



INFORMATION REQUEST

INFORMATION REQUEST #: IR-23-25

REQUESTED BY: Councillor Stevenson

TOPIC: Youth Advisory Committee

DATE OF REQUEST: Prior to GPC Meeting 2025

DATE OF RESPONSE: November 17, 2025

QUESTION:

Can you confirm how much money we give the Youth Advisory Committee?

CSAC approved \$10K for the Africentric to provide programming for new youth etc. While I understand this is an important ask to support, is it in line with the amount of money we provide to our youth committee?

- a. How much is being provided to this group from Parkland and Stony (I believe it's for the region).
Do we ever consider at some point to make our funding dependent on matching funding?

Response

For clarity, CSAC does not have the authority to approve but rather recommend to Council for approval. Council ultimately holds the authority to approve the community grants, which is why they are being recommended for Council's approval in the budget.

The Youth Advisory Committee receives \$10,500 in annual funding. The funding is split to provide bursaries for YAC members themselves (\$5,500 in total and up to \$500 per members one-time) and an additional funding of \$5,000 for events and/or other donations. For example, they've used some of this funding for some activities at Canada Day for various donations to other community groups where possible (i.e. Parkland Food Bank). For the latter, they take the initiative in researching and making decisions in this regard. The City Clerk's office (who supports both YAC and CSAC), Admin representatives, and the youth members from YAC that also sits on the CSAC,

work collaboratively to make sure any donations aren't a duplication or circumvention of the grant/microgrant program.

As you can see, YAC's funding is specific for the committee itself for members, various activities, meals, etc. and not necessarily for specific youth programming in the community. There is no duplication of specific services and intent of the funding provided to YAC and what is being recommended to the community group outlined in the budget recommendation.

The Africentric Arts organization is seeking funding for a project to deliver year-round leadership and arts programming that empowers Black and racialized youth through engagement, workshops, and mentorship. As outlined on page 140 of the budget package, the organization had originally requested \$52,000; however, the CSAC is only recommending partial funding due to budget limitations as well as ensuring that there was a focus only on Spruce Grove youth and no subsidy of Stony Plain and Parkland residents. The organization was/is encouraged to reach out to those municipalities for additional funding. Administration did provide context to the CSAC that this particular initiative does address an underserved population in the region and addressed a gap in municipal funding for cultural groups.

The CSAC did ask similar questions in terms of whether to have funding conditional upon others providing proportionate share for regional organizations; however, Administration indicated that this was extremely difficult to force and could limit the process/timing for Council's approval. Instead, Administration asks detailed clarification questions and data where applicable around how the proposed initiative/request focuses solely on Spruce Grove resident impacts. The CSAC has approved microgrants and made other recommendations with reduced funding because of this exact point of avoiding subsidy for Parkland/Stony Plain residents.

Background

Shared in the response above.

Financial Implications/Taxation Impact

As outlined in the budget presentation and business case.

Contact: Scott Rodda, Director, Community Social Development