



## Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee

# Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee Annual Report

## MANDATE

To advise Council and Administration on City policies, strategies and service delivery in accordance with the Social Wellbeing Principles using an intersectional approach, which considers how decisions impact people who are members of multiple, overlapping population groups.

## COMPOSITION

14 Members:

- 13 Public Members
- 1 Administration

## MEETINGS

Since May 2023, collectively the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee (SWAC) and its subcommittee, the Gender Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee (GEDI), have met 18 times (10 SWAC, 8 GEDI). There have been numerous additional working group meetings including to plan the 2023 Inter-Committee Connections Event. Chairs and Vice Chairs take part in additional meetings to set meeting agendas and other tasks, such as the review of new member applications. Members participated virtually in all meetings except one. For the upcoming year, the committee would like to host hybrid meetings as the opportunity to attend both in-person and virtually has proven effective in minimizing barriers for some members to participate.

Members of the public can request access to agendas or minutes through contacting the Committee's Administrative staff (as listed on the Committee's [BCC page](#)) or by directly emailing the Committee's contact email listed on its webpage. Committee meeting information is also listed on the BCC page. Administration is currently exploring additional methods to further incorporate public participation in meetings.

## WORK, IMPACT & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

What tangible impacts has the work of this BCC had on making Calgary a great place to live and a great place to make a life? Provide a summary of the current projects and initiatives, and the work and accomplishments of this BCC since May 2023.

Since May 2023, the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee has actively worked to increase transparency and awareness of the Committee and its function among the public and community through the updating of [The Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee](#) and [Gender Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee](#) webpages. Both webpages share information about the respective Committee and Subcommittee's goals and mandate, composition, Terms



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of Reference, and recruitment. It also provides a contact email for members of the public and community to reach out to the Committee if they would like to get in contact.

The Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee played an integral role in the Equity in Service Delivery Fund 2022-2024. They provided critical reflections to ensure there was public lens to the submissions and provided invaluable feedback in helping in the selection process. This was particularly impactful for members as it aligned with the Committee’s mandate and priority of highlighting the perspectives of communities that have historically experienced exclusion, discrimination and oppression. Over the 3 years of funding, their support led to meaningful investments to advance Equity in Service Delivery across The City, as well as provide tangible advice for more successful initiatives.

Overall, the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee and the Gender Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee have provided advice on 11 projects and initiatives since May 2023:

Business Unit	Project
City and Regional Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City Building Project</li> </ul>
Climate and Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food Resilience Plan</li> <li>• Energy Equity Strategy</li> <li>• Climate Adaptation Action Grant Program</li> </ul>
Community Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equity in Service Delivery Fund</li> <li>• Fair Entry Eligibility Expansion</li> <li>• Downtown Leadership Table Recommendations</li> </ul>
Emergency Management & Community Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calgary Emergency Management Agency Community Conversations Report</li> <li>• Transit Public Safety Strategy</li> </ul>
Parks and Open Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connect: Calgary's Park Plan</li> </ul>
Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate Affordable Housing Strategy</li> </ul>
External Partners	Project
Equal Voice/ She Governs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She Governs (update)</li> </ul>
SAGE Analytics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of a Remuneration and Expense Policy</li> </ul>

### MANDATE ALIGNMENT

How has the work and activities of this BCC aligned with its mandate since May 2023?

The work and activities of the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee continue to align with its mandate to steward the Social Wellbeing Policy by advising Council and Administration on City policies, strategies and service delivery in accordance with the Social Wellbeing Principles. The Committee has continued to provide advice using an intersectional approach and drawing on different perspectives of its membership.



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### COLLABORATION & COMMUNICATION

What opportunities has this BCC had in the past year to collaborate or interact with other committees on projects or BCC work, to provide advice to Council or another body on City initiatives, or to present formal reports to Council or a Council Committee?

The Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee membership consists of representatives from 7 other City of Calgary committees:

- Advisory Committee on Accessibility;
- Anti-Racism Action Committee;
- Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee;
- Calgary Local Immigration Partnership Immigrant Advisory Table;
- Cultural Leadership Council;
- Family & Community Support Services Calgary Forum; and
- The Older Adult Advisory Table.

This membership promotes cross-committee collaboration, and opportunities for projects and initiatives presented at the Committee to receive intersectional advice while limiting duplication in presentations. Additionally, representatives from these committees have opportunity during every meeting to bring forward updates on presentations and initiatives that were presented at their respective committees for SWAC members to consider, and vice versa.

The Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee continues to host the Inter-Committee Connections Event, which brought together the members of the 7 different City of Calgary committees represented in SWAC's membership, 2 different subcommittees, and SWAC. The November 2023 event served to build relationships through table discussions. The Committee is also piloting a collaborative Inter-Committee Working Group that planned the event and will continue to meet throughout the year to explore opportunities for cross-committee connections and appreciation in alignment with their Terms of Reference. This included hosting inter-committee workshops to provide feedback on projects like the City Building project. The Working Group also proposed a volunteer appreciation event for April 2024 which, although was unable to be done due to logistical constraints, paved way for an appreciation letter to be sent from the Mayor to members of City of Calgary committees during Volunteer Appreciation Week.

Overall, the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee has continued to steward the Social Wellbeing Policy by working with Administration to make improvements to its communications and promoting its advisory role to business units and other committees.

### WORKPLAN & PRIORITIES FOR 2024-2025

Please see attached.

### CHALLENGES

The following challenges have posed a risk to the ability of the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee to fulfill its mandate:



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1. Time constraints have continued to pose a challenge for the Committee. This is in respect to having sufficient time for the Committee to engage in meaningful conversations about complex issues, and to address the number of issues being brought forward for consultation in each presentation. In the coming year, the Committee intends to take a proactive approach to focus on priority issues identified by members where they can have the most impact.
2. The Committee and its Subcommittee and Working Group have experienced challenges due to considerable turnover in their administration staff in the last year. These changes in administration support have resulted in knowledge transfer challenges and gaps that have at times impacted the ability of the Committee to effectively advance its mandate and priorities. The Committee anticipates that it will be able to have more impactful contributions once more stable administrative support is provided.
3. In previous years, the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee regularly met in-person or in hybrid formats, and this promoted greater connections and collaboration among Committee members. However, in the last year, the Committee has been unable to consistently meet in-person due to members' capacity to meet in-person and challenges with finding a room. SWAC meetings set a minimum of 4 members attending in-person to provide an in-person option, and meetings have not had sufficient members attending in-person to meet this requirement. Additionally, there have been challenges finding a consistent, suitable, and accessible meeting space for meetings in the Municipal Building. As a result, meetings for the Committee have been held virtually, which has hindered the opportunities for collaboration and cross-committee connection. In the coming year, the Committee hopes to return to a hybrid format and secure an appropriate meeting space for their regular monthly meetings.

### **MEMBER PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT**

Members of the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee are expected to fulfill their roles and responsibilities as outlined in the Terms of Reference. This includes attending and actively participating in meetings, reviewing minutes, and contributing to development of the Committee workplan.

### **BCC COMMENTS**

Please include any other information that you wish to share with Council. This can include feedback from the BCC on Council initiatives, strategic direction, and policies as they related to the mandate and work of the BCC.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. 2024-2025 Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee Work Plan



In addition to the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee’s ongoing consultation and advice on City initiatives, the following activities are planned for the 2024-2025 year.

Focus Area	Task	Measure of Success	‘Responsibility’ in Terms of Reference
Stewardship of Social Wellbeing	Present on the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee to select members of Council, Administration, and/or other BCCs.	Meaningful dialogue and/or presentations with five targeted members of Council, business units and/or BCCs.	Support Administration in the stewardship of the Social Wellbeing Principles, including advising on the development of processes and mechanisms to advance the Social Wellbeing Policy.
	Advise on the review of the Social Wellbeing Policy.	Social Wellbeing Policy review completed and endorsed by the committee.	
Consultation and Advice	Prioritize City policies and strategies up for review and of most relevance for the committee and make recommendations to Administration. (e.g., in topics such as safety, 2SLGBTQIA+)	Recommendations provided to Administration and/or Council on at least five policies or strategies per year.	Advise Council and Administration on opportunities to advance the Social Wellbeing Principles during the development of or revisions to Administration and Council policies, strategies, or service delivery.
	To advise on the needs of community that support Council and Administration in identifying trends and issues to consider.	A letter sent to Council and Administration with the current trends and issues as identified by SWAC members.	
Process & Committee Coordination	Identify opportunities for collaboration between committees represented on the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee.	Two identified or continued opportunities for cross-committee collaboration.	Play a coordinating role with Administration committees and Council advisory committees (as outlined in ‘composition’) when necessary.
	Advance the mandate of existing subcommittees including the Gender Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee.	This subcommittee will meet at least five times over the next 12 months. Updates will be provided via Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee meetings.	