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Item No. 2
Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee
May 17, 2018

TO: Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee
Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY: _____
Brad Anguish, Director, Parks & Recreation
Original Signed

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: May 8, 2018

SUBJECT: Fall 2017 & Winter 2018 Youth Engagement Report

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Motion of Regional Council – May 14, 2013:

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Craig that Regional Council:

1. Dissolve the Youth Advisory Committee established in 2006 but no longer officially functioning, in order to adopt a more effective way of engaging with Youth across HRM.
2. Direct staff of Community Recreation Services to continue to engage youth, both in their communities and online, to better understand the current trends and issues of youth across HRM; and further direct staff to provide semi-annual reports to the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee regarding trends and issues, best practices, and actions taken.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Charter, Section 79 (k) recreational programs; (m) ...the expansion of employment opportunities and the economic development of the Municipality; and (d) police services.

BACKGROUND

In May 2013, Regional Council directed the Community & Recreation Services (now Parks and Recreation) business unit to continue to engage youth, both in their communities and online, to better understand the current trends and issues of youth across Halifax.

Staff was further directed to provide semi-annual reports to the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee regarding trends, issues, best practices, and actions taken with respect to youth programming.

This report also provides an update on the Youth Services Plan.

DISCUSSION

The attached Youth Engagement Report (Attachment 1) outlines youth activity over the Fall of 2017 and Winter of 2018, in relation to Recreation Programming, Halifax Public Libraries, Fire and Emergency Services, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and Halifax Regional Police youth programs.

Current data on youth activity is largely confined to Community Centres operated by HRM staff. Discussions are ongoing with Multi-District Facilities to develop a common process to collect data from those facilities.

A Municipal Youth Services Committee has been established to coordinate the Youth Services Plan implementation. Future updates on the Youth Services Plan will be provided through the Youth Engagement Report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Youth engagement on the Youth Services Plan is ongoing, and now includes the collection of Most Significant Change Stories.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Fall 2017 & Winter 2018 Youth Engagement Report

A copy of this report can be obtained online at halifax.ca or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

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