



COUNCIL – AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: 18 June 2024
Subject: Airdrie Board of Youth Affairs 2024 Annual Report
Directorate: Community Safety and Social Services

Issue:

The Airdrie Board of Youth Affairs (ABYA) is presenting Council with their annual report for the 2023/2024 school year.

Policy / Council Direction:

Bylaw B-15/2024 section 8 states that ABYA must report to Council on an annual basis.

Background:

The ABYA, previously known as 'Hyjinx' (2005-2013), was formed with the goal to empower youth in Airdrie to deal with issues that affect them. In May 2023, Administration presented Council with recommendations to formalize and strengthen ABYA's governance structure and relationship with Council based on feedback collected from both ABYA and Council members. Administration then began working with ABYA to become an advisory committee of Council, which included the development of their own bylaw. After Council gave three readings to ABYA's bylaw in March 2024, the ABYA officially became an advisory committee of Council.

The board is open to Airdrie youth aged 13-22 with a maximum of 11 voting members. In their role as an advisory committee, the ABYA's vision is to empower the voice of youth and play a critical role in the betterment of the community. Their mission is to educate and empower the youth community by providing advice to City departments, Council, and the broader community on issues that affect youth.

The ABYA will be providing a 2023/2024 update on the following keys areas:

1. Engagement with internal departments and external organizations.

The ABYA meets with departments and external youth-serving groups to ensure they can provide youth perspective on upcoming projects and future opportunities to improve youth engagement.

2. An update on the current focus project that leads to the betterment of local youth.

Since 2020, the ABYA has been focusing their efforts on understanding the impacts of vaping on the youth population and how they can influence change in the community around vaping.

3. Work plan for the 2024/2025 school year.

The boards workplan will outline the goals they would like to accomplish for the following year.

The formalization of the ABYA is a crucial step to ensuring youth have a voice and can actively participate with municipal government. The board looks forward to strengthening their relationship with Council in the next school year.

Council Committee Routed Through:

The ABYA provides reports directly to Council.

Administration Recommendation:

That Council accept the report and presentation entitled “Airdrie Board of Youth Affairs 2024 Annual report” for information.”

Alternatives/Implications:

This item is for information.

Budget Implications:

There are no budget implications identified for this initiative.

Communications and Engagement:

Administration will work with the ABYA to advertise upcoming recruitment and opportunities to engage with the board.

Recommendation:

That Council accepts the presentation of the Airdrie Board of Youth Affairs 2024 Annual Report for information.

Jessica Dudek
Youth Engagement Liaison, Social Planning

Staff Presenter:	Jessica Dudek
External Presenter:	ABYA members
Department:	Social Planning
Reviewed by:	Pauline Clark
Attachments:	#1:There are no attachments