



City of St. Albert
CITY COUNCIL POLICY

Youth Development

AUTHORITY	APPROVED	Res. No.	mm dd	REVISED	Res. No.	mm dd
City Council		C466-2015	09 28		AR-19-003	01 21

Purpose

The Youth Development policy describes a set of values and principles that is a tool for planning, resource allocation and decision making.

Policy

The City of St. Albert believes that investing in youth is essential to building a strong community for generations to come and that providing a range of services and supports for youth is essential to developing the assets for youth to flourish.

The City and the community both have a role in developing youth.

Definitions

“40 Developmental Assets” means the framework that describes the building blocks of human development that identifies the positive experiences and personal qualities that young people need to grow up healthy, caring and responsible.

“Preventative Social Services” means services that enhance the social well-being of individuals and families through promotion or intervention strategies provided at the earliest opportunity.

“Province of Alberta’s Social Policy Framework” means a document produced in 2013 that is a vision for social policy defining who we are as people and communities and reflecting aspirations for its residents’ highest possible quality of life.

“Service Providers” means non-profit, government-funded organizations that provide a service or a resource to the community.

“Master Plan” means the high level plan that represents the views and ideas of the people who live in St. Albert and works to guide the creation of a thriving, caring and connected community that takes care of its most vulnerable citizens and provides opportunities for everyone to realize their full potential.

“Social Policy” means any laws, actions, regulations, values and guidelines designed and used to protect vulnerable people, improve equality and create a system of supports for individuals and communities for the greater good of society. It influences how members in a society live,



work and spend their time and determines how human needs are met such as housing, employment, education, recreation, leisure, health, safety and the care of children.

“Stakeholders” means any individual or organization that has an interest in the delivery of services to the community.

“Values” means an ideal or value that is actively pursued through goals, actions and ultimately outcomes.

“Youth” means those individuals between the ages of 13-24 years.

“Youth Outreach” means programs and services that reach out to youth in the broader community during non-peak hours and those milieu’s whereby youth may congregate other than school and regular programming space.

“Youth Services” means those programs and resources that enhance the social well-being of youth.

Responsibilities

1. City Council is responsible for:
 - a. Making decisions that align to expected outcomes and identified values in any Master Plan relevant of youth.
 - b. Ensuring that when reviewing any Council policy that those policies provide opportunities for youth input.
 - c. Encouraging youth in our community through positive reinforcement and support of youth driven events.
 - d. Ensuring that any Community Services Advisory Board recommendations to Council with respect to Funding and or Policy are aligned with the values of the Youth Development Policy and all Master Plans pertaining to youth.
2. Chief Administrative Officer or designate(s) is responsible for ensuring that:
 - a. As part of the Annual Corporate Social Master Plan report and any other Plans relevant of youth, outcome achievements and subsequent actions specific to youth are identified.
 - b. Policies and procedures required to guide and support the Youth Development values are developed.



- c. Any and all Departments that provide direct service have strong strategies and innovative programming to respond to the needs of youth (FCSS, Recreation, Culture, Economic Development).
- d. A strategy for hiring youth is developed, incorporated and updated as required.
- e. Involvement of youth on all Civic Board or committees as appropriate.
- f. An annual engagement/consultation is undertaken with youth and service providers.
- g. A review of the Youth Development policy occurs every third year.

Standards

1. Values

City Council is committed to the following values:

- a. That youth have a voice in the community and need to be empowered to participate in our community;
- b. The 40 Developmental Asset approach;
- c. Building an age-friendly community that includes youth;
- d. Ensuring a range of youth supports and services are available to all youth in the community, including school-based and outreach services;
- e. Youth are important members of the community and are valued, included and embraced for their diversity and talents.

2. Expected Outcomes

Embracing the values can expect long term outcomes such as:

- a. St. Albert youth feel empowered and more capable of influencing their current and future life;
- b. St. Albert youth have a high number of internal and external developmental assets;
- c. St Albert youth feel valued and have a sense of belonging in the community;
- d. St. Albert youth are aware of the services and supports available to them; and,
- e. St. Albert youth are provided the opportunity to meet and share their concerns and ideas with elected officials.

