



STAFF REPORT

Title: Community Grant Advisory Committee - February 25, 2025 Delegation

Meeting Date: March 11, 2025

Executive Summary:

Community Grant Advisory Committee Chair Lacey Chyz attended Council's February 25, 2025 regular meeting as a delegate.

Background:

February 25, 2025 Delegation

Mayor Copeland welcomed the Community Grant Advisory Committee Chair Lacey Chyz to the meeting at this time being 6:59 p.m.

Ms. Chyz provided an update on the City of Cold Lake's Community Grant Advisory Committee. She reviewed the Committee's mandate and noted that the Committee:

- *Receives and reviews grant applications to determine if they satisfy the criteria established in the policy. Then they make funding recommendations to Council.*
- *Acknowledges that final funding decisions are made by Council.*
- *Always strives to follow the policy and make fair recommendations.*
- *Reviews and makes policy recommendations.*
- *Heard from thirty-seven (37) delegations in 2024.*
- *Went from quarterly to bi-monthly meetings. This has been a great change and it's their understanding that monthly meetings are now being considered by Council. If so, she's positive that the Committee will be flexible in doing whatever it takes to meet the needs of the community.*
- *Has two (2) vacant youth member at large positions.*
- *Is starting to receive reports from funding recipients on how the grant helped them and the economic impacts of their event. However, reporting is inconsistent, it's required by some grants and not others. Reporting is an area where there is an opportunity for improvement.*

Ms. Chyz also advised that Rural Municipalities of Alberta worked with the University of Alberta's Alberta Center for Sustainable Rural Communities and released a great report titled *Declining Rates of Volunteerism in Alberta and the Increasing Threat to Rural Municipalities*. She noted that it's a very interesting read and that many of the trends and threats outlined in the report are very relevant to what we are experiencing in Cold Lake. She suggested that maybe it's something the City of Cold Lake should look at as the report offers several recommendations.

Questions and comments from Council ensued.



Mayor Copeland thanked Ms. Chyz for her delegation.

Ms. Chyz concluded her presentation and remained at the podium at this time being 7:18 p.m.

Alternatives:

Recommended Action:

That Council accept the Community Grant Advisory Committee delegation presentation made at the February 25, 2025 regular meeting of Council as information.

Budget Implications (Yes or No):

No

Submitted by:

Kevin Nagoya, Chief Administrative Officer