

Community Services Response to  
Public Hearing Meeting of Council  
2026 April 21

ISC: UNRESTRICTED  
C2026-0362

## Response to 2026 March 31 Inquiry on Youth Hiring Fair

Dear Mayor Farkas and Members of Council,

Thank you for your questions at the March 31 Regular Meeting of Council. The following provides a brief summary of the 2026 Youth Hiring Fair.

The Youth Hiring Fair is a core deliverable under The City of Calgary's funding agreement with the Government of Alberta through the Career and Employment Information Services program. The primary purpose of the Youth Hiring Fair is to connect youth directly with employers who are actively hiring, rather than guaranteeing immediate, on-the-spot employment. The long lineups observed at the event reflect strong youth demand for access to employers and participation in the labour market.

Event overview (2026):

- Approximately 5,200 youth attended the Youth Hiring Fair on March 26.
- 81 employers participated.
- Employers promoted approximately 4,000 job opportunities across multiple sectors.

Employment activity and early outcomes:

- Employers engaged youth through resume collection, interviews, applications, and networking.
- In some cases, on-the-spot job offers were made.
- Hiring decisions typically continue in the days and weeks following large-scale hiring events, as employers review candidates and complete their recruitment processes.

Based on evaluation results from the 2025 Youth Hiring Fair:

- 520 interviews were scheduled or completed, based on employer survey responses collected one month after the event.
- Youth survey results indicated:
  - o 10 per cent participated in an on-the-spot interview

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- o 7 percent were scheduled for a future interview
- o 4 per cent were offered employment during the event

The Youth Employment Centre continues to collect outcome data from participating employers and youth, including interviews conducted and hires made, in alignment with Government of Alberta reporting requirements. While current data collection reflects provincial funding requirements, opportunities will be explored over time to strengthen evaluation practices and support enhanced insights, trend analysis, and future decision making.

Please connect with me if you would like to discuss the Youth Hiring Fair further.

Submitted by Ian Fleming, A/Director, Recreation & Social Programs