Agenda Item: 8.1

## Sturgeon County Administrative Backgrounder

Councillor Notice of Motion

Title	Establishment of Sturgeon County Youth Council (Councillor Toms)
	Toms
Purpose of Report	To provide information in response to Councillor Toms' notice of motion made at the March 8, 2022 Regular Council Meeting.
Proposed Motion(s)	That Council direct Administration to draft a bylaw establishing a Youth Council as a council committee with the mandate of advising Council on issues relating to youth in the community.
Previous Council / Committee Direction	None.
Strategic Alignment	<b>Thriving Communities</b> – The establishment of a Youth Council would contribute to strong community identity and pride.
	<b>Collaborative Governance</b> – The Youth Council would provide ongoing community consultation and engagement with youth in the community.
Statutory Requirement Considerations	The Youth Council would be established as a council committee by way of an amendment to the Council Committees Bylaw.
Alignment to Levels of Service Delivery	Increased engagement with youth would provide valuable insights on young peoples' perceptions of the programs and services offered within the community, and how the County's policy decisions can be more inclusive and responsive to the needs of young people.
Anticipated Human Resource Requirements	Drafting the bylaw amendment would require minimal administrative resources as there are examples available from committees established in neighbouring municipalities.
	<ul> <li>Depending on the frequency of Youth Council meetings, there could be impacts on staff time to provide administrative support to the committee. Further information in this regard would be presented at the time that Council considers first reading of the bylaw.</li> </ul>
Anticipated Financial Resource Requirements	At the time of presentation of first reading of the bylaw,     Council would consider any financial impacts of establishing the     Youth Council as a council committee. This may include

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financial compensation for members' attendance in line with what is offered to other Sturgeon County board and committee members.

## Additional Background Information

- Currently, Sturgeon County has a Youth Leadership Group, often referred to as a "Youth Council", that consists of young people between the ages of 12 and 19 years.
- The primary purpose of this group is to provide leadership and social activities for youth. These youth are active in addressing issues among youth and proposing activities that will engage youth.
- Examples of past activities of the Youth Leadership Group have included:
  - Annual Festival of Trees submission
  - Volunteering for lunch service at Boyle Street
  - Day retreat at Birch Bay Ranch
  - Volunteering at community events
  - Social activities
  - Planning Sturgeon County Youth Week activities and other programs targeted at youth (Pink Shirt Day)
- If Council were to establish a Youth Council as a council committee, it is recommended that the Youth Council be aimed at young adults (ages 16-24) who have interest in researching and providing input into policy proposals for Council's consideration, in matters that impact youth in the community.
- The existing Youth Leadership Group would continue, with a focus on providing input on social activities for youth.

## Attachment(s)

None.

## **Report Reviewed by:**

Scott Rodda, Manager, Family & Community Support Services

Jesse Sopko, General Manager, Corporate Services

Scott MacDougall, Acting County Commissioner - CAO

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