



CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

May 28, 2026

A meeting of the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 5:35 pm in the Joe Wai Room, Ground Floor, City Hall, and via electronic means.

PRESENT: Freddie Zhang, Chair
Kaylee Chou*
Winston Chow
Joseph Dunn
Wah Gee
Amy He
Alicia Li
Ryan Li
Katie Manning
Julia Molnar
Betty Seto*
Marcus Tse
Andre Yeh

ABSENT: Swapna Antony (Leave of Absence)
Seerit Boparai
Arezoo Paterson
Miles Molhoj

ALSO PRESENT: Trustee Suzie Mah, Vancouver School Board Liaison
Gina Gaudet, Vancouver Public Library Liaison
Lanny Libby, Social Planner, Arts, Culture and Community Services; Staff Liaison

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Julie Emmerson, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting

WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples. We thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great city together.

Modified Procedures

MOVED by Ryan Li
SECONDED by Winston Chow

THAT the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee suspend the rule of section 15.13 of the *Procedure By-law* to allow modified decision-making methods during the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
AND BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY
(Kaylee Chou and Betty Seto absent for the vote)

Leave of Absence Requests

THAT the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee approve a leave of absence for Swapna Antony, for this meeting.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS
(Kaylee Chou and Betty Seto absent for the vote)

Approval of Minutes

THAT the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, April 2, 2026, as circulated.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS
(Kaylee Chou and Betty Seto absent for the vote)

1. Motions

Following discussion, the Committee passed the following:

Motion 1 - Alzheimer's Disease Caregiving

WHEREAS

1. Nearly 85,000 people in British Columbia currently live with Alzheimer's disease, a number projected to rise to nearly 250,000 by 2050, placing significant strain on healthcare systems, caregivers, and affected individuals;
2. Alzheimer's disease profoundly impacts children, youth, and families, as many young people take on caregiving roles, facing emotional, financial, and social challenges, with the resulting mental health effects closely aligning with the Children, Youth, and Families Advisory Committee's work plan objectives on youth well-being;

3. In 2018, about 19% (1.5 million) of youth aged 15 to 30 provided care or help to family members or friends with a long-term condition, a physical or mental disability, or problems related to aging;
4. Raising public awareness, reducing stigma, and supporting youth caregivers, families, and community networks are critical in improving the quality of life for those affected by Alzheimer's disease; and
5. This issue is aligned with the Vibrant Vancouver strategic priority #7 (healthy, inclusive, and equitable).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the Children, Youth, and Families Advisory Committee recommend that Council further support youth and families in Alzheimer's disease caregiving by:
 - i. Proclaiming a relevant day as Alzheimer's Disease Caregiving Day to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and encourage community support for caregivers and families affected by the disease, and recognizing this proclamation annually; and
 - ii. Direct staff to collaborate with the Children, Youth, and Families Advisory Committee to develop a campaign raising awareness of community resources and supports available to youth and family caregivers supporting older persons and elders with Alzheimer's disease.
- B. THAT the Committee will continue to explore additional pathways to support Alzheimer's disease awareness and caregiving within the community, including through seeking collaboration with the Older Persons and Elders Advisory Committee.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS
(Kaylee Chou absent for the vote)

Motion 2 - Responsible AI Education

WHEREAS

1. Youth will be among the first to live and lead in a world fundamentally transformed by artificial intelligence (AI), affecting every facet of their education, careers, and daily lives;
2. Vancouver is a major hub for AI research, innovation, and talent, with a responsibility to ensure its youth are equipped to navigate this landscape safely and critically;

3. Youth are increasingly interacting with AI-powered tools without a full understanding of the associated risks, including algorithmic bias, data privacy concerns, misinformation, online exploitation, environmental harms, and impacts on employment and job security;
4. Equipping young people with the skills to recognize, question, and respond to these risks is essential to their safety, well-being, and digital citizenship;
5. Intergenerational conversations about AI - between youth, parents, caregivers, elders, and educators - are essential to building shared understanding and ensuring young people are supported by trusted adults who are learning alongside them; and
6. Responsible AI education for youth aligns with Vibrant Vancouver strategic priorities #3 (supporting business) and #6 (climate emergency).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Children, Youth, and Families Advisory Committee request information from its liaisons on existing initiatives, programs, and partnerships related to responsible AI education for youth and families in order to identify gaps and opportunities for further action, and report back to the Committee at the July 23, 2026, regular meeting.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

Motion 3 - Permanent Youth Policy Infrastructure within the City of Vancouver

WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver has previously embedded dedicated staff capacity within Social Policy to support Elders, strengthening cross-department coordination, policy alignment, and advisory engagement;
2. Youth wellbeing, safety, and violence prevention intersect with multiple City mandates including public safety, housing stability, mental health, recreation, equity, and major event planning;
3. Recent time-limited federal investments such as the Building Safer Communities Program demonstrated the value of structured cross-sector coordination, but this capacity has not been permanently embedded within civic governance;
4. Peer Canadian municipalities have formalized youth-focused civic infrastructure, including:
 - City of Toronto – Youth Equity Strategy (cross-departmental governance framework) – [Toronto Youth Equity Strategy – City of Toronto](#);

- City of Calgary – Young People Strategy (municipal prevention and wellbeing framework) – [Young People Strategy \(Internal\) | Engage](#);
 - City of Edmonton – Youth Council and youth civic engagement structures – [City of Edmonton Youth Council | City of Edmonton](#);
5. Embedding permanent youth-focused coordination capacity would strengthen upstream prevention, reduce system fragmentation, and improve accountability across departments.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the Children, Youth and Families Committee recommend that Council direct staff to report back with options to establish a permanent full-time youth-focused staff position within the City of Vancouver, including proposed scope, governance structure, and reporting lines.
- B. THAT the Committee recommend the report include budget implications and identify potential alignment with existing community safety, prevention, and youth engagement initiatives.
- C. THAT the Committee recommend staff outline how such a role would support cross-department coordination, major event safeguarding planning, and sustained youth violence prevention infrastructure.
- D. THAT the Committee recommend staff consider how this role could align with or strengthen existing advisory bodies and youth engagement mechanisms.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

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The Committee recessed at 6:59 pm and reconvened at 7:06 pm.

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2. National Youth and Child Mental Health Day

The Committee discussed National Child and Youth Mental Health Day events and celebrated successes across the city of Vancouver.

3. Working Session Updates

None.

4. Liaison Updates

The Vancouver Public Library Liaison provided a written and verbal updates on the following, and responded to questions:

- [Teen Summer Challenge](#)
- [BC Summer Reading Club](#)

The Vancouver School Board Liaison provided an update on the following, and responded to questions:

- [Copilot 13+ in secondary schools](#)

5. Subcommittee Updates

None.

6. New Business

The Committee discussed agenda topics for the next working session.

ADJOURNMENT

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, July 23, 2026
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: Joe Wai Room, Ground Floor, City Hall
/ Webex Online

The Committee adjourned at 7:31 pm.

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