

Supplemental Report – Governance Review – Other Bodies – Albert Community Centre Management Committee and Marr Residence Management Board – Engagement Results

ISSUE

The City of Saskatoon is reviewing the governance structure and processes of its Advisory Committees, Controlled Corporations, Business Improvement Districts (“BIDs”) and other agencies, boards and commissions established by the City. As part of the review of other bodies, the “Governance Review – Other Bodies – Albert Community Centre Management Committee and Marr Residence Management Board” report was tabled at the Governance and Priorities Committee (“GPC”) meeting on September 13, 2023. This initial report is now before GPC for debate and puts forward some general recommendations to improve the current organization and governance structure of the Albert Community Centre Management Committee (“Albert Centre”) and the Marr Residence Management Board (“Marr Residence”). The Albert Centre and the Marr Residence were asked to provide feedback on the recommendations. This report presents the feedback received.

BACKGROUND

This report is intended to be considered alongside the companion report “Governance Review – Other Bodies – Albert Community Centre Management Committee and Marr Residence Management Board”. The detailed history of this matter is described in that report.

CURRENT STATUS

The Leadership Team Governance Subcommittee (the “Governance Subcommittee”) is continuing the process of reviewing and proposing recommendations for potential improvements to the governance of the City’s various Advisory Committees, Controlled Corporations, BIDs and other agencies, boards and commissions established by the City. The report entitled “Governance Review – Other Bodies – Albert Community Centre Management Committee and Marr Residence Management Board” was tabled at GPC’s public meeting on September 13, 2023, for debate at the December 12, 2023 meeting.

A copy of the tabled report was shared with each of the Albert Centre and Marr Residence via email on September 7, 2023. They were advised that the report would be placed on the public agenda of GPC for debate at its December 12, 2023 meeting. The email invited feedback on the report. Attached at Appendix 1 is a copy of the correspondence from the City Clerk’s Office to the Albert Centre and the Marr Residence.

Comments from the Albert Centre were received on November 17, 2023, and are attached to this report at Appendix 2. Comments from the Marr Residence were received on November 22, 2023, and are attached to this report at Appendix 3.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The Albert Centre and the Marr Residence were asked to provide written feedback by November 17, 2023, to permit time for the Governance Subcommittee to organize and assemble the information for presentation to GPC.

Comments received from the Albert Centre were supportive of the proposed options 1 or 2, with amendment. The Albert Centre requested that option 1, to maintain the status quo be amended to continue the appointment of a member of the Administration as a voting member. Option 1 as proposed in the initial report maintains the existing composition of the Committee, which already includes a member of the Administration appointed as a voting member and therefore no amendment would be required.

Option 2 is the option being recommended for approval by the Administration. Option 2 proposes to maintain the separate governance of the Albert Centre and Marr Residence with the continued appointment of a member of the Administration as a voting member, to make a two-year appointment term of members consistent as between the facilities, and to add a second non-voting member of the Administration from the Recreation and Community Development Department to the Albert Centre. The Albert Centre's requested amendment is to remove the requirement for the addition of a second non-voting member of the Administration. The Administration continues to support option 2, without amendment, as the recommendation to increase the composition of the Albert Centre to add a member of Administration from the Recreation and Community Development Department was the result of a specific request from the Community Services Division, who is of the opinion that such an addition could add value by providing programming support for this facility.

Comments received from the Marr Residence demonstrated a reluctance to merge the two boards, which is not the option being recommended by the Administration in any event. Option 1 was put forth as the best option. However, option 2, as recommended by the Administration does not substantively change the current function or structure of the Marr Residence; a single member of the Administration would continue to be appointed as a voting member, the current appointment term of two years would remain, there would be no changes to the mandate of the Board, or the qualifications required for membership appointment. There would be a slight change to the Terms of Reference to have the Marr Residence Board report to City Council through the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services, but this change would simply serve to codify what already happens in practice. Finally, the development of meeting procedures is an item being recommended by Administration no matter which option is pursued. Therefore, for the purposes of the Marr Residence, option 2 largely does maintain the status quo.

NEXT STEPS

Administration will take appropriate action to amend all necessary bylaws, policies and terms of reference based on the direction of City Council. Appropriate communications, coordinated by the City Clerk's Office, will also follow depending on the option chosen.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is not required.

APPENDICES

1. Communication from the City Clerk’s Office to the Albert Centre and the Marr Residence dated September 7, 2023.
2. Response received from the Albert Centre.
3. Response received from the Marr Residence.

Report Approval

Written by: Christine G. Bogad, Deputy City Solicitor
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Reviewed by: Mike Jordan, Chief Public Policy and Government Relations Officer
Adam Tittlemore, City Clerk
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Approved by: Cindy Yelland, City Solicitor