



YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, March 5, 2026, 4 p.m.

Community Engagement Space

414 King Street

Spruce Grove, AB T7X 2C7

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Corrie Priebe

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9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

10. ADJOURNMENT

10.1 Adjournment - Youth Advisory Committee - March 5, 2026

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REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: March 5, 2026

TITLE: Adoption of the Agenda - Youth Advisory Committee - March 5, 2026

DIVISION: Strategic and Communication Services

SUMMARY:

Committee members are provided the opportunity to add items they would like to discuss during the meeting, remove items, or change the order of proceedings.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

The agenda sets the course of action for the meeting. This ensures the business of the day is followed through and completed as required.

The agenda is approved by a motion of the Committee and must be passed by a majority of the members present. Once the agenda is approved, no further changes may be made unless approved by the majority of the Committee members present.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

n/a

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

n/a

IMPACTS:

n/a

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

n/a



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: January 29, 2026

TITLE: Minutes - Youth Advisory Committee Organizational and Regular - January 29, 2026

DIVISION: Strategic and Communication Services

SUMMARY:

The minutes of the previous Youth Advisory Committee meeting are placed on the agenda for approval.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THAT the January 29, 2026 Youth Advisory Committee Organizational and Regular meeting minutes be approved as presented.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

The Youth Advisory Committee minutes are the official written record of the actions that took place during the meeting; a snapshot of the decisions that the Committee made and the outcome of the vote.

The minutes are written without notes or transcribing of discussions that may have taken place during an agenda item.

Committee members review the minutes prior to the meeting to review for any changes that may need to be made. A motion for an amendment is required if an error has been noted. If there are no amendments to the minutes, a motion to approve the minutes as presented is made by a member of the Committee. The minutes are signed by the Chair and the Recording Secretary.

A copy of the minutes will be included in a future Regular Council Meeting agenda package.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

THAT the January 29, 2026 Youth Advisory Committee Organizational and Regular meeting minutes be approved as amended.

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

n/a

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

n/a

IMPACTS:

n/a

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

n/a



THE CITY OF SPRUCE GROVE

Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of Youth Advisory Committee

January 29, 2026, 4 p.m.

Community Engagement Space

414 King Street

Spruce Grove, AB T7X 2C7

Members Present: Councillor Bennett
Hannah Dunbar, Chair
Cole Cochrane, Vice-Chair
Avreet Maanshahia
Brie Chouinard
Carlos Cruz
Heaven Landry
Iya Tabulog
Marko Noc
Meagan Tokar
Rahima Mahadi
Taylor Mayhew

Members Absent: Councillor Stevenson

Also in Attendance: Annemarie Bakalech, Administrative Liaison
Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk
Nicole Hitchens, Recording Secretary

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, called the Youth Advisory Committee Organizational Meeting to order at 4 p.m.

1.1 **Welcome and Member Introductions - 2026 Youth Advisory Committee**

The Youth Advisory Committee members made introductions.

2. **AGENDA**

2.1 **Adoption of the Agenda - Youth Advisory Committee Organizational Meeting - January 29, 2026**

Meagan Tokar joined the meeting at 4:09 p.m.

Resolution: YAC-001-26

Moved by: Avreet Maanshahia

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Unanimously Carried

3. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

3.1 **Effective Committee Meetings and Meeting Procedures - 2026 Youth Advisory Committee**

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, provided a presentation on Effective Committee Meetings and Meeting Procedures.

Committee thanked Laura Hall for the presentation.

3.2 **C-1208-22 - Youth Advisory Committee Bylaw - 2026 Overview**

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, provided a presentation on C-1208-22 - Youth Advisory Committee Bylaw - 2026 Overview.

Committee thanked Laura Hall for the presentation.

3.3 Youth Advisory Committee 2026 Meeting Schedule

Annemarie Bakalech, Administrative Liaison, provided a presentation on the 2026 Youth Advisory Committee meeting dates.

Committee thanked Annemarie Bakalech for the presentation.

Resolution: YAC-002-26

Moved by: Hannah Dunbar

THAT the 2026 Youth Advisory Committee meeting schedule be approved as presented.

Unanimously Carried

3.4 Nomination and Election of Chair and Vice-Chair - 2026 Youth Advisory Committee

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, provided an explanation on the process for the nomination and election of Chair and Vice-Chair.

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, called for nominations for the position of Chair.

Avreet Maanshahia self-nominated for the position of Chair.

Cole Cochrane self-nominated for the position of Chair.

Hannah Dunbar self-nominated for the position of Chair.

Heaven Landry self-nominated for the position of Chair.

Each candidate shared a brief overview of why they would like to be the Chair.

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, opened a secret ballot vote.

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, announced a tie vote between Cole Cochrane and Hannah Dunbar.

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, opened a secret ballot vote between Cole Cochrane and Hannah Dunbar.

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, declared that Hannah Dunbar was elected as Chair of the Youth Advisory Committee for one year by majority vote.

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

Avreet Maanshahia self-nominated for the position of Vice-Chair.

APPROVED

Carlos Cruz self-nominated for the position of Vice-Chair.

Cole Cochrane self-nominated for the position of Vice-Chair.

Heaven Landry self-nominated for the position of Vice-Chair.

Each candidate shared a brief overview of why they would like to be the Vice-Chair.

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, opened a secret ballot vote.

Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk, declared that Cole Cochrane was elected as Vice-Chair of the Youth Advisory Committee for one year by majority vote.

The Chair and Vice-Chair will assume their roles at the next scheduled meeting.

4. ADJOURNMENT

4.1 Adjournment - Youth Advisory Committee Organizational Meeting - January 29, 2026

Resolution: YAC-003-26

Moved by: Cole Cochrane

THAT the Youth Advisory Committee Organizational Meeting adjourn at 4:59 p.m.

Unanimously Carried

DRAFT

Hannah Dunbar, Chair

Nicole Hitchens, Recording Secretary

Date Signed

DRAFT



THE CITY OF SPRUCE GROVE

Minutes of the Youth Advisory Committee

**January 29, 2026, 5 p.m.
Community Engagement Space
414 King Street
Spruce Grove, AB T7X 2C7**

Members Present: Councillor Bennett
Hannah Dunbar, Chair
Cole Cochrane, Vice-Chair
Avreet Maanshahia
Brie Chouinard
Carlos Cruz
Heaven Landry
Iya Tabulog
Marko Noc
Meagan Tokar
Rahima Mahadi
Taylor Mayhew

Members Absent: Councillor Stevenson

Also in Attendance: Annemarie Bakalech, Administrative Liaison
Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk
Nicole Hitchens, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hannah Dunbar called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

1.1 Land Acknowledgment

Chair Hannah Dunbar provided the Land Acknowledgment.

1.2 Icebreaker Activity

Annemarie Bakalech, Administrative Liaison, led the Icebreaker Activity.

2. AGENDA

2.1 Adoption of the Agenda - Youth Advisory Committee - January 29, 2026

Resolution: YAC-004-26

Moved by: Cole Cochrane

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Unanimously Carried

3. MINUTES

3.1 Approval of Minutes - Youth Advisory Committee - December 4, 2025

Resolution: YAC-005-26

Moved by: Avreet Maanshahia

THAT the December 4, 2025 Youth Advisory Committee meeting minutes be approved as presented.

Unanimously Carried

4. DELEGATIONS

There were no Delegations on the agenda.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

There were no Administrative Updates on the agenda.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

6.1 2026 Youth Advisory Committee Work Plan Discussion

Annemarie Bakalech, Administrative Liaison, provided a presentation on the 2026 Youth Advisory Committee Work Plan.

Committee thanked Annemarie Bakalech for the presentation.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

7.1 Councillor Updates

Councillor Bennett provided an update on the recent Council Retreat highlighting key priorities for the current term.

Chair Hannah Dunbar thanked Councillor Bennett for the updates.

8. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session on the agenda.

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

There was no Business Arising from Closed Session.

10. ADJOURNMENT

10.1 Adjournment - Youth Advisory Committee - January 29, 2026

Resolution: YAC-006-26

Moved by: Avreet Maanshahia

THAT the Youth Advisory Committee adjourn at 5:55 p.m.

Unanimously Carried

Hannah Dunbar, Chair

Nicole Hitchens, Recording Secretary

Date Signed



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: March 5, 2026

TITLE: 2026 Rotary Youth Leadership Experience

DIVISION: Community and Protective Services

SUMMARY:

Cathy Marji with the Rotary Club of Spruce Grove will present the opportunity to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Experience (RYLE) and the upcoming Interact Club initiative.

PROPOSED MOTION:

A motion is not required.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

The Rotary Youth Leadership Experience (RYLE) brings High School aged students from across District 5370 to Camp Nakamun for a four-day leadership development camp packed with workshops, speakers, and experiences that build confidence, communities, and empowerment. The programming of the camp has three main focuses: intrapersonal growth, communication, and community building and global citizenship. The 2026 dates for RYLE are April 30 - May 3, 2026.

The Interact Club is a Rotary-sponsored service club for participants ages 12 - 18 and creates opportunities for young people to build leadership skills, connect with others, and have fun, all while serving their communities and learning about the world. They plan and carry out at least two projects every year: one that helps their school or community and one that promotes international understanding. Through Interact, young people experience the power of service, discover new cultures, and promote international understanding while developing leadership skills and making new friends.

The Interact Club will be hosted out of the new Kickstand Centre.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

n/a

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

n/a

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

YAC members who are interested should contact the Administrative Liaison and will then be directed to the RYLE application process. The deadline for registration is April 10, 2026.

IMPACTS:

Those who participate may develop leadership skills that support their individual growth and have a benefit to the YAC as a whole.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There is no cost to YAC members, the Rotary Club of Spruce Grove has sponsorships available for approved participants.

ROTARY CLUB of SPRUCE GROVE



Local & International Projects

Local & International Support & Causes

LOCAL

- Parkland Pregnancy
- Hope Beverly House
- Neighborhood link
- PSD Lunch program
Community Kitchen
- Youth initiatives & the
Kickstand Program

INTERNATIONAL

- Providing clean water,
sanitation & hygiene
- Supporting education
- Fighting disease
- Growing local economies
- Promoting Peace
- AMOROCK, HYPOROLLER

SG Rotary Interact Club

- Rotary Sponsored service club for ages 12 - 18 yrs
- Creates opportunities to build leadership skills, connecting with others & having fun while serving the community & learning about the world
- The new Interact club will be Community based and is accessible to all local students in the community. The program will run out of the Kickstand Tri-Region Center, at the log cabin 447 King St.
- Meetings will be held once a month
- The Interact club will hold elections and will operate formally with a Board of Directors
- The Interact Club will decide on some Community fundraisers once it's running

SG Rotary Interact Club con't

- Interactors will shape their own club, planning & implementing everything from, service projects, leadership development programs & social activities
- Interactors learn about service and the enormous impact that Rotary members and other volunteers can make
- As an Interactor, you will become part of the global community, connecting with other young leaders from around the world, gaining a deeper understanding of international events, and forging new friendships

CAMP RYLE



Rotary Adventures in Human Rights

Growing Leaders and Building Community



“(RAHR)” Rotary Adventures in Human Rights

- An immersive educational initiative aimed at high school students (grades 11 or 12)
- Focuses on understanding & advocating for Human Rights
- A collaborative effort between Rotary World Peace Partners & the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR)
- At the end of the program students will create action plans to implement in their school or community, encouraging them to become changemakers

RAHR

- **Exploring Themes**

- Gender equity
- Truth and reconciliation
- When human rights are denied
- Genocide
- The experiences of refugees or immigrants.

- **Structure**

- Workshops & discussions with others from across Canada
- Visits to significant sites relating to HR
- Guest speakers who have faced HR challenges
- Gain insights into the ongoing struggles for justice & equity

RAHR

- There are only 24 spots available!
- The cost is \$1,500 PLUS travel to and from Winnipeg. This fee covers accommodations, meals, programming, and ground transportation. RCSG will be sponsoring this fee.
- August 16 to 22, 2026 (including travel days): arrival on Sunday, August 16, and departure on Saturday, August 22
- Interested students are required to submit an essay expressing interest (&why) to the RCSG by April 24th, 2026
- Application deadline is June 30, 2026



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: March 5, 2026

TITLE: Kickstand Spruce Grove Update

DIVISION: Community and Protective Services

SUMMARY:

The City of Spruce Grove is the lead agency for the Kickstand Centre that is currently under development at the 447 King Street Log Cabin. Physical centres are a key component of transforming the system of care within our community. Kickstand promotes a strong sense of ownership and belonging to the youth in the community, and to families / caregivers, service providers and other mental health partners that support the youth.

PROPOSED MOTION:

A motion is not required.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

Kickstand is a province-wide Integrated Youth Services initiative committed to creating spaces that foster strong community partnerships and provide young people with consistent, accessible, safe, and welcoming services and supports.

Kickstand Spruce Grove will provide young people with access to mental health, substance use, physical and sexual health care, peer support, Indigenous wellness, and a variety of social services, all in one convenient and youth-friendly setting.

Kickstand Spruce Grove will feature inclusive space choices for neurodivergent individuals, integrated technology, a welcoming reception, and smooth service delivery flow.

Kickstand Spruce Grove is scheduled to open this April.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

n/a

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

YAC members are invited to attend the formal launch event on April 22, 2026 from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. The Administrative Liaison will email the invitation with further details.

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

YAC members can share the information regarding the opening of Kickstand Spruce Grove to their peers.

IMPACTS:

The Kickstand Spruce Grove supports the Committee's priority focus area of youth wellbeing and access. This can be a conduit for YAC to gain understanding on youth perspective and insight to help inform needs and process recommendations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

n/a



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: March 5, 2026

TITLE: 2026 Youth Advisory Committee Work Plan Approval

DIVISION: Community and Protective Services

SUMMARY:

The Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) will review the proposed 2026 Youth Advisory Committee Work Plan for approval.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THAT the 2026 Youth Advisory Committee Work Plan be approved as presented.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

At the January 29, 2026 meeting, the YAC discussed the desired priorities for the 2026 year. Administration led YAC through a review of the purpose of the committee, overview of the 2025 work plan priorities, and recommendations from the 2025 report.

Considerations were made to ensure the defined priorities align with YAC's mandate and capacity.

The committee formulated three key priority areas that they would like to focus on:

1. **Youth Voice and Civic Engagement** - to strengthen meaningful youth participation in municipal decision-making and increase awareness of local youth issues.
2. **Youth Opportunity and Economic Inclusion** - to improve awareness, access, and advocacy related to youth employment, volunteering, and skill development opportunities.
3. **Youth Wellbeing and Access** - to identify and address barriers affecting youth wellbeing, including mental health, accessibility, safety, and equitable participation.

This work plan is a high-level overview of the focus areas that will guide YAC's involvement and participation in various initiatives. As initiatives emerge that support their priorities, details will be added to the work plan.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

n/a

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

n/a

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

Once the 2026 YAC Work Plan is approved, it will be presented to City Council by the Chair and Vice-Chair.

IMPACTS:

The work plan is designed to have a meaningful impact and influence. When the new City of Spruce Grove's Strategic Plan is released, the YAC work plan will consider what actions can align with the goals.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The work plan will operate within the approved budget.



Youth Advisory Committee 2026 Work Plan

Awareness and Understanding

The Youth Advisory Committee was created in 2023 and is tasked with engaging with youth in the community to accurately represent a youth perspective on a variety of municipal issues and provide recommendations to Council on these issues. Council has provided direction on how they may accomplish this through:

- a) Coordinating youth specific initiatives that profile local youth issues;
- b) Developing and maintaining relationships with individuals and organizations addressing issues or opportunities relating to youth;
- c) Researching and providing input into policy proposals for Council's consideration in reference to matters that directly impact youth in the community;
- d) Receiving direction from Council on work or reports Council requires on youth matters;
- e) Providing a youth lens on youth-oriented City policies, programs, or services; and
- f) Engaging with Administration and other organizations supporting youth initiatives and other municipalities.

In 2026, the committee has eleven members, comprised of eight new members and three members returning from 2025. The Youth Advisory Committee is well positioned to learn from their successes and leverage them into 2026.

Based on feedback from the 2025 Committee, the youth identified that they would like more mentorship opportunities from Administration, increased opportunities to volunteer, and meaningful connection opportunities with youth to gather input and advise accordingly.

2026 Priorities

The 2026 Work Plan priorities were formulated after a review and analysis of the previous year's activities, suggestions from Administration, Committee Council Members, and the Committee Members. This work plan is a high-level overview of the focus areas that will guide their involvement and participation in various initiatives. As initiatives emerge that support their priorities, details will be added to the work plan. The work plan is also intended to be iterative to accommodate emerging interests and opportunities.

1. Youth Voice and Civic Engagement (aligning to mandate a, c, d, e, f)

Purpose

To strengthen meaningful youth participation in municipal decision-making and increase awareness of local youth issues.

Key Objectives

1. Increase opportunities for youth to share perspectives on City matters.
2. Provide structured youth feedback to Council and Administration.
3. Enhance youth understanding of municipal processes and civic engagement.

2. Youth Opportunity and Economic Inclusion (aligning to mandate a, b, c, e, f)

Purpose

To improve awareness, access, and advocacy related to youth employment, volunteering, and skill development opportunities.

Key Objectives

1. Identify barriers to youth employment and volunteer participation.
2. Strengthen relationships with local businesses and youth-serving organizations.
3. Provide opportunities to enhance youth leadership development.

3. Youth Wellbeing and Access (alignment to mandate a, b, c, e, f)

Purpose

To identify and address barriers affecting youth wellbeing, including mental health, accessibility, safety, and equitable participation.

Key Objectives

1. Increase awareness of youth mental health and wellbeing needs.
2. Identify systemic barriers limiting youth participation in programs and services.
3. Provide actionable recommendations to improve youth access and inclusion.



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: March 5, 2026

TITLE: 2026 Spruce Up Spruce Grove

DIVISION: Community and Protective Services

SUMMARY:

The City of Spruce Grove (CoSG) is hosting Spruce Up Spruce Grove on Saturday, May 23, 2026 and the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) has the opportunity to participate.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THAT the Youth Advisory Committee participate in the 2026 Spruce Up Spruce Grove event by volunteering to plant trees and by donating \$300, to go towards the school pizza party.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

Last year the YAC participated in Spruce Up Spruce Grove by planting trees and donating funds that went towards a school pizza party. This initiative is important as it encourages youth participation.

Spruce Up Spruce Grove is the CoSG annual community-wide clean up initiative and tree planting. It is scheduled to take place on May 23, 2026. Spruce Up Spruce Grove enhances community connections, volunteer spirit, environmental stewardship, and pride in our neighbourhoods.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

n/a

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

The Administrative Liaison will engage with the initiative lead in the Recreation and Culture department.

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

The Administrative Liaison will communicate YAC's interest in participating with the Spruce Up Spruce Grove organizers and coordinate any needed elements.

YAC members who are available will volunteer for approximately 60 - 90 minutes to plant trees on May 23, 2026.

IMPACTS:

YAC will be supporting a City of Spruce Grove community event, supporting youth involvement, and civic engagement.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The 2026 YAC Operating Budget consists of funds to support Events.



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: March 5, 2026

TITLE: Regional Youth Conference

DIVISION: Community and Protective Services

SUMMARY:

The Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) has the opportunity to participate in a Regional Youth Conference that will build leadership development.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THAT the following two Youth Advisory Committee members participate in the Regional Youth Conference Planning Committee:

- 1.
- 2.

THAT the Youth Advisory Committee contributes \$500, to go towards the Regional Youth Conference.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

The Youth Regional Table has been discussing the opportunity to collaboratively host a Regional Youth Conference as a way to bring youth from across the region together to connect, collaborate, and work toward a shared goal. While a conference was previously attempted by a single community, attendance and overall engagement was limited. As a result, the group identified a more collaborative regional approach as a stronger and more sustainable model, allowing communities to collectively invest in planning, outreach, and implementation.

At this stage, a tentative conference date has been identified as November 10, 2026, which is a Professional Development day. The Administrative Liaison has secured the Black Box theatre as a location option, and there has been financial support pledged from several leadership groups.

The planning committee is currently focused on confirming workshops, securing a guest speaker and entertainment, and submitting grant applications to support the event's success.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

It is recommended that the Youth Advisory Committee participate in the Regional Youth Conference as it's an opportunity to engage with other youth in surrounding communities and share the work being done to support youth. However, should the Youth Advisory Committee decide against supporting the Regional Youth Conference, a motion would not be required, or the Committee could defeat the proposed motion.

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

Regional partners including St. Albert, Fort Saskatchewan, Beaumont, NextGen, and Leduc expressed interest and began meeting to move the initiative forward. Each youth leadership group was invited to have one to two youth representatives participate in the planning committee to ensure youth voice and meaningful engagement throughout the process.

YAC Administration has been in contact with the lead of the planning team to acquire information and determine how the City of Spruce Grove (CoSG) YAC can engage and contribute.

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

Staff in other communities are supporting and facilitating discussions, while youth members have taken an active leadership role by forming working groups focused on key areas: Workshops, Registration, Advertising, Entertainment, and Funding.

The Administrative Liaison will support logistical needs and remain connected to the regional staff who are also supporting this initiative.

Two YAC members will volunteer to be part of the working group and identify which of the key areas they have interest in and be the CoSG representative attending the monthly Monday night virtual meeting and reporting back to YAC.

YAC will be active in supporting the planning and hosting of this event. Including developing a communication strategy, in consultation with the CoSG Communication department to share this opportunity for local youth to attend.

IMPACTS:

This opportunity supports the work plan priority of engaging youth to share perspectives, developing leadership skills, and volunteering.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The 2026 YAC Operating Budget supports the use of \$500 to go towards the Regional Youth Conference.



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: March 5, 2026

TITLE: Land Acknowledgements at Youth Advisory Committee Meetings

DIVISION: Community and Protective Services

SUMMARY:

The Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) has the option to deliver a Land Acknowledgment at every meeting, and all members have the opportunity to participate in a step towards reconciliation.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THAT the Youth Advisory Committee include a Land Acknowledgement as part of the agenda for their meetings.

THAT Youth Advisory Committee members rotate the responsibility of delivering the Land Acknowledgement at the meetings according to a designated schedule prepared by the Administrative Liaison.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

In 2025 YAC passed a motion to include the delivery of a Land Acknowledgment at their meetings.

What is a Land Acknowledgement

A Land Acknowledgement is a statement that recognizes Indigenous Peoples as the original caretakers of the land and their ongoing relationship to the land. The City of Spruce Grove is committed to acts of reconciliation to create a more inclusive community and help deepen relationships with Indigenous people.

The City of Spruce Grove is situated on Treaty 6 territory, and the Métis Homeland. This is sacred land that holds the hearts, footsteps and spirits of many First Nation, Métis and Inuit Peoples, and in particular, Paul First Nation, Enoch, Cree Nation, Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation,

Michel First Nation, Alexander First Nation, the Lac Ste. Anne Métis, and Métis Nation of Alberta District 8.

In a presentation to the YAC in 2025, it was explained that Land Acknowledgements matter because they demonstrate recognition, reconciliation, and show respect for Indigenous Peoples and histories. In addition, Land Acknowledgements acknowledge past and present injustices, while encouraging actions toward reconciliation.

Key elements of a meaningful Land Acknowledgement acknowledge, recognize, reflect and commit by:

- Acknowledging the land and its original caretakers.
- Recognize Indigenous Peoples ongoing relationship with the land.
- Reflect on personal connection to the land.
- Commit to learning and taking action.

Preparing a Land Acknowledgement

As part of the 2026 term of the YAC, members have the option to participate in the Land Acknowledgement. Those who are interested can advise the Administrative Liaison which meeting(s) they would like to deliver the Land Acknowledgement. Members can deliver the Land Acknowledgement prepared by the City of Spruce Grove or use one of their own.

In the presentation delivered to the YAC in 2025, the following was included to educate the members on the options of Land Acknowledgements.

There are two types of Land Acknowledgements. The first is a basic approach and the second is personalized.

Basic: I acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 Territory, home to the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulteaux, and Nakota Sioux Peoples, as well as the Métis Nation of Alberta.

Personalized: As someone who enjoys hiking and connecting with nature, I want to acknowledge that the land I explore has been cared for by Indigenous Peoples for generations. Specifically, the (insert the names of local First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Nations/Settlements). I commit to learning more about the history of these lands and First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples contributions as the original caretakers. I value their ongoing efforts to (insert personalized appreciation and engagement), and I will commit to (insert actions that you are able and willing to take towards reconciliation).

Preparing a Personalized Land Acknowledgement

When writing your own Land Acknowledgement, know why you are doing it by asking yourself why it is important for you to acknowledge the land you are on and the original caretaker of the land. Always know who's land you are on. There are many resources available to help you learn more. Reflect on the history of the land. Share local impacts of colonization in your area and

highlight resilience and leadership among surrounding Indigenous communities. Acknowledge the role you play and if this is an area you are still exploring it is okay to share that, committing to ongoing learning is a reflection of your openness to learning and growing in this area. End your Land Acknowledgement with a commitment and include the actions you will take. Some examples of actions you can take include, learning about Indigenous history and current issues, supporting Indigenous-led initiatives, and building relationships with local Indigenous communities.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

Including a Land Acknowledgement at YAC Meetings is a decision of the Committee. The previous term decided to include the Land Acknowledgement at their meetings and therefore staff are recommending this initiative continue for the 2026 term.

Should the Committee decide not to include a Land Acknowledgement, they could defeat the proposed motion, or not place a motion on the floor for a vote.

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

This RFD includes information that was presented by Marina Tran, a Subject Matter Expert at the March 13, 2025 YAC Meeting.

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

Members that are interested in reading out the Land Acknowledgement or creating their own at an upcoming meeting will advise the Administrative Liaison by signing up for a meeting date of their preference. The Chair will read out the Land Acknowledgement for meetings where a member has not signed up.

Members who are delivering the Land Acknowledgement are welcome to create their own or read the one provided by the City of Spruce Grove.

IMPACTS:

Including a Land Acknowledgement at meetings is an opportunity to engage in an action that supports reconciliation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

n/a



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: March 5, 2026

TITLE: Adjournment - Youth Advisory Committee - March 5, 2026

DIVISION: Strategic and Communication Services

SUMMARY:

Adjournment indicates the end of the meeting and the completion of the agenda items.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THAT the Youth Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at TIME p.m.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

The Chair shall ask for a motion from the Committee. Once the motion has been made and the members vote, the meeting is now complete.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

n/a

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

n/a

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

n/a

IMPACTS:

n/a

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

n/a