



## 2017-2018 Work Plan

# Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee

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### Mandate

#### Policy Advice

- Provide input to City Council and city staff about issues of concern.
- Consider any matters which may be referred to the Committee by Council or staff.
- May take positions on policy initiatives from other levels of government within the mandate of the Committee.

#### Collaboration

- Work co-operatively with other agencies whose activities affect constituent communities, including initiating and developing relevant projects.
- Act as a resource for staff doing public involvement processes and/or civic events.

#### Awareness & Outreach

- Exchange information with the constituent communities and the general public about relevant programs and issues of interest.
- Engage in outreach to disseminate information and encourage participation from constituent communities.

#### Children, Youth and Families

- Advise Council and staff on matters that relate to children, youth and families.
- If requested by the Court, the Committee is also mandated as a family court committee under the British Columbia Provincial Court Act and as a youth justice committee under the Youth Justice Act.

## 2017-2018 Objectives

Objective 1: Engage youth through social media

Through social media, the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee will engage in meaningful outreach with our City's youth. This objective relates to the Awareness & Outreach section of our Committee Mandate.

Objective 2: Explore strategies to include the voices of children and youth in various areas of City planning

The Committee believes that children and youth are an integral part of our communities and should have their voices heard throughout various areas of civic planning. We will be exploring ways to assess,



implement and provide recommendations in partnership with City staff to encourage engagement with our constituent communities.

Objective 3: Explore and advise on housing related issues concerning children, youth and families

Housing affordability and livability are key areas of interest for the Committee. The Committee will expand its existing knowledge on the issue, advise staff on issues related to housing and establish communication with the Provincial Government.

Objective 4: Continue and build upon our existing education advocacy work at the municipal and provincial level

The Committee believes that public education is an important piece of our advocacy work for children, youth and families. The Committee will continue to provide policy advice to the Vancouver School Board and the Provincial Government. We will also continue to advocate for stable and adequate funding. This year, the Committee would like to engage with community stakeholders to collaborate and amplify local advocacy work in partnership with students and parents.



## Action Plan

Timeline	Action Items	Committee Resources	Expected Outcomes	Partners/Stakeholders
Engage youth through Social Media				
6/1/2017 – 7/14/2017	Attend social media training session with Corporate Communication's staff	Social Media Sub-Committee	Learn how to create posts that will receive the most engagement.	City Staff
7/14/2017 – 11/1/2018	Post a minimum of once a week on our Facebook Page	Social Media Sub-Committee	Increase in engagement visibility and communication exchange (like, shares, comments, etc.) from youth on our social media page	NA
Explore ways to include the voices of children and youth in various areas of City planning				
6/1/2017 – 6/31/2017	Identify key areas of interest to prioritize focus	Children and Youth Engagement Sub-Committee	The sub-committee will narrow down its topics of interest and explore these priority areas with partners and stakeholders	City staff Committee Liaisons
7/1/2017 – 9/1/2017	Identify key champions within City departments, including Vancouver Parks and Recreation, that enable and promote children and youth engagement	Children and Youth Engagement Sub-Committee	Work in partnership with identified staff members to advise on improving methods to engage with children and youth.	City staff Committee Liaisons
9/01/2017-12/31/2017	Based on these findings, further develop committee priority work plan	Children and Youth Engagement Sub-Committee	Update the work plan at the end of the year to reflect these findings	NA
Explore and advise on housing related issues for children, youth and families				
6/1/2017 – 12/31/2017	Seek opportunities to work with City staff advising on livability and affordability from the perspective of Children, Youth and Families	Housing Sub-Committee	Advise staff on the upcoming Housing Reset and encourage the engagement of children, youth and families in these consultations.	City Staff Committee Liaisons
6/1/2017 – 12/31/2017	Identify, implement, and maintain a working knowledge of the Vancouver housing situation and attend programs and open houses when possible to augment a base of knowledge and monitor any progress	Housing Sub-Committee	Develop a knowledge base for Committee Members to a) bring forth awareness on current housing issues and b) to help us inform and engage with staff on housing related issues	City Staff Committee Liaisons



Timeline	Action Items	Committee Resources	Expected Outcomes	Partners/Stakeholders
6/1/2017-12/31/2017	Explore options to share CYFAC's perspective and recommendations with the new Provincial Government	Housing Sub-Committee	Establish communication with the new provincial government to share our opinions and collaborate whenever possible	Local MLAs Ministries in the Provincial Government
Continue and build upon our existing education advocacy work at the municipal and provincial level				
6/1/2017 - 9/1/2017	Explore different areas of interest related to public education (e.g. mental health, adult education, student health)	Education Sub-Committee	Identify areas of interest and build it into our advocacy and education work.  Explore potential opportunities to develop these topic areas into a workshop style event.	Various stakeholders and partners relative to topic/issue of concern (e.g. Vancouver Coastal Health)
6/1/2017 – 9/31/2017	Develop a working relationship with other education advocacy organizations	Education Sub-Committee	Collaborate with other advocacy groups to coordinate our advocacy work, increase transparency and amplify the work of others	Vancouver District Student Council B.C Student Alliance Parent Advisory Network DPAC
6/1/2017 – 12/31/2017	Explore the possibility of expanding our advocacy work into higher education	Education Sub-Committee	Expanding into this field of interest would result in the development of an advocacy platform for higher education in partnership with local stakeholders.  Amplify the work and transparency of other organizations and coordinate our advocacy work.	B.C Federation of Students Local Student Unions Ministry of Advanced Education
6/1/2017-12/31/2017	Increase awareness and transparency of education advocacy through the continuum of our advocacy work at the municipal and provincial level by creating a local advocacy platform that works with students and parents	Education Sub-Committee	Establish communication with the provincial government and the VSB to proactively discuss issues related to public education and implement solution-based recommendations.	Local MLAs School Board Trustees Ministry of Education Local students and parents