

**Youth Advisory Committee**  
**February 26, 2019 – 4:00 p.m. – Conference Room A, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall**

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Annette Oldford, Chair  
Councillor Maggie Burton  
Natalie Godden, Manager of Family & Leisure Services  
Michelle Winsor, Children's Program Coordinator  
Lori Letto, Field Worker  
Sophia Descartzi  
Jude Almutana  
Zaira Freda  
Nicholas Hillier  
Karen Chafe, Supervisor – Office of the City Clerk

As there was no quorum, the regular business of the Committee could not be conducted. It was agreed by consensus that those present would continue to meet with the following two delegations who were present:

- Elizabeth Lawrence, Director of Economic Development, Culture & Partnerships
- Bike Master Plan – Marianne Alacoque

Presentation by Director of Economic Development, Culture & Partnerships

The Director of Economic Development, Culture & Partnerships conducted a power point presentation outlining the demographics of the City and the challenges this presents for future planning. The following data is noteworthy and indicates the present age distribution as well as future projections within the St. John's CMA area:

Age distribution:

- 0-17 is 17%
- 18-44 is under 40%
- 45-64 is 28%
- 65 and over 16%

St. John's CMA Population Projections:

- 1991 30.3%
- 2011 38.6%
- 2031 43.6%

The Committee was asked to consider the following questions which will inform future planning from the perspective of sustaining economic development within the City:

- What types of things will you buy?
- Where and how will you live?
- What kind of employment will you have?
- Do you know of a problem that needs a solution?

- Have you thought about starting your own business?

The importance was stressed of communicating with the next generation and answers to the above noted questions will inform what areas need focus. Consideration may be given to the establishment of a work group to consider this matter. Members of the Committee raised the following questions/concerns:

- how are we as the youth in this city going to tackle climate change and how can this be addressed within the lens of economic development, i.e. need to have conversations around development of new green deals within the realm of entrepreneurial partnerships;
- The City is in the process of hiring an environmental sustainability coordinator and there is opportunity to provide feedback on the development of policy.
- Though the City is working toward programs in affordable housing and has educational opportunities, there is little focus on the delivery of services. NL has one of the highest unemployment rates in the country and there is very little focus on educating people toward entrepreneurial fields. Opportunities exist where there are needs that are not currently being filled.

#### Bike Master Plan – Presentation by Marianne Alacoque, City of St. John's

Marianne Alacocque conducted a presentation on the Bike Master Plan elaborating on a review of the past history of the plan since 2009 when the first plan was implemented. She also provided a quick overview of what has been done to date, including public engagement sessions in September and October, a bike fest event and two workshops at elementary schools.

- What we heard:
  - o Safety
  - o Avoid removal of on-street parking
  - o Improve signage and wayfinding
  - o Bike parking
  - o Respect for people riding on streets and shared trails
  - o All season bike riding.

Based on the feedback as per the above messages received, a vision statement was drafted as follows:

*A safe, inclusive and convenient cycling network that is well-connected and reflective of the city's unique topography and climate. As part of an integrated mobility network, this is supported by policies and programs that promote a cycling-friendly culture.*

Staff is presently working with a consultant to develop an action plan which they anticipate being ready by the spring. Committee members were encouraged to provide feedback over the next few weeks as the process unfolds.