
Subject: Public Member Appointments to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee and Business Licensing Appeals Committee

Report to: Corporate Services Committee

Report date: Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Recommendations

1. That the recommendations contained in Confidential Appendix I to Report CLK 9-2023, **BE APPROVED**, confirming the public member appointments for the remainder of this term of Council to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee and Business Licensing Appeals Committee.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to appoint public members to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee and Business Licensing Appeals.
- Advertisements seeking public members for the Committees was available from July 24 to August 8, at 4:00 p.m.
- Staff were committed to a selection process that was consistent with the various Committee's Terms of Reference and selected candidates that have relevant experience and skills to meaningfully contribute to the success of the committee.
- Confidential Appendix 1 to this Report contains the recommended candidates for appointment to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee and Business Licensing Appeals Committee.

Financial Considerations

There are no financial considerations with respect to appointing public members to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee. As the Business Licensing Appeals Committee functions as a quasi-judicial board, the members are paid a stipend for attendance at meetings. The costs associated with the stipend are included in the annual Business Licensing budget.

Analysis

An application form to solicit interested members of the public was posted on Niagara Region's website from July 24 until August 8, 2023. Applications were sought for public

members for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee and Business Licensing Appeals Committee. Applications could be completed on the Niagara Region website or provided directly to the Regional Clerk. Advertisements were posted on social media and shared with various community partners to provide extensive outreach to ensure a diverse membership of public members with lived experiences and/or relevant skills. In total, for both committees, 32 applications were received.

Applicants were asked the following questions:

- Why are you interested in serving on this Committee?
- Based on the mandate/purpose of the Committee that you are applying for, please list your relevant education, credentials, and/or professional skills that will assist this Committee.
- Describe your experience (work related, community service oriented, or special interest) which illustrates the skills or abilities you may contribute to the Committee.
- What is your experience on committees, boards, or with governing bodies? List applicable organizations and outline your responsibilities with each one.
- Explain why your appointment would benefit this Committee and the residents of Niagara.

Staff liaisons for each committee reviewed the applications to select candidates that had relevant experience and/or skills to meaningfully contribute and provide a broad perspective on issues the committee might consider as well as represent the diversity of the Region and achieve the Committees' mandates.

The recommended appointees for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee and Business Licensing Appeals Committee are attached as Confidential Appendix 1 to this report for consideration.

Committee Mandates

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee

This Committee has been established to provide support to Regional staff in the implementation of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan and provide recommendations, advice, and information to Regional Council and Regional Staff on matters pertaining to diversity, equity, and inclusion. This includes matters relating to anti-racism, the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, and other intersections of diversity within Niagara.

The goal of the Committee is to address bias and discrimination and its negative impacts on quality of life, safety, health, and inclusion for the diverse communities in Niagara providing a safe place for all people to voice their opinions in order to work together to promote and foster understanding and inclusion in Niagara.

Business Licensing Appeals Committee

The Licensing Appeals Committee conducts hearings respecting appeals to decisions of the Licensing Officer with respect to the refusal, revocation, suspension, or the addition of conditions on a business licence. The Committee members will provide fact and evidence based recommendations and decisions based on information presented to them at an appeal.

Alternatives Reviewed

As these are Committees of Council, no alternatives were reviewed with respect to the appointment of public members on these Committees.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

The appointment of public members to the Region's Advisory Committees aligns with Council's Strategic Priority of an Equitable Region as the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee's mandate directly links with the objectives and actions of this pillar as well as helps contribute to a prosperous Region.

Other Pertinent Reports

None.

Prepared and recommended by:
Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

Submitted by:
Ron Tripp, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer

Appendices

Confidential Appendix 1	Recommended Citizen Appointments to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee and Business Licensing Appeals Committee
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