to date on all pertinent topics as they come up
- Sent letters to city council to demonstrate our position on relevant issues in bylaw and policy announcements
- Gathered community support to advocate for the creation of a 2SLGBTQIA+ Action Plan, sent a letter in addition to going out into community, spoke at the City Council meeting during their discussions of this topic
- Created a briefing template to draft correspondences with greater efficiency

Overview Cont.

Goal 2:

- Consistent engagement with the Community Safety and Wellbeing Strategy (CSWBS) team, ensuring gender inclusivity
- Public Spaces Bylaw engagement, ensuring a GBA+ and gender-equitable approach is taken
- Vehicle for Hire training put into effect
- Transit Safety Initiative engagement, ensuring diverse voices are heard and considered
- Increased social media following on Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, allowing for wider community engagement streams, beginning the development of creating a Contact Us form on the WAVE website to encourage further community engagement

Overview Cont.

Goal 3:

- Completion of the Equity in Motion speaker series
- Approval of several WAVE projects including Equity in Motion: The Podcast, Financial Fridays, Indigenous Learning Series, and the Active Citizen Series
- Engaged with 4Her, AskHer, Girl Pantry, Accessibility Advisory Committee, Edmonton Youth Council, Energy Transition Climate Resilience Committee, YEG Built for Life
- Identified unequal division of labour between chairs/vice-chairs, completed the Co-Chair pilot and ratified in WAVE bylaw
- Advocated for increased focus on reducing burnout among women volunteers and City Councillors, emphasizing additional pressures such as childcare often being placed on women



In Addition:

- Took on website management
- Took on social media management
- Met with Edmonton Youth Council, Accessibility Advisory Committee, and Energy Transition Climate Resilience Committee to speak with the mayor about the fall budget adjustment
- Attended City Hall School events on multiple occasions
- Attended J.Percy Page High School to teach the leadership class about WAVE



Key Topics and Motions

Feb: No key motions held, Strategic Plan Framework and Work Plan discussion (Shereen Zink, CoE), ongoing WAVE mandate discussion to include gender-diverse people, call to action and reconciliation weaved into WAVE's work

Mar: Approved Strategic Plan 2024-2026 and Work Plan 2024-2026, 2023 Annual Report presented to Council, ongoing social media content list created, subcommittee discussion and shift in how the work is done, WAVE members spoke at the Safe and Inclusive Public Spaces Council meeting, ongoing WAVE mandate discussion to include gender-diverse people

Apr: No key motions held, 2SLGBTQIA+ work funded by Council contingency fund, presentation from Nada Djokic (Vehicle for Hire program lead) and commitment to quarterly updates, approval of new WAVE recruits by Council, City Hall School presentation (Holyrood School), Capital Projects Planning LRT infrastructure discussion, Mass Transit discussion, ongoing WAVE mandate discussion to include gender-diverse people

Key Topics and Motions Cont.

May: No key motions held, presentation at J.Percy Page High School, Ripple Effect Mentorship for new recruits, governance review of WAVE bylaw by OCC, reviewed strategic plan and workplan, Priority Growth Area Rezoning Project

Jun: No key motions held, LRT Station Gates presentation (ETS), mandate and permanency review survey (internal), Social Development Reorganization discussion, social media monthly themes

Sep: Approved Active Citizen Series Project with adjustments to timelines and changes to accommodate capacity, approved Equity in Motion: The Podcast project, CSWB discussion, discussion on co-chair model pilot, Violence Prevention Action Plan discussion, project presentations

Key Topics and Motions Cont.

Oct: Co-chair model approved to amend into bylaw, Financial Literacy Project Approved (Goal 2), concerns regarding the Fall Budget Adjustment, Girl Pantry presentation, preparation for co-chair elections in November, Financial Literacy project proposal approved (Goal 2)

Nov: Creation of ad hoc working group for knowledge transfer between WAVE and Parados, nomination and voting in new co-chairs, Edmonton Police Commission presentation, meeting with the mayor regarding the Fall Budget Adjustment, C.Wright stepping down as WAVE council advisor, Violence Prevention Action Plan Open House at MacEwan, Parados contract not being renewed, active projects deferred following social media uncertainty, new Policy Subcommittee co-chairs elected

Dec: No key motions held, WAVE social media discussion in private pursuant to Section 16 of FOIP, update on meeting with mayor regarding budget adjustment, Public Spaces bylaw request to connect, Community Safety and Wellbeing Strategy request to connect, new admin support beginning, Affordable Housing Investment Policy, active projects continuing work

Communications to Council

Reports:

1. Membership Report 2024, March 5, 2024, agenda item 5.7, OCC02280
2. Annual Report 2023, March 5, 2024, agenda item 5.7, OC02280

Requests:

1. Establishment of the Policy Subcommittee, March 5, 2024 section 5.7

Correspondences:

1. Public Spaces Bylaw briefing, February 2024
2. [Letter on behalf of the Queer community](#), March 2024
3. [Briefing on the Safe and Inclusive Public Spaces Report](#), March 2024
4. Letter to CPSC on the Corporate Homelessness Plan, June 2024
5. Letter to Council to amend WAVE's bylaw to include co-chair leadership model, November 2024
6. Letter Concerning the Fall Budget Adjustment, November 2024

Membership

Sara Awatta

Alison Bailie

Rhiannon Duval

Erika Eamer

Santana Febrey - **Resigned June 10, 2024**

Saniya Ghalehdar

Tiwalade (Tiwa) Ighomuaye

Stella Igweamaka

Laurence Jayawardane

Areezah Jiwa (**Co-Chair**) (**Nov 2024**)

Echo Keizer (**Co-Chair**) (**current**)

Cherie Klassen

Trena MacGillivray

Del Marlow

Jaycee Meneen (**Co-Chair**) (**current**)

Olubusola (Olu) Onasile

Nicole Rodriguez

Jess Smith

Julianne Threlfall - **Co-Chair (Nov 2024)**

Jasmine Virk

Candace Yung

Work Plan for 2025



Goal 1: Advocate to Edmonton City Council on critical issues affecting women and gender diverse people

Action item 1: Develop a formal process and framework for WAVE committee members to effectively learn about, advise, and follow up on policy and bylaws relevant to WAVE's mandate.

Action item 2: Monitor and understand the issues and solutions for women and gender diverse people related to bylaw/policy announcements from Council, with a focus on Council's Strategic Priorities.

Action item 3: Review and advise on bylaws and policies being contemplated by council that are relevant to the committee's mandate and Council's Strategic Priorities.

Goal 2: Improve quality of life for women and gender diverse people in Amiskwaciwâskahikan

Action item 1: Review and learn about the Community Safety and Wellbeing Strategy and identify areas for WAVE to be involved in.

Action item 2: Identify and distribute resources to empower and educate women and gender diverse people in areas such as financial literacy, wage gap, transit safety, housing, poverty.

Action item 3: Develop a feedback mechanism as a pilot to allow community members to identify and inform WAVE on critical issues.

Goal 3: Empower women and gender diverse people to get involved in different ways with Municipal government.

Action item 1: Help women and gender diverse people learn about how to engage with council on critical issues.

Action item 2: Identify and support groups that help promote gender diversity on council / civic engagement.

Action item 3: Identify areas to reduce burnout with women and gender diverse people on WAVE, City Council and leadership positions.

Action item 4: Identify and advocate for the removal of barriers to civic engagement that could disproportionately affect women and gender diverse people.



Policy Subcommittee

- Fulfills Goal 1 of the strategic plan
- Motions will be discussed with the broader committee
- Allows for prioritization of action items during main WAVE meeting
- Administrative support for scheduling, live-streaming, agenda and minutes
- Co-chair model in line with burnout reduction strategy



Thank you!

