**Municipal Community Engagement Committee**

**Mandate**

**Vision Statement:**

Our vision is to create a dynamic and engaged community where community events flourish, volunteers are valued, the environment is preserved, and youth are actively involved. We aspire to foster strong and lasting connections between local organizations, volunteers, the municipality, and youth to strengthen our social fabric, cultivate a sense of community belonging, and contribute to a sustainable future.

Mission Statement:

Our mission is to facilitate the planning, coordination, and success of community events, with a focus on volunteer mobilization, environmental preservation, and youth involvement. We are committed to supporting local organizations and residents in event organization by providing resources, guidance, and facilitating volunteer recruitment. Through close collaboration with the municipality, community partners, and youth, we aim to promote an environment conducive to successful events, volunteer engagement, the celebration of volunteer involvement, the environmental preservation and the fulfillment of the items included in the municipal strategic plan that fall within the committee’s mandate.

Goals and Objectives:

1. Promote community engagement and volunteerism:

Increase the number of community members actively participating in volunteer activities.

Develop outreach strategies to encourage diversity in volunteering and community events.

1. Support local organizations in event planning and coordination:

Provide resources and guidance to local organizations to enhance their event planning skills.

1. Foster collaboration and partnerships:

Facilitate networking events to connect organizations, volunteers, and municipal representatives.

Develop promotion options for local organizations in collaboration with the municipality.

1. Recognize and celebrate volunteer contributions in the community:

Establish a system of ongoing recognition and appreciation of volunteers.

1. Improve inclusivity and accessibility of community events:

Promote events that cater to various age groups, cultures, and abilities.

Advocate for accessible facilities and communications.

1. Measure and evaluate the impact of community events and volunteer efforts:

Establish evaluation criteria to measure the success and impact of events.

Regularly review data and make recommendations for future planning.

Composition:

The committee will consist of a diverse group of residents representing different age groups, interests, environmental professionals, educators, representatives of local non-profit organizations, and engaged citizens. The mayor, a council member, and members of the community will form the committee. One or more municipal employees will attend and contribute to the committee's proper functioning.

Role of Council Members:

* Policy guidance: Council members can provide advice and contributions to the development and implementation of the mandate.
* Advocacy: They can advocate for the committee's initiatives and secure the necessary resources and support from the municipality.
* Community representation: Council members can represent the interests and concerns of the community during committee discussions and decision-making.

Role of Municipal Employees:

* Assist the committee in understanding and navigating municipal policies, procedures, and guidelines.
* Their role should balance, without overshadowing, the decision-making and autonomy of committee members. Their primary goal should be to provide necessary support and guidance while respecting the committee's vision, mission, and objectives.

In recognition of their commitment and contribution, committee members will be entitled to the following incentives:

* The opportunity to request volunteer hours for their involvement in the committee, which can count as community service hours required for high school graduation.
* Receive a letter of recognition from the mayor of Casselman after a year of dedicated service, acknowledging their portfolio and efforts.

We actively encourage the participation of volunteers with diverse interests and skills to enrich our discussions and address the varied needs of our community. We believe that the diversity of our members' interests will contribute to creating inclusive, engaging, and relevant events for all.

**Nomination Requirement:**

All special committee members over the age of 18 must undergo a vulnerable sector police check in accordance with applicable legislation and regulations before their appointment. It is the responsibility of each appointed member to provide the vulnerable sector police check within 30 days of their appointment by the Council and before attending the first committee meeting. Police checks are necessary to ensure the safety and security of committee members and align with our commitment to protecting vulnerable individuals and maintaining a reliable and responsible committee environment.