



CITY OF HAMILTON
Community & Emergency Services Department
Neighbourhood & Community Initiatives Division

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency & Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	December 15, 2014
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee (HYAC) 2015 Budget Submission (CES14060) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	René Reid 905-546-2424 ext. 5540 Mark Weingartner 905-546-2424 ext. 6095 John Ariyo 905-546-2424 ext. 1564
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SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee (HYAC) 2015 base budget submission attached as Appendix A to Report CES14060, in the amount of \$3,890, be approved and referred to the 2015 budget process for consideration; and,
- (b) That, in addition to the base funding, a one-time budget allocation for 2015 of \$2,500 funded by the Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee Reserve, be approved and referred to the 2015 budget process for consideration..

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As directed by Council, the Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee (HYAC) has prepared their 2015 Budget Submission, attached as Appendix A to Report CES14060.

This budget submission continues the work the HYAC in a “status quo” format pending the Council directed review of Advisory Committees that may lead to structural changes for this Committee.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: HYAC is requesting approval of \$3,890 for 2015, as well as an additional \$2,500 from the Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee Reserve in order to plan and implement Youth Week Hamilton 2015 in May (exact dates to be determined), complete

hamiltonyouth.ca website updates, and to provide youth development, training and collaborative opportunities to HYAC members and other Hamilton youth.

Staffing: There are no staffing implications associated with the recommendations of Report CES14060.

Legal: There are no legal implications associated with the recommendations of Report CES14060.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

HYAC is comprised of a diverse group of young leaders 14 to 24 years of age who are passionate about making a difference in their community. HYAC's mandate is to ensure that youth are involved in the decisions made within the City of Hamilton and the community that affect their lives and the lives of their families and friends. HYAC provides a youth perspective on local issues and advises Council and staff through the Community and Emergency Services Committee.

Addressing issues facing youth, enhancing opportunities for youth and providing a youth voice are the goals of the committee. In addition to fostering positive collaborative relationships between youth and adults and by supporting youth oriented events and programs, HYAC aims to continue to lead by example with integrity, respect and innovation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

None.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Corporate Services, Treasury Services, Finance and Administration Section

ANALYSIS AND RATIONAL FOR RECOMMENDATION

Since its inception in 2007, HYAC continues to hone its skills as an advisory committee and as a conduit between other youth and youth organizations in the community.

Summary of HYAC's 2013/14 Initiatives (in reverse chronological order):

Snow Angels Program: In December 2013, members of HYAC met with Volunteer Hamilton. HYAC members shared their experience with the Snow Angel program and found that it was not very youth friendly, and made suggestions. HYAC highlighted the following challenges to engaging more youth:

- Youth volunteer schedules (school, exams, and part time jobs)
- The structure of the Snow Angel program

- The extreme weather this year
- The need for youth-friendly coordinators and communication

Youth Week Hamilton 2014: In January, members of HYAC met with Hamilton Youth Poetry Slam. HYAC members decided to partner with this youth group and to promote their event 'Louder than a Bomb' during the Youth Week launch in May.

HYAC 2.0: All agree the time has come to reinvent HYAC. During their April meeting, committee members discussed what a new and improved HYAC model might look like.

Youth Week Hamilton Louder Than A Bomb, May 2th - May 9th 2014: HYAC partnered with HYPS to organize and host Hamilton's third annual Youth Week celebration! Youth Week Hamilton brought youth of different ages, cultures and areas of the city together to celebrate achievements and contributions while recognizing the importance of young people to the community.

Currently, there are 7 HYAC members. Approximately 3 - 5 members attend monthly meetings and various events/activities on a consistent basis. Members include students in secondary and post-secondary school.

Committee meetings are open to the public. Welcoming youth who are non-members continues to infuse meetings with new energy and fresh perspectives while building interest in joining HYAC.

The 2014 approved budget was \$3,890. This funding was used for meeting expenses, volunteer recognition, communication and other expenses related to the work of HYAC. The committee will continue to familiarize itself with the City of Hamilton and local government, as well as identify priorities and initiatives they wish to focus on until the next term. One such initiative HYAC plans to work on is the third annual Youth Week Hamilton celebration.

As Hamilton is home to 72,575 youth, 14% of the overall Hamilton population, HYAC recognizes the need to connect youth city-wide. Youth Week Hamilton (YWH) aims to recognize the positive contributions youth make in their communities and celebrate the valuable work youth and youth organizations do year round. YWH also aims to highlight issues that are important to young people while encouraging action and dialogue.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

None

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2012 – 2015 STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priority #1

A Prosperous & Healthy Community

WE enhance our image, economy and well-being by demonstrating that Hamilton is a great place to live, work, play and learn.

Strategic Objective

- 1.5 Support the development and implementation of neighbourhood and City wide strategies that will improve the health and well-being of residents.
- 1.6 Enhance Overall Sustainability (financial, economic, social and environmental).

Strategic Priority #3

Leadership & Governance

WE work together to ensure we are a government that is respectful towards each other and that the community has confidence and trust in.

Strategic Objective

- 3.4 Enhance opportunities for administrative and operational efficiencies.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix A to Report CES14060: Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee 2015 Budget Submission