

Date: January 6, 2016

Draft CEYC General Assembly January Meeting Minutes

Minutes Taker: Ian Smith

In Attendance:

1. Ravina Anand
2. Thomas Banks
3. Marina Banister
4. Kelly Bennett
5. Amy Boyd
6. Saga Darnell
7. Genna DiPinto
8. Alex MacRae-Korobkov
9. Angelika Matson (5:49)
10. Kabir Nadkarni
11. Liza Chatterjee
12. Armaan Somani
13. Cam Somerville
14. Quinten Starko (5:47)
15. Jasmine Wang
16. Jo Picard (via Skype)

Excused Absence:

1. Tianna LeBlanc
2. Marlene Rong

Unexcused Absence:

1. Lauren White

Others In Attendance:

1. Cllr. Andrew Knack
2. Ian Smith
3. Guest Speaker Dr. Cristina Stasia (University Alberta, AIM Edmonton and others)
4. Guest Speaker Claire Edwards (Former Chair of CEYC)
5. Guest Speaker Elaine Betchinski (City of Edmonton Director Communities of Interest)
6. Mohamed Ali, Meghana Valupadas (Past CEYC members)
7. Youth At Large members and other guests

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:34 by Marina B. and seconded Cameron S.

Recognition of Treaty 6 Land by Cameron S.

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was amended to move Dr Stasia to last guest speaker, let it stand that Elyssa T. presentation will be postponed. Agenda will be added to webpage. Moved by Saga D., seconded by Cameron S.

3. **Approval of Minutes:** December Minutes were reviewed and passed with minor amendments. Once minutes are approved an official approved copy is uploaded to both City of Edmonton and Youth Council websites. Moved by Alex M., Seconded by Kelly B.

4. **Presentations**

Elaine Betchinski

Elaine spoke as Director of Communities of Interest unit within City of Edmonton that supports many advisory committees and council initiatives. She reaffirmed her excitement and support for the volunteering work and dedication that the committee and members provide. She stayed as an observer for the meeting.

Q&A occurred following presentation with members including questions on process for input and policy recommendations. Response was that it's different and flexible for each piece of advice and to connect with Ian when any policy recommendations arises to determine best solution and course of action.

Claire Edwards

Claire was a member and past Chair of Youth Council. She provided a snapshot of where she has gone since she left CEYC role. She shared some common learnings that she has picked up and how CEYC can be successful as a team. She ended by sharing a tool that she has picked up on allyship and how to apply it when working on a team, it can be found on her [blog post here](#), near the bottom.

Q&A occurred following presentation with members, discussion occurred around being an ally, her experience on CEYC and in volunteering and many other social justice issues.

Dr. Cristina Stasia

Christina provided a presentation on gender equality and youth. She discussed ideas around feminism, what role it plays as well as her experience in the many projects she has launched and as a community leader and academic.

Q&A occurred with members and many questions were brought up around feminism, gender identity, how to approach older generations and her experience in social equality and policy recommendations. Cristina is a great resource to reach out to chat about this topic.

5. **Pride Parade**

Applications are not yet open for the Edmonton Pride Parade, when they are Jo P. will apply and be the main point of contact.

Break 7:00-7:05

6. Chair Updates:

- Mid term feedback has been received, good completion rate. Some key elements and themes that arose from the survey findings were: We are doing important work and it makes a difference, want more team building and icebreakers, need to communicate with City departments more effectively, enjoy structure and check ins, more time during meetings, want to discuss more diverse topics, feel supported as members, YAL positions are effective and positive team vibe, attendance at subcommittee meetings has been difficult, focus on priorities and deadlines, increase external communication role, understand budget process for CEYC.
- Marina and Cam will hold a meeting for Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Co Chairs to discuss what aspects of subcommittees are currently working and what aspects need to be improved upon
- Budget: Marina explained a follow up to email that each subcommittee will be allocated \$2,000 to implement project proposals and ideas. If subcommittees have ideas that require additional funding speak with Ian, Marina and Cam to find a possible solution. Reimbursement (5-7 business days after Ian receives receipts) is always available or speak to Ian to pay for items on credit card. This is a method so each subcommittee has a budget to work with and plan projects.
- NextGen, Ward 12 by-elections forum, this will be an overall CEYC project and our role at this point will be to advertise for the forum and promote a non partisan "Get Out To Vote" type social media campaign, as well to potentially invite all candidates to Feb General Assembly meeting.

Mohamed (past member now in Toronto) spoke on a opportunity that he has. Combat Crime is an initiative to give groups funds to implement an idea or project to assist in combating crime in Edmonton. Looking for 2 youth judges for the launch event on Feb 4. Contact Mohamed for more information via Marina or Cam.

7. Vice Chair Updates:

- Subcommittees have lots of ideas and projects, Cam has been attending many of those meetings to hear about ideas and provide guidance.
- Cam has been continually reaching out and attending High Schools across Edmonton to see what they are interested in and share with the leaders.
 - ◆ Jasper Place has a project called #YEGawesome to encourage youth to get out and enjoy their City. They have created an online platform with a map of "youth friendly" areas in City. They are looking for some assistance for a launch event.
- Voting Age: Cam will bring an idea/action forward soon. He has been meeting with special interest groups currently around this topic.

8. Subcommittee Updates:

- View all draft minutes under subcommittee tab on webpage to view ideas formed/discussed and whom was elected as members. Continue to send agenda/minutes to Ian to be uploaded to web page.

Arts (Thomas)

- ◆ Lots of ideas and enthusiasm,
- ◆ Parka patio Party, daytime aspect of event including film screenings, digital platform, performances and auction, partnering with WinterCity and Latitude 53.
- ◆ Projects are beginning to start and formate.
- ◆ Transit revitalization; revitalize space under Bay/Enterprise Square station that is not utilized. Seeking to create an underground youth arts district as a sustainable option to bring Arts into transit spaces. Thomas is sitting on a committee working on this.
- ◆ Looking into talent space bylaw for artists to perform in transit spaces and centres.
- ◆ Design Fair for youth art leaders to collaborate and learn from each other

City Planning & Infrastructure (Kabir)

- ◆ Accessible Transportation: option for low income youth and partnering with EndPoverty Edmonton to include in need youth in input and development. Hosting fundraiser in community to raise funds to obtain dollars for more transit passes for youth in need.
- ◆ Back alley party; March-April estimated, get youth out in Downtown and photo scavenger hunt.

Engagement (Genna)

- ◆ Working on logistics and securing school presentations
- ◆ March (tentative) event Youth4YEG- encourage youth to go out and be involved in their City.
- ◆ Promotion Video to increase reach of YC and projects, Ravina has everything she needs and likely will occur this month, confirming exact dates and times.
- ◆ Genna pitched idea for group volunteering serving a meal at Mustard Seed, members agreed it's a good idea for team building, Genna to send a poll for possible dates.

Health and Wellness (Noella, written message)

- ◆ Yoga Event being reevaluated
- ◆ Survey about youth obesity being organized, social media interactive online campaign.
- ◆ Presentation and Panel (potentially two events) being discussed to bring forward workshops and panel discussion with mental health leaders. inviting policy makers and leaders in community.
- ◆ Everyone please send ideas for invite list of panel and workshop facilitators that you think may be a good fit. Potential date after April.

Social Equity (Jo, Amy)

- ◆ Jo gave an update over the computer that she has reached out to Pride parade and applications are not open yet, but will be soon. She will continue to be the lead.
- ◆ ECSD letter will go forward to CSC Jan 18 at 9:30 AM River Valley Room City Hall. Will meet with presenters to go over key points.
- ◆ Pop Up Store: in schools to provide basic school supplies to in need students, working through the social workers in school to identify students and process.
- ◆ Elyssa T has idea for community engagement Conference leading up to Canada 150, she was unable to attend.

10 Current Topics

- Commonwealth Youth Council (Thomas): CYC is the largest and most diverse youth-led organization in the world. CYC plays an integral role in advancing the youth development agenda and co-ordination of activities and policies of the Commonwealth in the field of youth. Mission is empowering and engaging young people in sustainable development, democracy and the values of the Commonwealth. Same as Commonwealth Heads of State but for youth, meets at the same time. Interested in seeing if CEYC wants to apply for membership or potential to be Host City? Thomas will take the lead and inquire for more information and details on process.

11 Check Out With All Members and informal discussion

12. Meeting was adjourned by Marina B., Seconded by Kelly B. at 8:11 PM

Next meeting Feb 3 General Assembly Committee Meeting 5:30 PM
