



COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, April 14, 2026, 6 p.m.
 Community Engagement Space
 414 King Street
 Spruce Grove, AB T7X 2C7

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REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: April 14, 2026

TITLE: Adoption of the Agenda - Community Services Advisory Committee - April 14, 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:

If changes need to be made to the agenda, a motion to amend the agenda is required. An example of a motion to amend is, 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: April 14, 2026

TITLE: Minutes - Community Services Advisory Committee - March 10, 2026

DIVISION: Strategic and Communication Services

SUMMARY:

The minutes of previous Community Services Advisory Committee meetings are placed on the agenda for approval.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THAT the March 10, 2026 Community Services Advisory Committee meeting minutes be approved as presented.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

The Community Services Advisory Committee meeting 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 March 10, 2026 Community Services Advisory Committee 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 Community Services Advisory Committee

**March 10, 2026, 6 p.m.
Community Engagement Space
414 King Street
Spruce Grove, AB T7X 2C7**

Members Present:

Councillor Carter
Kimberley Shuya, Chair
Neil Quaid, Vice-Chair
Hannah Dunbar
Lisa Iwanyk
Shae Douglas
Tessa Scott

Members Absent:

Ambili Rose
Gene Kushnir
Kim Fisher
Lori Bethel

Also in Attendance:

David Wolanski, Administrative Liaison
Laura Hall, Deputy City Clerk
Scott Rodda, Director, Community Social Development

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kimberley Shuya called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. AGENDA

2.1 Adoption of the Agenda - Community Services Advisory Committee - March 10, 2026

Resolution: CSAC-019-26

Moved by: Neil Quaid

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Moved by: Neil Quaid

THAT the agenda be amended to reorder the Business Items to consider 6.2 Accessibility Initiatives before item 6.1 Youth Integrated Services and Youth Programming.

Unanimously Carried

Resolution: CSAC-019-26

Moved by: Neil Quaid

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

Unanimously Carried

3. MINUTES

3.1 Approval of Minutes - Community Services Advisory Committee - February 10, 2026

Resolution: CSAC-020-26

Moved by: Shae Douglas

THAT the February 10, 2026 Community Services Advisory Committee meeting minutes be approved.

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 **Accessibility Initiatives**

David Wolanski, Administrative Liaison, provided a presentation on Accessibility Initiatives.

Committee thanked David Wolanski for the presentation.

Councillor Carter left the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

6.2 **Youth Integrated Services and Youth Programming**

Scott Rodda, Director of Community Social Development, provided a presentation on Youth Integrated Services and Youth Programming.

Committee thanked Scott Rodda for the presentation.

7. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

There were no Information Items on the agenda.

8. **CLOSED SESSION**

There were no Closed Session Items on the agenda.

9. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION**

There was no Business Arising from Closed Session.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

10.1 **Adjournment - Community Services Advisory Committee - March 10, 2026**

Resolution: CSAC-021-26

Moved by: Neil Quaid

THAT the Community Services Advisory Committee adjourn at 7:59 p.m.

Unanimously Carried

DRAFT

Kimberley Shuya, Chair

Laura Hall, Recording Secretary

Date Signed

DRAFT



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REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: April 14, 2026

TITLE: Family and Community Support Services 101

DIVISION: Community and Protective Services

SUMMARY:

To provide the Community Services Advisory Committee with an overview of Family Community Support Services (FCSS), a joint Alberta provincial-municipal funding program that provides preventative social services to enhance the well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

PROPOSED MOTION:

A motion is not required.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) is an 80/20 funding partnership between municipalities or Métis settlements, and the Province, established in 1966 through the *Family and Community Support Services Act* and Regulation. A core principle of FCSS is local responsibility for decision-making. Municipalities determine how those funds are allocated to best meet local needs and priorities keeping in the realm of prevention. Services must not provide crisis intervention or rehabilitative services.

In providing an FCSS program, municipalities and Métis settlements are responsible for:

- engaging citizens in the planning, delivery, evaluation, and governance of programs
- effectively and efficiently using resources, based on identified community needs and priorities
- coordinating and cooperating with government and community organizations

FCSS uses a “people helping people to help themselves” approach and offers a wide range of programs and services at the community level which must result in one or more of the following outcomes:

- people are self-reliant, resilient and function in a positive manner
- people have positive social relationships
- people are socially engaged and contribute to their community
- people are supported to remain active participants in their communities
- people address social issues and influence change

As identified in the Social Sustainability Plan, the Community Social Development (CSD) Department provides programs and services beyond FCSS prevention. These programs target tertiary prevention, such as the Community Outreach Program, Regional Housing Program, and Kickstand, which are funded through other grants or the City approved budget.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

A motion is not required but it may be appropriate to capture feedback from the committee.

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

During the presentation to the committee, Administration will provide several questions and opportunities for feedback from members.

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

The Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA) provides a FCSS 101 Orientation Package on their website for anyone as a resource.

IMPACTS:

n/a

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

n/a



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FCSS 101

Community Social Development

April 14, 2026 / Community Services Advisory Committee

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Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)

FCSS Mandate

- Supported since 1966
- 80/20 funding partnership
- FCSS Act and Regulation



Family & Community Support Services

Municipal Responsibility

- Promote, encourage and facilitate involvement of volunteers;
- Promote efficient and effective use of resources;
- Encourage and facilitate cooperation and coordination with allied services;
- Promote, encourage, and facilitate the development of stronger communities; and,
- Promote citizen participation in planning, delivery and the governance of programs and services.



Prevention

“A proactive process that strengthens the protective factors of individuals, families and communities to promote well-being, reduce vulnerabilities, enhance quality of life and empowers them to meet the challenges of life.”



Prevention

Provincial Strategies

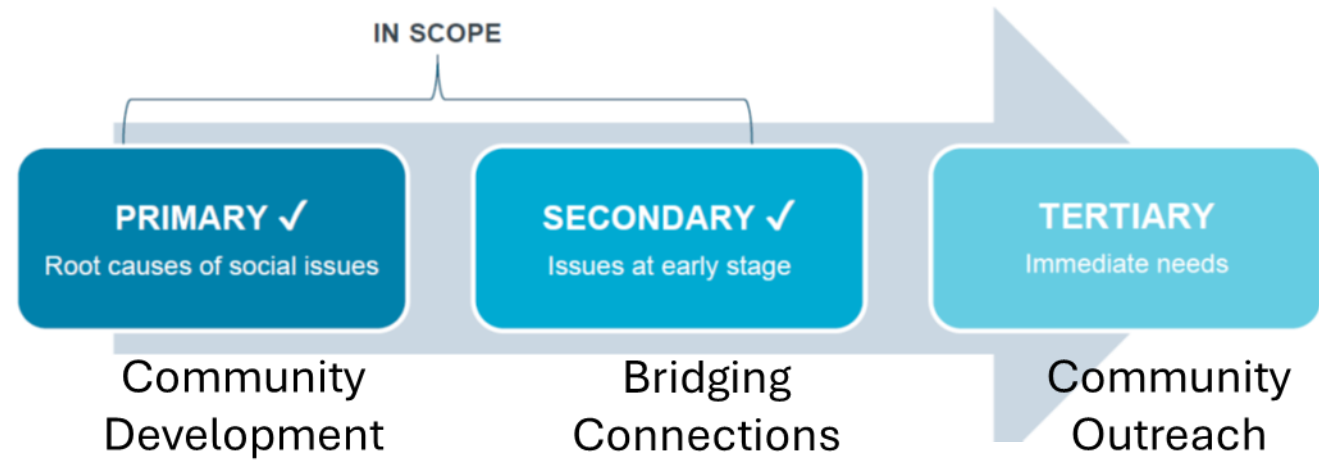
- Develop and strengthen skills that build resilience
- Enhance access to social supports
- Promote and encourage active engagement in the community
- Foster a sense of belonging
- Promote social inclusion
- Develop and maintain healthy relationships

Provincial Priorities

- Homelessness and Housing Insecurity
- Mental Health and Addictions
- Employment
- Family and Sexual Violence
- Aging Well in the Community



Community & Social Development (CSD)



Prevention Continuum

- Services and supports offered through local FCSS programs must focus on primary and secondary prevention
- Tertiary prevention programs are funded through City budget or other grants



CSD Programs

Community Development

- Asset-based community engagement
- Promotes wellbeing, inclusion, and belonging
- Supports non-profit development
- Community grant funding and capacity building

Bridging Connections

- Community Resource Navigation
- Short-term counselling
- Regional Housing Program
- Tri Region Elder Abuse Program
- Life Skills Programming

Community Outreach

- Tailored support for individuals facing complex challenges
- Addressing social disorder
- Supporting local businesses and collaborating with emergency services

Kickstand (YIS)

- Youth (11-25 yo)
- Single point of access for:
 - Peer Support
 - Mental Health
 - Substance Abuse
 - Physical & Sexual Health
 - Social Services
 - Indigenous Wellness



CSD Priorities

Social Sustainability Plan

- Community Connection and Belonging
- Domestic Violence/Abuse
- Mental Health and Addiction
- Meeting Basic Needs
- Those Living Without Shelter



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Thank You



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REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: April 14, 2026

TITLE: Neighbourhood Connection Engagement

DIVISION: Community and Protective Services

SUMMARY:

The Community Services Advisory Committee will receive a presentation on the Community Social Development's (CSD) Connection Cultivators Initiative and Neighbourhood Connection Engagement process that will launch this spring. Committee will have the opportunity to provide feedback on engagement methods.

PROPOSED MOTION:

A motion is not required.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

One of the strongest influences on over-all community wellbeing is how connected residents feel to their neighbourhood and neighbours. According to the Community Foundations of Canada (CFC) “[b]elonging is in the connections people have with friends and family and in the neighbourhoods where people rely on each other. They are willing to ask a favour of their neighbours and develop reciprocal relationships of trust. But not everyone knows what it feels like to belong.” (Retrieved from the Community Foundations of Canada 2023 National Vital Signs Report, [“Reconnecting Communities: Belonging, Engagement and Well-being”](#), p. 16)

Communities across the province and country have great concern for residents’ lack of connection and engagement. Data supports these concerns, the CFC has found that sense of belonging, and strength of connection has declined steadily over the past decade. On average, only 20 per cent of Canadian adults feel a “very strong sense of belonging” to their geographic community and 44 per cent have a “somewhat strong sense of belonging”. Of particular

importance, it was found that people who struggle financially feel the least sense of belonging. Furthermore, single parents experience less feelings of connection and support compared to couples with children. These indicators, among many others, point to a loneliness epidemic.

To address the loneliness epidemic in Canada, municipal Neighbourhood Connection initiatives and strategies are becoming increasingly popular. From Block Party Programs to Neighbourhood Micro-grants to supporting the establishment of Neighbourhood Associations, there are countless creative ways to support Neighbourhood Connection.

CSD is embarking on a community engagement process to help inform the development of a Neighbourhood Connection Initiative for Spruce Grove that is tailored to leverage the community's strengths to address needs while considering residents' interests.

The engagement includes four phases:

Phase 1: Connection Cultivators (January - April 2026)

Recruit and train residents interested in fostering connection within their neighbourhoods. Connection Cultivators may support neighbourhood gatherings, encourage neighbour-to-neighbour introductions, or help mobilize support during times of need.

Phase 2: Neighbourhood Connection Assessment (May - August 2026)

Engage residents to better understand:

- The strength of connection to their neighbourhoods residents currently feel
- The importance of neighbourhood connection for residents
- Resident ideas for how neighbourhood connection can be strengthened

The primary engagement tool will be a short and accessible community-wide survey focused on the social environment in neighbourhoods. The survey will be supported by inclusive and accessible outreach methods (e.g. engagement at community events, presence of CSD staff in neighbourhoods and parks, collaboration with service providers, etc.).

Phase 3: Feedback Analysis and Report Back to the Community (September - December 2026)

Findings will be analyzed by doing a thematic analysis and summarized in a "What We Heard" Report that will be shared with the community.

Phase 4: Neighbourhood Connection Initiative Development (January 2027 - Ongoing)

Using the assessment findings, CSD will develop a Neighbourhood Connection Initiative with ongoing supports, resources, and programs to help strengthen neighbourhood connection.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

n/a

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

CSD will be testing a draft of the survey with internal staff to ensure the questions elicit the kind of feedback desired. Community leaders with various equity deserving organizations will also be consulted regarding the survey questions and the best way to reach residents who are part of historically excluded groups. These leaders will also be asked for input on how to reduce barriers and increase comfortability to respond to the survey or if other methods would be more appropriate for some groups (e.g. focus groups, talking circles, etc.).

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

CSD will continue to work with the Communications Department to promote the engagement process.

IMPACTS:

The engagement process will:

- Establish baseline data on sense of belonging in neighbourhoods
- Identify informal community leaders (Connection Cultivators)
- Ensure residents feel heard and valued

The engagement feedback will inform the development of Neighbourhood Connection Initiative that will:

- Increase connection and sense of belonging in neighbourhoods
- Increase residents' informal support networks that can help them in times of need
- Help residents feel welcome, valued, and safe

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

n/a



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Neighbourhood Connection Engagement

April 14, 2026

Why Connection?

“[b]elonging is in the connections people have with friends and family and in the neighbourhoods where people rely on each other. They are willing to ask a favour of their neighbours and develop reciprocal relationships of trust. But not everyone knows what it feels like to belong.” (Community Foundation of Canada, 2023)



The City’s work around Neighbourhood Connection will:

- Help residents feel welcome, valued, and safe
- Increase connection and sense of belonging in neighbourhoods
- Increase residents’ informal networks that can help them in times of need



The Engagement Process

Phase 1 (January – April)
Connection Cultivators

Phase 2 (May – August)
Neighbourhood Connection Assessment

Phase 3 (September – December)
Feedback Analysis & Report Back to Community

Phase 4 (January 2027 – Ongoing)
Neighbourhood Connection Support

The engagement process will:

- Establish baseline data on sense of belonging in neighbourhoods
- Determine the importance of neighbourhood connection for residents
- Collect ideas from residents for how neighbourhood connection can be strengthened



Engagement Methods

must:

- Reach as many residents as possible
- Reduce barriers to participation
- Reach residents who do not typically engage and may be most vulnerable to feeling like they do NOT belong

Approach

- The primary engagement tool is a survey.
- The survey will be available online and promoted through social media. Participation will also be encouraged through activities like: attendance at community events and gatherings; Connection Cultivators; pop-up survey rovers in neighbourhoods and parks; posters and business cards at various locations; etc.
- Will seek guidance from community leaders with equity deserving groups on how to best engage with residents who are historically excluded.



Feedback

-
- Ideas for how to increase the response rate
 - Suggestions of community leaders who should be engaged
 - Suggestions of community events or locations the survey could be circulated at
 - Would CSAC like to help promote the survey? If so, how?



THANK YOU!



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REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: April 14, 2026

TITLE: Adjournment - Community Services Advisory Committee - April 14, 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 Community Services Advisory Committee 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