



City of Hamilton
EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
AGENDA

Meeting #: 22-007
Date: May 5, 2022
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Location: Due to the COVID-19 and the Closure of City Hall (CC)

All electronic meetings can be viewed at:

City's Website:
<https://www.hamilton.ca/council-committee/council-committee-meetings/meetings-and-agendas>

City's YouTube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/InsideCityofHamilton> or Cable 14

Tamara Bates, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 4102

1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Added Items, if applicable, will be noted with *)

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1. April 21, 2022

5. COMMUNICATIONS

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

6.1. Jacky Sheppard, The Private Owners Group of Licensed Child Care Providers, respecting the effects of the new Day Care Agreement (for a future meeting)

7. CONSENT ITEMS

7.1. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Advisory Committee Minutes

7.1.a. December 21, 2021

7.1.b. January 18, 2022

8. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

8.1. Landmarks and Monuments Review (HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a)) (City Wide)

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS

9.1. Frederick Dryden, Liberty for Youth, respecting programming that will support the at-risk-youth of Hamilton and surrounding areas to overcome and succeed in this challenging environment (approved March 24, 2022) - WITHDRAWN

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

10.1. LGBTQ Advisory Committee Citizen Committee Report, respecting Recommendations from the Community Conversation (HSC22016) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)

10.2. Update on Youth Violent Crimes Motion (HSC22017) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)

10.3. Citizen Committee Report - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Advisory Committee - Accessible Captioning Timeline

11. MOTIONS

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

13. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS

13.1. Amendments to the Outstanding Business List

13.1.a. Items Considered Completed and to be Removed

13.1.a.a. LGBTQ Advisory Committee Citizen Committee Report,
respecting Recommendations from the Community
Conversation

Item on OBL: 21-I

Addressed as Item 10.1 on today's agenda

14. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

15. ADJOURNMENT



EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES 22-006

1:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 21, 2022
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Present: Councillors B. Clark (Chair), S. Merulla, N. Nann, T. Jackson, and E. Pauls

Regrets: Councillor T. Whitehead – Personal

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Urban Native Homes - Management Plan Update (CES16024(b)) (Wards 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9) (Item 10.1)

(Pauls/Jackson)

- (a) That the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities Department or their designate be authorized and directed to transfer funds in the amount of \$772,072 received from Ross & McBride as final disposition of assets from the dissolution of Urban Native Homes to Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services; and,
- (b) That the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities Department or their designate be authorized to execute any documents required in connection with the transfer of \$772,072 to Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services as the final disposition of Urban Native Home's assets, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 5 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 3 Councillor Ninder Nann
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Chair - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
ABSENT - Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead

**2. Lost Revenue Replacement Due to Fire at Stoney Creek Community Homes
 110 Stoneybrook Drive (HSC22022) (Ward 10) (Item 10.2)**

(Merulla/Nann)

- (a) That the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department or their designate be authorized and directed to allow Stoney Creek Community Homes to retain their overpayment of subsidy from the fiscal year end of 2021 up to a maximum of \$146,000 to address costs at 110 Stoney Brook not covered by their insurer after April 1, 2022;
- (b) That the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities Department or their designate be authorized and directed to allocate funds from other providers' recoveries of overpaid subsidy, if Stoney Creek Community Homes' surplus does not meet the \$146,000 cap; and,
- (c) That the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department or their designate be authorized and directed to recover any payments made to Stoney Creek Community Homes by their insurer or tenants' insurers covering income replacement beyond April 1, 2022.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 5 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
 YES - Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
 YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
 YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
 YES - Chair - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
 ABSENT - Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead

**3. New Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and Ontario Priorities
 Housing Initiative Agreement 2022 - 2025 (HSC22025) (City Wide) (Item
 10.3)**

(Nann/Merulla)

- (a) That Appendix "A" to Report HSC22025 being a By-law to authorize the City to enter into a "Transfer Payment Agreement - Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative" and to authorize the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department to execute the aforesaid agreement, which has been prepared in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, be enacted by Council;
- (b) That the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department or their designate be authorized and directed to deliver and administer the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative ("COCHI") and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative ("OPHI") programs or any successor thereto;

- (c) That the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department or their designate be authorized and directed to execute all agreements and documents required to give effect thereto or for the provision of additional funding pursuant to the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative programs, with content satisfactory to the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (d) That the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department or their designate be authorized to approve and submit the annual Investment Plan pursuant to receiving the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative program guidelines, and to update or amend the Investment Plan, as necessary to deliver and administer the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative program; and,
- (e) That the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department be authorized and directed to approve and revise any municipal program guidelines, approve any exceptions to the municipal program guidelines as special or unanticipated circumstances arise, and update or amend the Investment Plan, as necessary to deliver and administer the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative in accordance with all Provincial requirements.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 5 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
 YES - Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
 YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
 YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
 YES - Chair - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
 ABSENT - Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead

4. Fireworks By-Law Review (HSC22018) (City Wide) (Item 10.4)

(Pauls/Clark)

- (a) That the amending By-law attached as Appendix "A" to Report HSC22018 to amend the City of Hamilton's By-law 02-285, To Regulate the Sale and Use of Fireworks (the "Fireworks By-law") which has been prepared in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, be enacted effective immediately by Council;
- (b) That By-law 07-025, a By-law to Amend Fireworks By-law No. 02-285 to Provide for the Sale of Family Fireworks for a Period of 14 days, Prior to Holidays be repealed in its entirety.

Result: Motion, CARRIED by a vote of 5 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
 YES - Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
 YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
 YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
 YES - Chair - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
 ABSENT - Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead

5. Purchase of Key Cards and Reading Equipment for the Gore Building at 89 King Street East (Item 11.1)

(Merulla/Nann)

WHEREAS, the Ward 2 office has recently heard from both residents of the Gore Building at 89 King Street East and from CityHousing Hamilton staff that the Gore Building has consistent issues with regards to people who are not residents, entering and allegedly doing illegal things;

WHEREAS, the safety and security of CityHousing Hamilton residents is of paramount concern and a mandate of CityHousing Hamilton; and

WHEREAS, a request has been made that we employ “key cards” for the residents and staff of the Gore Building at 89 King Street East, to ensure the building is safe for all moving forward.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That funds be allocated for the purchase of key cards and reading equipment for the Gore Building at 89 King Street East, to an upset limit of \$9,000, to be funded through the Ward 2 Area Rating Special Capital Reinvestment Reserve account number 108052.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 5 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
 YES - Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
 YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
 YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
 YES - Chair - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
 ABSENT - Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised that there were no changes to the agenda.

(Jackson/Pauls)

That the agenda for the April 21, 2022 Emergency and Community Services Committee meeting be approved, as presented.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 5 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
 YES - Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
 YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
 YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
 YES - Chair - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
 ABSENT - Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)

(Merulla/Nann)

That the Minutes of the April 7, 2022 meeting of the Emergency and Community Services Committee, be approved, as presented.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 5 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
 YES - Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
 YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
 YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
 YES - Chair - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
 ABSENT - Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead

(d) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)

(i) Amendments to the Outstanding Business List (Item 13.1)

(Jackson/Nann)

That the following amendment to the Outstanding Business List, be approved:

(a) Items Considered Completed and to be Removed

1. Fireworks By-Law Review
 Item on OBL: 21-J
 Addressed as Item 10.4 at today's meeting

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 5 to 0, as follows:

**Emergency & Community Services Committee
Minutes 22-006**

**April 21, 2022
Page 6 of 6**

YES - Chair - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
ABSENT - Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead

(k) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

(Nann/Pauls)

That there being no further business, the Emergency and Community Services Committee be adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 5 to 0, as follows:

YES - Chair - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
ABSENT - Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor B. Clark
Chair, Emergency and Community Services
Committee

Tamara Bates
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk

Bates, Tamara

Subject: FW: Form submission from: Request to Speak to Committee of Council Form

-----Original Message-----

From: City of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada via City of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada <no-reply@hamilton.ca>

Sent: Friday, April 22, 2022 12:25 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Form submission from: Request to Speak to Committee of Council Form

Submitted on Friday, April 22, 2022 - 12:25am Submitted by anonymous user: 172.70.110.53 Submitted values are:

==Committee Requested==

Committee: ~~General Issues Committee~~ Emergency and Community Services Committee

Will you be delegating in person or virtually? Virtually

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video? No

==Requestor Information==

Name of Organization (if applicable): ~~Private Operators group of~~

~~for Profit Child Care~~ The Private Owners Group of Licensed Child Care Providers

Name of Individual: Jacky Sheppard

Preferred Pronoun: Mrs.

Contact Number:

Email Address: ppownersgroup@yahoo.com

Mailing Address:

Mississauga

Reason(s) for delegation request: We would welcome the opportunity to share our thoughts and concerns regarding the effects of the new Day Care Agreement and the affects it will have on the Daycares in the community.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? Yes

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.hamilton.ca/node/286/submission/593021>



Hamilton

MINUTES

LGBTQ Advisory Committee

Tuesday, December 21, 2021

6:00 PM – 7:19 PM

Webex

-
- Present:** Cameron Kroetsch (Chair), Rebecca Banky, Gregory Cousins, James Diemert, Violetta Nikolskaya (Vice Chair), Ashley Paton, Jake Maurice, Lisa-Marie Johnston, Shaiden Keaney, Autumn Getty, Will Fujarczuk
- Regrets:** Councillor Maureen Wilson, Terri Wallis (LOA)
- Absent:** Kyle Weitz
- Staff:** Sunil Angrish (Staff Liaison)
- Guests:** Jennifer Hohol (Manager, Human Service Integration, Strategy & Quality Improvement, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton)
-

1. Welcome and Introductions

C. Kroetsch took roll call.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Jake Maurice provided a Land Acknowledgement.

3. Approval of the Agenda

(A. Getty / R. Banky)

That the Agenda for today's meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declarations of Interest

None.

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

(R. Banky / A. Getty)

That the Minutes from the November 16, 2021 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

6. Delegation Requests

Jennifer Hohol, Manager, Human Service Integration, Strategy & Quality Improvement, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton respecting an Overview of the Healthy and Safe Communities Staff Representative Role, for today's meeting (see attached overview)

(R. Banky / A. Getty)

That the delegation request be approved.

CARRIED

7. Public Hearings / Delegations

Jennifer Hohol (Manager, Human Service Integration, Strategy & Quality Improvement, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton) respecting providing additional support and guidance to the LGBTQ AC.

Jennifer delegated to the LGBTQ committee to discuss her role in supporting Advisory Committee on behalf of Healthy & Safe Communities and to assist with connecting the committee with appropriate staff.

(R. Banky/ V. Nikolskaya)

That the delegation from Jennifer Hohol be received.

CARRIED

8. Regular Business

8.1 Motion to Recommend that Advisory Committees be Integrated into Staff Workplans (see attached draft Citizen Committee Report)

(R. Banky/ J. Diemert)

That the recommendations in the Citizen Committee report respecting Advisory Committees be Integrated into Staff Workplans, be approved.

CARRIED

8.2 Motion to Appoint R. Banky and C. Kroetsch to Delegate to the Emergency and Community Services Committee respecting the Citizen Committee Report entitled "Advisory Committee Integration into Staff Workplans"

(A. Getty / A. Paton)

That the LGBTQ Advisory Committee appoint C. Kroetsch and R. Banky to delegate to the Emergency and Community

Services Committee respecting the Citizen Committee Report about the Advisory Committee Integration into Staff Workplans.

CARRIED

8.3 Motion to Recommend Monthly Finance Updates from City Staff (see attached draft Citizen Committee Report)

(C. Kroetsch / R. Banky)

That the recommendations in the Citizen Committee report respecting Monthly Finance Updates from City Staff, be approved.

CARRIED

8.4 Motion to Appoint R. Banky and C. Kroetsch to Delegate to the Emergency and Community Services Committee respecting the Citizen Committee Report entitled "Monthly Finance Updates from City Staff"

(A. Paton/ J. Diemert)

That the LGBTQ Advisory Committee appoint C. Kroetsch and R. Banky to delegate to the Emergency and Community Services Committee respecting the Citizen Committee Report about the Advisory Committee receiving monthly finance updates from city staff.

CARRIED

8.5 Motion to Recommend a Process for Organizing All Advisory Committee Events for 2022 (see attached draft Citizen Committee Report)

(C. Kroetsch/R. Banky)

That the motion respecting a Process for Organizing All Advisory Committee Events for 2022, be approved.

CARRIED

8.6 Motion to Appoint R. Banky and C. Kroetsch to Delegate to the Emergency and Community Services Committee respecting the Citizen Committee Report entitled "All Advisory Committee Events for 2022"

(A. Getty/ R. Banky)

That the LGBTQ Advisory Committee appoint C. Kroetsch and R. Banky to delegate to the Emergency and Community Services Committee respecting the Citizen Committee Report respecting all Advisory Committee events for 2022.

CARRIED

8.7 Motion to Send the Committee's Citizen Committee Report entitled "Changes to the Draft Code of Conduct for Advisory Committees" to the Legislative Coordinator for the General Issues Committee for its inclusion as an attachment to accompany the Committee's Delegation on January 17, 2022

(C. Kroetsch/R. Banky)

That the LGBTQ Advisory Committee send the Send the Committee's Citizen Committee Report entitled "Changes to the Draft Code of Conduct for Advisory Committees" to the Legislative Coordinator for the General Issues Committee for its inclusion as an attachment to accompany the Committee's Delegation on January 17, 2022

CARRIED

9. Discussion Items

9.1 Updates on outstanding Citizen Committee Reports (C. Kroetsch)

a) Accessible Captioning for Advisory Committee Meetings

Staff advised that no definitive date of release has been provided.

a) Appointment of Additional Committee Members (November 2021)

The committee is waiting on selection process to begin.

b) Changes to the Draft Code of Conduct for Advisory Committees (November 2021)

Special meeting taking place in January 2022 regarding the Draft Code of Conduct for Advisory Committees.

9.2 Updates on from Working Groups

- **Changing the Name of the Committee**

- No Update.

- **Reviewing and Updating Committee Materials**

- No Update.

9.3 Update about the Committee's Finances (C. Kroetsch)

The goal is zero dollars in budget by the end of the year, any outstanding cheques should be deposited by end of 2021. The 2022 budget has been approved without any issue.

9.4 Outstanding Business List Items

- **Rescheduling, Choosing a Location for, and Inviting Facilitators to a Committee Training and Planning Day**

No discussion

- **Changing the Food for Committee Meetings**

No discussion

9.5 Decision of the Divisional Court with respect to the Chair's case against the City of Hamilton and its Integrity Commissioner (C. Kroetsch)

Committee members discussed the Chair's case against the City of Hamilton and its Integrity Commissioner, and its recently announced outcome.

9.6 2022 Meeting Schedule

Committee members discussed changing the day or time of meetings but it was decided to keep it the same for 2022.

10. Adjournment

(R. Banky/A. Getty)

That, there being no further business, the meeting be adjourned at 7:19 PM.

CARRIED



Hamilton

MINUTES
LGBTQ Advisory Committee
Tuesday, January 18, 2021
6:00 PM – 6:50 PM
Webex

Present: Rebecca Banky (Chair), Gregory Cousins, James Diemert, Cameron Kroetsch, Jake Maurice, William Fularczuk, Violetta Nikolskaya (Vice Chair), Ashley Paton (Recording Secretary), Kyle Weitz, Kieran Thiara, Councillor Maureen Wilson (City Council Appointee)

Regrets: Terri Wallis (Leave of Absence)

Absent: Lisa-Marie Johnston, Shaiden Keaney, Autumn Getty

Staff: Sunil Angrish (Staff Liaison), Jennifer Hohol (Staff Liaison)

1. Welcome and Introductions

R. Banky took roll call.

2. Land Acknowledgement

V. Nikolskaya provided a Land Acknowledgement.

3. Approval of Agenda

(C. Kroetsch / G. Cousins)

That the Agenda for today's meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest.

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

(V. Nikolskaya / W. Fularczuk)

That the LGBTQ Advisory Committee approve the minutes from the December 21, 2021 meeting, with the following amendments: revised spelling of "Patton" in 8.2 (revised to "Paton"); and member W. Fularczuk be added to the members present

CARRIED

6. Discussion Items (Item 11)

(i) Updates on outstanding Citizen Committee Reports (C. Kroetsch)

- **Accessible Captioning for Advisory Committee Meetings (December 2020) (S. Angrish)**

Staff advised that no definitive date of release has been provided.

- **Appointment of Additional Committee Members (November 2021)**

Existing applicants will be contacted, and the Interview Sub-Committee will make recommendations to Council. No further status of review of applicant pool and selection process.

- **Changes to the Draft Code of Conduct for Advisory Committees (November 2021)**

C. Kroetsch and R. Banky delegated to Special General Issues Committee on January 17, 2021, presented and spoke to report and recommendations contained in report. Outcome of delegation will be decided upon at a later Council date.

(ii) Updates from Working Groups

(a) Changing the Name of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee (W. Fujarczuk)

Discussion - Have reached out to multiple organizations and an individual who identifies as Two Spirit. Asks committee members who know two-spirit individuals within the city and who might have an interest in participating in process to reach out to W. Fujarczuk

(b) Reviewing and Updating Committee Materials

Clarification provided to Committee that the scope of materials that are to be reviewed by working group are the Terms of Reference, Mandate, and Pamphlet.

(iii) Outstanding Business List Items

(a) Rescheduling, Choosing a Location for, and Inviting Facilitators to a Committee Training and Planning Day

Discussion - Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, in-person meetings are not permitted. The Committee's budget request associated with hosting this in-person meeting was approved, but the scheduling of the meeting will need to be postponed until a time at which in-person meetings are permitted.

(b) Changing the Food for Committee Meetings

No discussion

(c) 2022 Workplan of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee

No meetings are permitted between September 28, 2022 and November 17, 2022 given the municipal election. Meetings will continue after November 17, 2022 until such time that new members are appointed.

(d) Annual events or programming

The following items were discussed:

- Trans Day of Remembrance,
- Pride,
- Community Conversation and decision on flag raising (in-person if possible in Council Chambers),
- accessible captioning (target for a citizen committee report to be prepared for February meeting which will recommend a deadline for which accessible captioning is to be provided on the WebEx platform

(e) Working Groups/Task forces

No Discussion

6.1 Review of the Advisory Committee Handbook

7. Adjournment

(C. Kroetsch / G. Cousins)

That, there being no further business, the meeting be adjourned at 6.50 PM.

CARRIED



CITY OF HAMILTON
HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT
 Children's Services and Neighbourhood Development Division
 and
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
 Tourism and Culture Division
 and
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
 Environmental Services Division

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	May 5, 2022
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Landmarks and Monuments Review (HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a)) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Shelly Hill (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4081 Jennifer DiDomenico (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5596 John Summers (905) 546-2424 Ext. 1747 Cynthia Graham (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2337
SUBMITTED BY: SIGNATURE:	Angela Burden General Manager Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SUBMITTED BY: SIGNATURE:	Jason Thorne General Manager Planning and Economic Development Department
SUBMITTED BY: SIGNATURE:	Craig Murdoch Acting General Manager Public Works Department

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

**SUBJECT: Landmarks and Monuments Review
(HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) (City Wide) - Page 2 of 12**

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- (a) That the following recommendations in the Honouring our Roots: Creating Space for Indigenous Voices report by First Peoples Group (attached as Appendix “A” to Report HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a)) be endorsed as supplementary to the Urban Indigenous Strategy and used to guide the next phase of work in the review:
- (i) Continue to foster long-term relationships with local First Nations and urban Indigenous communities that are based on mutual trust and respect;
 - (ii) Create and action a communications plan that includes interpretive signage at the high priority sites that indicates that the city is aware that these sites are problematic and educates the public about the need for further consultation and action;
 - (iii) Prioritize the building of Indigenous community gathering spaces, both indoors and outdoors;
 - (iv) Hire an Indigenous curatorial team composed of a Curator; and,
 - (v) Hire an Indigenous Community Liaison to lead engagement with local First Nations and the urban Indigenous community in Hamilton;
- (b) That an estimated project budget of \$25,000 be established for the Indigenous Relations section to cover facilitation and meeting costs associated with initiating engagement with the Indigenous community in 2022 as identified in Appendix “A” to Report HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) and funded from any available source deemed appropriate by the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services including, but not limited to, one or more of the following: first from Provincial or Federal funding sources and second from the overall City of Hamilton surplus or the Tax Stabilization Reserve, # 110046;
- (c) That interim interpretive communications be developed and installed at the high priority sites (Sir John A MacDonald, Queen Victoria, Augustus Jones, and United Empire Loyalist) as well as Ryerson Recreation Centre (at such time as the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board’s renaming process has concluded and the City of Hamilton initiates renaming of the attached recreation facility) including but not limited to signage to educate the public towards a collective and shared pathway as a way forward at a cost of up to \$60,000 and funded from any available source deemed appropriate by the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services including, but not limited to, one or more of

**SUBJECT: Landmarks and Monuments Review
(HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) (City Wide) - Page 3 of 12**

the following: first from Provincial or Federal funding sources and second the overall City of Hamilton surplus or the Tax Stabilization Reserve, # 110046; and,

- (d) That any work and related funds as noted in Recommendations (b) and/or (c) that is not complete and spent by end of the year 2022, that those funds be carried forward to 2023 in order to complete the work as committed to in 2022.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Hamilton (City) is a lifeline to many Urban Indigenous people who are deeply rooted in providing the rich culture, contributions and uniqueness through historical facets of the past, the presence of today, and towards the next seven generations of the future.

There is growing national and local concern about monuments and representation of historic and cultural spaces that are not inclusive of Indigenous past and present, including the history of colonialism, and residential schools.

The Honouring Our Roots report reviews City landmarks and was co-developed through a listening process with Indigenous peoples. It contributes to the overall approved Urban Indigenous Strategy, and provides staff with guidance on priority next steps, future work, and a successful engagement strategy for Indigenous voices. Report HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) provides preliminary information on what was heard and will set the stage for broader engagement that is still to occur on the journey to building our collective understanding.

The Honouring Our Roots report was prepared as a guide to start addressing priority sites in Hamilton. Through the work of the Circle of Experts, First Peoples Group, and staff, the following priority sites have been identified as those requiring additional context to provide Indigenous history:

- Sir John A MacDonald monument (Gore Park, King St. at Hughson St.)
- Queen Victoria monument (Gore Park, west end facing James St.)
- Augustus Jones monument (King St. E. at Jones St. in Stoney Creek)
- United Empire Loyalist monuments (front of 50 Main St. E. and Dundurn Park)
- Ryerson Recreation Centre (251 Duke St.) (at such time as the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board's renaming process has concluded and the City initiates renaming of the attached Recreation facility).

The City must continue in the spirit of Reconciliation and the Calls to Action, the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and the Calls for Justice, to foster long-term relationships with the local First Nations and the urban Indigenous community by

**SUBJECT: Landmarks and Monuments Review
(HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) (City Wide) - Page 4 of 12**

upholding its commitment to the Urban Indigenous Strategy actions and development of corporate-wide approaches to engaging with each community.

Following this initial report, the next phase of the Landmarks Review will include further consultation and engagement with the Indigenous and non-Indigenous community to build relationships and a greater understanding of Indigenous history and contributions, reimagine City spaces, and ensure all voices are heard.

An interim strategy is necessary at the high priority sites that will educate the general public about the challenges associated with these monuments/locations. It is recommended, therefore, prior to undertaking public awareness and consultation, interpretive communications will be installed at the sites to inform about the initiative and indicate changes will be forthcoming.

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 11

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: Report HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) recommends a project budget of \$25,000 to support project work on the high priority sites identified by the Honouring Our Roots report. This budget would be used for to support meetings, materials, and facilitation expenses.

Cost for the development and installation of interpretive communications including but not limited to signage, is estimated to be up to \$60,000.

These costs will be funded from any available source deemed appropriate by the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services including, but not limited to, one or more of the following: first from Provincial or Federal funding sources, second the overall City of Hamilton surplus or the Tax Stabilization Reserve, # 110046

If the scope of work and associated costs as outlined above are not completed by end of the year 2022, then any unspent funds related to the outstanding work and associated funding be carried forward to 2023 in order to complete the work as planned.

Staffing: As recommended by the Honouring our Roots report, and to ensure adequate resources, staff will prioritize the hiring of two temporary positions (2 FTE) being an Indigenous Community Liaison in the Healthy and Safe Communities Department and an Indigenous Curator in the Planning and Economic Development Department, for an approximate salary cost of \$224K per annum including benefits.

**SUBJECT: Landmarks and Monuments Review
(HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) (City Wide) - Page 5 of 12**

Funding for these temporary positions will be provided through either Divisional Year End Surplus of the Department or the Departmental Year End Surplus that the complement is working in.

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

As part of the implementation of the Urban Indigenous Strategy (UIS), a staff team called the Indigenous Landmarks Working Group was developed in 2020 to provide information and review existing and new landmarks, spaces and markers that reflect the true history and disposition of the Indigenous community.

In July 2021, the Working Group brought Report HSC21025/PED21149/PW21038 forward with the recommendation to conduct an Historical Review of landmarks and monuments which was approved by Council. In accordance with the report recommendations an Indigenous consultant, First Peoples Group (FPG), was retained to facilitate the project. A group of individuals were invited to form the Honouring our Roots Circle of Experts to guide and provide input and advice on the Historical Review to the Indigenous Landmarks Working Group. At that time, the Emergency and Community Services Committee also received a number of public delegations and correspondences (approximately 896) regarding the landmarks review, the Sir John A MacDonald monument, and Ryerson Recreation Centre. This reflects significant community engagement at the onset of the working group, which also informed the work and recommendations of the report.

Meetings were hosted with the Circle of Experts from September to December 2021. The outcome of those discussions was documented in a report by FPG and recommendations developed through January and February 2022. The final consultant report was validated by individual meetings with the Circle of Experts in late February 2022 and forms the basis of the recommendations of Report HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a).

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

In June 2019, Council endorsed the Urban Indigenous Strategy through Report HSC19030 which identified actions to strengthen the City's relationship with the Indigenous community. This was in response to the 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada's Final Report and the calls to action within the municipality's jurisdiction. The TRC summary reminds Canadians that "governments, churches, educational institutions, and Canadians from all walks of life are responsible for taking actions on reconciliation in meaningful ways, working collaboratively with Indigenous peoples". The recommendations in Report

**SUBJECT: Landmarks and Monuments Review
(HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) (City Wide) - Page 6 of 12**

HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) directly relate to the implementation of the actions identified in the Urban Indigenous Strategy.

The recommendations in Report HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) also support the Equity and Inclusion Policy by using an approach to engage equitably with the Indigenous community to plan and implement initiatives that will achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.

Budgeted Complement Control Policy (FCS16024)

Changes to the Approved Budgeted Complement

2. Increasing Complement

- (iii) Of Temporary complement for a duration of less than twenty- four months, is at the discretion of the General Manager providing that adequate financial resources are available (cannot create an unfavourable budget variance).

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

To guide and inform the Historical Review, the Indigenous Landmarks Working Group formed the Honouring Our Roots Circle of Experts. A variety of individuals were invited to join the Circle of Experts based on their expertise and interest; participants included Elders, historians, artists and leaders from the Indigenous community. The Circle's diverse background represented perspectives from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the Haudenosaunee, Cree/Metis, and urban Indigenous people.

It was important that this first phase of work be led by Indigenous voices so that their input and perspective on the sites and stories of Hamilton could be heard. This aligns with the UIS actions #3 (Improve meaningful consultation with urban Indigenous residents and First Nations communities on municipal projects, plans and approvals) and #4 (Include and listen to Indigenous Elders on key initiatives and partnerships between the and the Indigenous community).

In addition, the following staff groups have been consulted and contributed to the report:

- Senior Leadership Team
- Corporate Services, Financial Planning Administration and Policy section
- City Manager's Office, Communications and Strategic Initiatives section

Staff acknowledge that further and ongoing consultation and engagement needs to occur with both the Indigenous community and non-Indigenous community to strengthen relationships, build knowledge of the Indigenous history and contributions, and ensure that all voices are heard. This report represents recommendations for the next step in that journey and staff recognize that building relationships will take time. Staff also acknowledge that building relationships requires engaging in difficult community conversations and we must take steps to ensure that we create a safe

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

**SUBJECT: Landmarks and Monuments Review
(HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) (City Wide) - Page 7 of 12**

space for these conversations to occur. Further consultation opportunities will be planned and made available in the future, as we continue to engage in conversations with Indigenous people and the broader community to reimagine City spaces and how we can incorporate Indigenous history and contributions into our landmarks, spaces and markers.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Review of inventory

The Honouring Our Roots Circle of Experts was formed to review a list of over 390 City owned landmarks, spaces, monuments and markers to identify opportunities and specific ways to honour the Indigenous community. It would have been too significant a task to look at the entire inventory in such a short timeframe, so the Circle took an approach to start with identifying the highest priority sites on the list of commemorated individuals to the Indigenous community for potential removal or recontextualization.

For the next phase of work with the community, the following recommendations from the Circle of Experts will be prioritized:

- Continue to foster long-term relationships with local First Nations and urban Indigenous communities that are based on mutual trust and respect
- Create and action a communications plan that includes interpretive signage at the high priority sites that indicates that the City is aware that these sites are problematic and educates the public about the need for further consultation and action
- Hire an Indigenous curator to ensure Indigenous perspectives are embedded (in the City's culture and heritage work)
- Hire an Indigenous community liaison to lead engagement with local First Nations and the urban Indigenous community

High priority sites

Through discussions about the commemorated individuals, the group focussed on sites that were high priority due to the lack of Indigenous history or the misrepresentation of a fuller history at the site. The results included the following:

- The Sir John A MacDonald monument (Gore Park, King St. at Hughson St.)
- The Queen Victoria monument (Gore Park, west end facing James St.)
- The Augustus Jones statue (King St. E. at Jones St. in Stoney Creek)
- Sites commemorating the United Empire Loyalists (front of 50 Main St. E. and Dundurn Park)

**SUBJECT: Landmarks and Monuments Review
(HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) (City Wide) - Page 8 of 12**

- Ryerson Recreation Centre (251 Duke St.)

The Circle of Experts recommends that signage be installed at all of the high priority sites, to acknowledge that these identified monuments, commemorations and historical interpretations are problematic, and that the City is in the process of engaging with Indigenous communities to ensure that the work moves forward in a good way. This action would demonstrate respect and humility¹ on the part of the City towards the Indigenous community and the public who are calling for more diverse narratives to be told through interpretation and commemoration.

A second step and recommendation is to gather information from many different sources about the Indigenous history of the Hamilton area, and dedicated temporary roles are recommended to lead this work. A community engagement strategy will be implemented that invites Indigenous residents and visitors to participate in the retelling of history and revisioning of monuments and Indigenous place making from their unique perspectives. The Circle of Experts discussed many creative ideas for engagement including but not limited to design charettes, community mapping, PhotoVoice projects, special events and wide-scale storytelling to crowd-source the history of the area from Indigenous perspectives. There is potential for adding and expanding the presence of Indigenous history (and current realities) on the Hamilton Civic Museums website, through interactive map-based interpretation, and other long-term virtual projects that tell a new, fuller history from many perspectives.

Undertaking a complementary education campaign in parallel with the collecting of stories for commemoration and interpretation will help the general public understand why amplifying Indigenous voices on these topics is so important. The Circle of Experts provided some interesting ideas such as learning circles, cross-cultural sharing, and Indigenous walking tours.

The goal of this work is to move forward in a collective and shared pathway. Taking these steps will address many of the UIS action items including:

- #11 Incorporate more Indigenous stories and voices into the City's culture and heritage plans
- #12 Use markers and signs to restore Indigenous names and identify significant Indigenous landmarks in Hamilton
- #18 Ensure that Indigenous stories and local Indigenous history are included in official archives across Hamilton

In addition, it will align with the Civic Museum Strategy actions:

- #1 Embrace the City

¹ Respect and Humility are two of the Seven Grandfather teachings.

**SUBJECT: Landmarks and Monuments Review
(HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) (City Wide) - Page 9 of 12**

- #3 Embed the shift to digital
- #4 Collaborate and co-create

- Committing resources

Financial and staffing resources beyond what is currently available are needed to move this work forward. The Indigenous Relations portfolio has grown over the last couple years and includes implementation of the UIS along with advisory support to the organization on a variety of Indigenous matters. The existing Indigenous Relations Team does not have the capacity to take on additional and dedicated Indigenous community engagement that is required for this specific initiative. The creation of the two dedicated temporary staffing resources will signal the importance of the Honouring our Roots: Creating Space for Indigenous Voices project.

An Indigenous Community Outreach Liaison (1 FTE) is required to deliver more focussed and regular engagement with the Indigenous community as it is not feasible to absorb this volume of work into the existing limited resources of the Indigenous Relations section. To produce the intended results in a timely manner, a dedicated resource should be committed to this work. The new role will support the Indigenous Relations team with relationship-building initiatives that continue to grow connections between the City and the Indigenous communities in and around Hamilton. The Indigenous Community Outreach Liaison will identify and implement ways to make City spaces and buildings welcoming and safe for Indigenous peoples and ensure they can see themselves reflected in the City's spaces and places. The position will work with the Indigenous Curator to design and implement a community engagement plan that includes activities that are interactive, intergenerational, and inclusive.

In addition, an Indigenous Curator (1 FTE) is needed to lead the heritage and commemoration work and programming recommended by the UIS and Honouring Our Roots report in a culturally appropriate way including the use of traditional knowledge. This position will participate in developing the City-wide Interpretive Master Plan to ensure that Indigenous perspectives are embedded and that there is a plan for sites of significant Indigenous cultural and historical importance to be commemorated. The Indigenous Curator will strengthen the presence of Indigenous Heritage on the [Hamilton Civic Museums website](#) by expanding the timeline to include Indigenous heritage. The role will review and recommend changes to applicable policies to ensure that placemaking and public art processes are welcoming, accessible, and inclusive of Indigenous history and current realities. The new role will work with the Indigenous Relations team to create a public education campaign to communicate why elevating Indigenous voices and histories is important, and what the process will be for Hamilton to take on this work. Further, they will advance Indigenous place-making practices in urban centres by collaborating with the other municipalities on a gathering, interactive event or exhibit on this subject.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

**SUBJECT: Landmarks and Monuments Review
(HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) (City Wide) - Page 10 of 12**

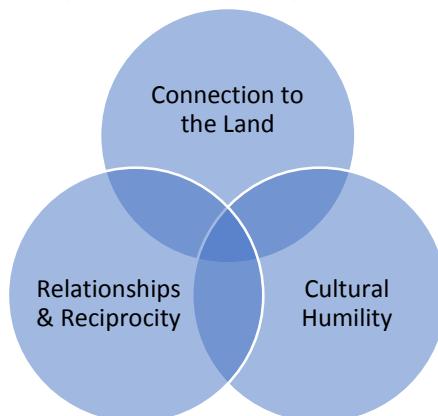
Having the Indigenous Community Outreach Liaison and Indigenous Curator devoted to the projects and initiatives in the Honouring our Roots: Creating Space for Indigenous Voices will allow them to focus on finding ways to reflect a new, fuller truth into historical narratives in the places where history was made.

The positions will be dedicated to the initiatives outlined in Appendix “A” to Report HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) and would demonstrate progress in UIS action #36 (Increase the number of Indigenous employees at the City and support networking and mentorship opportunities for Indigenous staff).

□ Framework

While high priority sites were discussed, and many ideas were shared for moving forward in a good way, concerns and comments were raised at every meeting that speak to the systemic transformation that needs to occur to foster right relations with Indigenous peoples and with the land that the municipality occupies.

As a result of this, a framework was built on the core themes of: Connection to the Land; Relationships & Reciprocity; and Cultural Humility. The framework includes a series of recommendations for short- and long-term planning, as well as traditional teachings and other tools and frameworks to consider when designing the next phase of work. We will use this to guide our continued work on the landmarks review, and also in the broader context of implementing the Urban Indigenous strategy.



1. Connection to Land

Through its work, the Circle of Experts emphasized the importance of not only considering but centering the land and its gifts in all municipal decisions. This holistic approach requires authenticity, humility and great respect.

2. Relationships & Reciprocity

Authentic long-term relationships built on respect and reciprocity are essential for this cultural heritage work to move forward in a good way. Engagement should

**SUBJECT: Landmarks and Monuments Review
(HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) (City Wide) - Page 11 of 12**

demonstrate deep care for all who are invited to the table and must be designed to ensure past and existing wrongs are not perpetuated or reproduced. Where possible, community engagement should support capacity development, with Indigenous partners co-designing and taking on leadership roles within the work.

3. Cultural Humility

Cultural humility requires taking the time for critical self-reflection and for listening to and learning from others. Cultural awareness and cultural safety training are crucial to increase City staff and Council's knowledge of Indigenous cultures, traditions and worldviews. It also means taking a strengths-based approach to working with community, recognizing Indigenous peoples as experts of their own experiences. Instead of a partnership where Indigenous people are seen as "stakeholders" who feed into a consultation process, the City should partner in a way where Indigenous peoples can take the lead, and the City supports the vision and goals of the community or communities.

The framework will add an Indigenous lens through principles such as decolonization, learning, leadership, and values-based practices in line with the Guiding Principles of the UIS and framework of the Honouring our Roots.

- Build and maintain relationships

The UIS outlined a number of actions for the City to take including to "Improve meaningful consultation with urban Indigenous residents and First Nations communities on municipal projects, plans and approvals". Both Council and staff are aware of the gravity and importance of this task, but it must be acknowledged that it is not easy work. To improve in this area, a coordinated approach by all departments to commit to making Indigenous Relations a top priority is being recommended. Genuine relationships with Indigenous communities should begin with an intent to be meaningful and long term. This work needs to be conducted in a sincere way, to carefully build connections between the Indigenous and non-Indigenous community.

The consultant's report Honouring Our Roots also contains recommendations that came forward from the Circle of Experts that build on the broader Urban Indigenous Strategy, such as the prioritization of indoor and outdoor gathering spaces for the Indigenous community. Recommendations regarding the broader UIS will be brought forward to Emergency and Community Services Committee at a future meeting.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

An alternative is to not fund an interim communication strategy for the high priority sites.

**SUBJECT: Landmarks and Monuments Review
(HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a) (City Wide) - Page 12 of 12**

This option has no financial, staffing or legal implications but it would not share information and acknowledge the challenges associated with these sites, nor will it signal the desire to broaden the narrative to include more diverse voices. Given the City's expressed desire for openness and transparency and increase the community's engagement and participation, this alternative is not recommended.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Community Engagement and Participation

Hamilton has an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community

Built Environment and Infrastructure

Hamilton is supported by state-of-the-art infrastructure, transportation options, buildings and public spaces that create a dynamic City.

Culture and Diversity

Hamilton is a thriving, vibrant place for arts, culture, and heritage where diversity and inclusivity are embraced and celebrated.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" to Report HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a): Honouring our Roots; Creating Space for Indigenous Voices Consultant Report



Honouring Our Roots



**Creating space for
Indigenous voices in
the City of Hamilton**

First Peoples Group
202-291 Dalhousie Street
Ottawa, Ontario , K1N 7E5

firstpeoplesgroup.com



Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	3
Introduction	4
Core Themes	4
Summary of Recommendations: A Collective and Shared Pathway	5
Overview of the Engagement Process	7
Challenges	8
What We Heard	9
Honouring Our Roots Framework and Process for Moving Forward	16
Core Themes	18
1. Connection to Land	18
2. Relationships and Reciprocity	19
3. Cultural Humility	20
Recommendations for moving forward	21
Teachings and frameworks to apply to this work	25
APPENDIX A	27
Alignment Around Recommendations: Circle of Experts, Urban Indigenous Strategy, and Civic Museum Strategy	27
APPENDIX B	29
Traditional Teachings	29
Seven Grandfather Teachings	29
Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address Greetings to the Natural World	31
Seven Generations Principle	35
The Dish with One Spoon Treaty- Sewatokwat'shera't Belt-Great Law of Peace	36
The Two Row Wampum Belt	37
APPENDIX C	38
Understanding the need for Urban Indigenous Spaces & Good Relations	38



Acknowledgements

In the spirit of the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address¹, we start with the words that come before all else by bringing greetings and thanks to the natural world. We acknowledge the interconnectedness of all life and our humble role as caretakers to respect our Earth Mother and all her beings. We bring greetings and thanks to the waters, the fish, the food plants, the medicine herbs, the animals, the trees, and birds. We show our utmost respect for the thunderers, the sun, Grandmother moon and the stars. We honour the enlightened teachers who came before us and thank Creator for bringing our minds together to do this good work.

To the Elders and Knowledge Keepers, the Urban Indigenous Community in Hamilton, neighbouring First Nations, and especially the Youth: you are seen and heard, and we honour the continuous retelling of your truth. We hope that this work will lead to places and spaces in Hamilton that reflect the beauty and strength of Indigenous peoples who have called this area home since time immemorial.

We acknowledge those who are guiding this ongoing work, with special mention to:

- » The Urban Indigenous Community in and around Hamilton
- » Six Nations of the Grand River
- » Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
- » Honouring Our Roots Circle of Experts
- » City of Hamilton Indigenous Landmarks and Monuments Working Group
- » Indigenous Relations Team, City of Hamilton
- » Senior Leadership Team, City of Hamilton

¹ See [APPENDIX B: Traditional Teachings](#)



Photo by S. Mazzikim on Unsplash



Introduction

In July 2019, the City of Hamilton demonstrated reconciliation leadership when they endorsed the Urban Indigenous Strategy (UIS), guided by the principles of commitment, accountability, consultation, reciprocity, inclusion, recognition, commemoration and allyship. The purpose of the strategy is to strengthen relationships between the City and Indigenous community and to promote the truth about Indigenous histories, cultures, experiences, and contributions among all residents of Hamilton and beyond. It is now time to honour the Indigenous communities in and around Hamilton by putting these recommendations into action.

As part of the UIS implementation plan, a staff working group was created called the Indigenous Landmarks and Monuments Working Group (WG). With the help of First Peoples Group (FPG)—an Indigenous consulting firm that specializes in conversations around reconciliation—City staff invited Elders, historians, artists, and leaders from the Indigenous community to create a Circle of Experts (CoE).

The CoE were invited to meet in Fall 2021 to:

1. *Review existing City owned landmarks, spaces, monuments, markers to identify ones that are of high priority to the Indigenous community in Hamilton that will be flagged for further review and in-depth community consultation*
2. *Co-develop a framework and process for reviewing existing city owned landmarks, spaces, monuments, markers as well as proposals for future installments with a lens of seeking to address systemic racism and the perpetuation of colonialism and in ways that respect and recognize Indigenous peoples, their histories and their contributions in the area.²*

This report will outline what we heard in the six meetings with the CoE and will **present a framework for moving forward** that is rooted in the **core themes** of: Connection to the Land; Relationships & Reciprocity; and Cultural Humility. The framework will include a **series of recommendations** supported by **traditional teachings and other tools and frameworks to consider** when designing the next phase of work.

CORE THEMES



2 From Project Charter



Summary of Recommendations: A Collective and Shared Pathway

As an important starting point to this leg of Hamilton's reconciliation journey, the Circle of Experts shared stories and lived experiences, while reviewing city-owned landmarks, spaces, monuments, and markers. This collaboration resulted in the following six community-centred recommendations. Detailed recommendations can be found starting on [page 21](#).

In the spirit of truth-telling and deep-listening, and with respect for the Indigenous communities in and around Hamilton—past, present, and future—First Peoples Group recommends that that the City of Hamilton:

1. **Continue to foster long-term relationships with local First Nations and urban Indigenous communities that are based on mutual trust and respect.**
2. **Create and action a communications plan that includes interpretive signage at the high priority sites that indicates that the city is aware that these sites are problematic and educates the public about the need for further consultation and action.**
3. **Prioritize the building of Indigenous community gathering spaces, both indoors and outdoors.**
4. **Hire an Indigenous curatorial team composed of a Project Manager and a Curator. Recommended projects and initiatives within their portfolio include:**
 - A) Participate in the development of the city-wide Interpretive Master Plan to ensure that Indigenous perspectives are embedded and that there is a plan for sites of significant Indigenous cultural and historical importance to be commemorated.
 - B) Strengthen the presence of Indigenous Heritage on the [Hamilton Civic Museums website](#) by expanding the timeline to include Indigenous heritage.
 - C) Review and recommend changes to applicable policies to ensure that placemaking and public art processes are welcoming, accessible, and inclusive of Indigenous history and current realities.
 - D) Work with the Indigenous Relations Team to create a public education campaign to communicate why elevating Indigenous voices and histories is important, and what the process will be for Hamilton to take on this work.
 - E) Advance Indigenous place-making practices in urban centres by collaborating with the other municipalities on a gathering, interactive event or exhibit on this subject.



5. Hire an Indigenous Community Liaison to lead engagement with local First Nations and the urban Indigenous community in Hamilton. Recommended projects and initiatives within their portfolio include:

- A) Support the Indigenous Relations Team with relationship-building initiatives that continue to grow connections between the City and the Indigenous communities in and around Hamilton.
 - B) Identify and implement ways to make City spaces and buildings welcoming and safe for Indigenous peoples and ensure they can see themselves reflected in the City's spaces and places.
 - C) Work with the Indigenous curatorial team to design and implement a community engagement plan that includes activities that are interactive, intergenerational, and inclusive.
 - D) Lead Indigenous engagement on the building of Indigenous community gathering space(s) in Hamilton.
 - E) Lead Indigenous engagement required to implement the plan to commemorate sites of significant cultural and historical importance to Indigenous peoples.
-



Overview of the Engagement Process

To guide and inform the Historical Review, the Indigenous Landmarks Working Group formed the *Honouring Our Roots Circle of Experts*. A variety of individuals were invited to join the Circle of Experts (CoE) based on their expertise and interest; participants included Elders, historians, artists and leaders from the Indigenous community. The Circle's diverse background represented perspectives from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the Haudenosaunee, Cree/Métis, and urban Indigenous people.

The Circle of Experts included the following participants:

- » Angela DeMontigny
- » Carolyn King
- » Heather George
- » Keith Jamieson
- » Peter Schuler
- » Rick Hill

The CoE met for six virtual circles over a three-month period. Each virtual meeting was 1.5 hours long and included an opening circle, discussion, and a closing circle. At the first meeting, circle agreements were created that set the tone for the way the group would work together.

Circle Agreements

- » **Be present**
- » **Listen with curiosity and compassion**
- » **Honour silence**
- » **Assume good intentions**
- » **Take what you need and offer what you can - be mindful of creating space for all to participate and share**

Draft recommendations were presented to the Working Group and the Circle of Experts in December 2021 and then members of the CoE were invited to participate in additional one-on-one meetings in January 2022 to validate the recommendations and provide additional feedback on the process and the plan for moving forward. Participants were offered an honourarium at the end of the engagement process.



CHALLENGES

As result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all working group meetings were held online. While this format has its benefits, including being able to gather without having to worry about travel in winter, it also has its drawbacks. Our preference would have been to meet in person, in circle, and to workshop the content together over longer sessions.

It is also worth noting, as mentioned at several meetings, the difficulty of doing this kind of work within the colonial structures of a municipality that doesn't yet have deeply established or historically positive relationships with the Indigenous communities in and around the area.

This is a systemic issue that will require sweeping changes to governance that prioritize ongoing relationships that are respectful of Indigenous history, laws, rights, and responsibilities. The recommendations in this report are just a starting place, recognizing that much more work needs to be done to break down barriers to Indigenous participation in municipal activities and to change the way the system works from the inside out.

As consultants, it was difficult for us to get a sense of relationships and community dynamics in such a short period of time. Our recommendations for hiring a team of Indigenous staff to build relationships and to move these portfolios forward allows for long-term engagement and ever-evolving solutions to the challenged outlined.

The idea was brought up many times in the Circle and among the City of Hamilton Staff and consultants about what Hamilton could be. The City just celebrated its 175th anniversary and it has effectively 'grown up', but there is an unease about the values it has embraced at this time. Hamilton is known as the 'Hate Capital of Canada', an uncomfortable and unenviable designation. City staff do not want this designation and are working hard to develop [programming and policies](#)³ that support deeper respect and support of Hamilton's true history.

There are the people who made history and the people who are affected by history. Colonial narratives tend to put people who make history up on pedestals to commemorate their achievements. There is nothing inherently wrong with this approach, but what happens when stories of cultural genocide are substantiated with new evidence? How do our policies and governments come to terms with these changes? How do we move forward - telling stories that are important to us, but bringing forward fuller and more nuanced historical narratives? The City of Hamilton has an opportunity to do just that. While the making and remembering of history is uncomfortable and involved, we owe it to our future generations to restore and present truths from all sides.

3 <https://www.hamilton.ca/city-initiatives/priority-projects/hate-prevention-mitigation-initiative>



What We Heard

MEETING #1: TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 2021

INTRODUCTIONS, CIRCLE AGREEMENTS, ROLES & OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the first meeting was to make introductions and to set the context for the Landmarks and Monuments Review. Peter Schuler from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, was offered tobacco (virtually) and asked to open and close the meeting in prayer. His Opening set the tone of the entire process by reminding everyone around the circle of the importance of putting mother earth and creation ahead of humans in all the work that we do. He suggested that any decisions made by the group consider how the land is impacted and how future generations will benefit from the work we are doing.

City staff presented the action items of the Urban Indigenous Strategy to give context to how the Landmarks Review had come to fruition. First Peoples Group shared a set of circle agreements that they use to guide community conversations. Each member of the Working Group and the Circle of Experts introduced themselves and where they were from and were invited to talk about what brought them to the circle, including their experience living and working in and around the Hamilton area.

FPG presented four questions to frame the work that the group would be doing together over the coming weeks:

1. **Who is the Indigenous community in and around Hamilton?**
2. **How should Indigenous Peoples be engaged about landmarks and monuments in Hamilton?**
3. **What is the process that needs to be followed for Indigenous voices and stories to be told and heard in full?**
4. **What does success look like?**

City staff introduced a spreadsheet of assets that included 289 landmarks, monuments and named spaces to sort and review. They explained that the spreadsheet was a work in progress and would be sorted by tags such as public art, historical plaques, park and street names and commemorated individuals by mid-year 2022. The CoE recommended starting with the most problematic sites on the list of commemorated individuals and asked that the City choose which ones they thought were the most problematic to present at the next meeting.

What we heard in this first meeting was the importance of the process being Indigenous led, that the entire list of assets be reviewed with an Indigenous lens, that time be taken to do a thorough review (but that some actions be taken sooner than later) and that public education throughout the process is crucial to the success of the project.

"We need to keep on trying to teach, even if it takes forever. When we stop trying to teach, it is when they turn off the light, it gets dark and history disappears"

"...we keep doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result. I want this to be a way...to educate as many people as possible to stop that cycle"

"[We are] here to help decolonize and eliminate falsehoods that were told about Indigenous and Canadian history"

"Telling the truth is what makes me interested in this project"

The meeting ended by talking about processes for sharing resources and communicating in between meetings.



MEETING #2: TUESDAY OCTOBER 13, 2021
DISCUSSION: COMMEMORATED INDIVIDUALS

Upon recommendation from the Circle of Experts, the second meeting focused on commemorating individuals and more specifically the most problematic sites in terms of the lack of Indigenous history or the misrepresentation of true history at the site.

These included:

1. **The Sir John A MacDonald site (Where the statue has been removed, but the stone supporting structure, plinth, plaque and cannons remain).**
2. **The Queen Victoria statue**
3. **The Augustus Jones statue**
4. **Sites commemorating the United Empire Loyalists**

"The biggest problem is that people do not know the real history. Most of these monuments perpetuate false history; how do we incorporate that much needed education into this process?"

"Most of the information out there is there to hide the real truth. We need to use words like genocide, national crimes... so that people truly understand the real history"

High-level ideas that came out of this discussion of the most problematic sites include:

- » seek a system-wide solution (perhaps virtual) that acknowledges the missing Indigenous history at every site
- » create an interactive map of all the sites that educates the public on what they are and how they are related, but also acknowledges that what is presented isn't the whole story and layers missing Indigenous voices onto the stories already told
- » work with school boards to include and educate youth
- » create a Hamilton Indigenous History toolkit that could be shared
- » walking tours of any of these sites need to include Indigenous history / perspective
- » always be aware of the messages we give by using certain language (for example, statues are an "it" not a "he or she")
- » Any new signage or updating of plaques should be displayed also in Indigenous languages

"It will be important to have these plaques and monuments have the right language and the right historical narrative where the role of Indigenous peoples and communities are highlighted"



The Circle of Experts recommend that the following actions be taken at each of the highest priority sites that were discussed at this meeting:

Former site of Sir John A MacDonald Statue

- » do not relocate / reinstall the statue*
- » remove remaining components of the SJAM statue, including the pedestal and cannons to be able to create space for reimagination of the site
- » have ceremony to cleanse the site
- » host a public design charette involving both Indigenous and non-Indigenous members of public to re-vision how the space could be used

Augustus Jones Statue

- » Even though this is a newer site compared to the others, and the Indigenous story is hinted at subtly, the narrative on the plaque is highly problematic and one sided
- » Suggestions to add to the narrative and possibly to the installation itself to honour the true history of Indigenous involvement in Jones' successes and family story

Queen Victoria Statue

- » remove mention of Queen Victoria having a mothering role over Canada and Indigenous peoples and/or explain clearly why this is problematic and how the narrative affected (and continues to affect) Indigenous peoples

United Empire Loyalists

- » The Indigenous history of this time period needs to be told.
- » The narrative of "the Loyalists came to Canada" is false. Canada was not yet a country.

*While Sir John A Macdonald is the "hot-button" topic in Hamilton because of the way the statue was removed, it is important not to let this discussion over-shadow all the other important work that needs to be done. While relocation or reinterpretation of the Sir John A Macdonald site might have been a possibility had the statue been removed intentionally by the City, reinstallation of the statue now would be a step in the wrong direction. Clearing the site (placing all remaining components in storage indefinitely), would allow for future community engagement to happen in a good way.

Again, during the closing circle, it was noted that to create systemic change when it comes to Indigenous relations, it is imperative not just to focus on correcting commemorations at pre-existing landmarks and monuments but to widen the scope and to deepen perspective, making the land and the interconnection of all things more of a priority than elevating over the accomplishments of humans.

The CoE experts did not want statues or monuments of Indigenous warriors or elders added to the City catalogue.

The group shared at length about how Indigenous people do not create monuments to people, but rather commemorate and connect to nature:

"We've got monuments to corn, beans and squash in our own backyard"



MEETING #3: TUESDAY OCTOBER 26, 2021
DISCUSSION: WHAT IS NEEDED FOR A MEANINGFUL, CULTURALLY SAFE
ENGAGEMENT PROCESS IN 2022?

The third meeting started off with the introduction of Keith Jamieson, a new member to the Circle of Experts. City staff then took time to review the landmarks and monuments list, which had since been updated with more detail added by the Heritage Resource Management team. Staff explained the organization of the spreadsheet and the CoE was invited to access the spreadsheet on the shared drive and to review the monuments and landmarks on the list.

FPG then presented a "What We Are Hearing" report to sum up ideas and topics that came from the first two meetings.

Themes included:

- » **Process**
- » **Importance of historical accuracy**
- » **Language; and**
- » **Prioritizing the assets list**

Members of the Circle requested that the *theme of land and interconnectedness* be added to the list as it should come first as a priority and be woven through all themes and report recommendations.

Comments and ideas that came from the group discussion included:

- » Prioritize discussion about who was here and what was taking place up to 11,000 years before the City of Hamilton was established.
- » Use Wampum belt teachings, Dish with One Spoon and original treaties to teach about the true history of the area
- » Restore this history so that everyone understands how they came to be here, whether they are Indigenous or not
- » Be intentional about creating educational curriculum / materials / presentations to Hamilton schools
- » Prioritize the environment
- » Create a timeline that includes our history and the fact that we are still here and thriving
- » "Housing as monuments": see www.aboriginalmothercentre.ca as an example

"How is the Great Law acknowledged? This Great Law really represents the traditional way of living. As long as our ways of doing things are not included, recognized and respected, we won't be able to go anywhere. How do we make that happen? How do we get the same respect as any other church or religion in this country?"

"Monuments are a one-time action. We are looking to the City for long term commitment to create commemorations and monuments which are environmentally sustainable, decolonized, unapologetically reclaiming Indigenous knowledge and historically accurate"



MEETING #4: TUESDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2021

DISCUSSION: WHO TO INVOLVE IN CONSULTATION AND HOW?

The fourth circle centred around the question of how to move forward in 2022, especially concerning inviting (or responding to invitations from) the right people to discuss and make decisions about monuments and landmarks, as well as how to create meaningful consultation processes that are culturally safe for all involved.

Discussion: What is needed for a meaningful, culturally safe engagement process in 2022?

- » Healthy conversation where you are not afraid to discuss difficult topics, in a friendly manner, and you can come to consensus
- » Spaces and conversations that are calm and constructive
- » Look at what has already been done, past surveys and initiatives and the hundreds of letters sent in to support the taking down of the SJAM statue before consulting again
- » “No need to reinvent the canoe” If we look at the other cities and what they have done, we can base our processes and initiatives on theirs to create new spaces within Hamilton.
- » Engage Indigenous youth in the process moving forward as this is a major teaching opportunity and a way to get them involved in the process of decolonizing the future
- » Create safe and welcoming spaces for Indigenous community for gatherings such as Urban Pow Wow, ceremony, education...
- » Prioritize land for ceremony
- » Support must be provided for people to work through the anger and the hurt, especially in spaces where they are being asked to speak about their trauma
- » Prioritize Indigenous art projects and murals
- » Prioritize educating the public about the true history of Canada.

“When people begin to see the true history of Canada and what was continuously done here, people want to act. Let’s give them the tools to do so...”

Discussion: Who to involve in consultation and how?

FPG presented a chart of Indigenous groups, organizations, departments, and individual contacts in Hamilton and the CoE agreed that everyone should be invited to participate in engagement efforts when it comes to altering / revisioning spaces to include Indigenous voices and/or when envisioning new Indigenous spaces or commemorations. They focused their discussion on the “how”, sharing ideas for what future community engagement and what future projects could entail.

- » Involve the educational institutions, especially those with Indigenous departments and programs. There are so many talented Indigenous academics in Hamilton.
- » Don’t expect Indigenous community to commemorate individuals. Talk to key organizations about what Indigenous people in Hamilton need and want.
- » Use the expertise of this group to start with priority landmarks and then the process for next steps will follow.
- » Start by choosing one priority site and do a design charrette on that one location. Invite representatives from all of Indigenous organizations to bring in multiple perspectives and languages.
- » Think about how technology / virtual space can be used, not just because of Covid but because it is the new reality and can connect people from many different places at once.
- » Explore options for augmented reality (not just a 2D map). A virtual reality journey through time.



MEETING #5: TUESDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2021
DISCUSSION: IDEAS FOR ADDRESSING THE MOST PROBLEMATIC SITES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUTURE SITES FOR INDIGENOUS COMMEMORATIONS AND/OR GATHERING SPACES

At the fifth meeting, City Staff started off by presenting two projects already in progress that could be helpful tools to support the recommendations that will come out of this process.

The first was an interactive GIS map of Hamilton and surrounding area that had the majority of the landmarks and monuments listed in the assets spreadsheet shared with the group in meetings 1 and 3. The group was asked to imagine the possibilities of turning the map into a “Story Map” or virtual space to tell multiple narratives of each site. It could also be used to map areas of the city that are traditionally significant to Indigenous communities.

The second project was the Hamilton Civic Museums’ new website that will soon be launched and will be open to public submissions to enhance the timeline. City staff will give priority access to this group so that the Indigenous history is well represented.

Discussion on the potential of these virtual mapping and timeline projects was rich and respectful, with circle members agreeing that the virtual tools and projects are a great way to tell multiple narratives at once. The discussion did also cover the topic of monument removal, which, similar to public discussion, resulted in a wide variety of opinions and ideas.

Discussion on “Mapping Change”:

- » The group liked the idea of virtual spaces to show the big picture and to add multiple voices to multiple sites and landmarks

- » It’s important to keep some of the problematic monuments up while correcting falsehoods and changing the narrative where needed
- » Take down the statues and replace them with gardens and trees, especially memorial gardens for Indigenous children
- » The virtual space allows us to engage in a broad discussion with multiple communities
- » Consider how to hold space for the education of people who stopped learning about history in grade 10
- » City has an opportunity through these virtual tools and in person at the sites to address the problematic nature of one-sided history and an invitation for this to be a regional conversation
- » This is so much more than just a project. Large-scale systemic change needs to happen.
- » Ryerson needs to be added to “top 5” most problematic sites. The recreation centre named after him should get a new name.⁴

“They do represent something, just not what they are made out to represent”

“We need to be very careful not to destroy something that has tremendous educational potential”

“When you realize that education is made to build patriotism, the real history often gets lost”

“We need to talk more about the natural history and the spirit of the land. We must talk about the rocks, the animals, the rivers... we need to celebrate what’s under the pavement”

“One of the hardest things to manage here is that there is no One Truth. Even within the Indigenous community”

⁴ At the time of the writing of this report, a process has already started for renaming the Ryerson Community Centre



The second presentation and discussion were around the idea from previous meetings about creating an Indigenous gathering space (or spaces) in Hamilton. FPG presented visuals of other spaces that were Indigenous-led and/or Indigenous-designed spaces for community to gather and asked the group to imagine if a gathering space were to be built in Hamilton, are there areas that have strong cultural or spiritual significance that should be considered?

- » Significant sites / gathering places would have always been where the natural resources were richest - waters and forests
- » This is where research would need to be done. Where are the old growth forests?
- » Have ceremony for the trees that have survived
- » What can we do to repair and revive land that is under pavement?
- » Hamilton has a responsibility to honour and protect its natural sites
- » Government needs to commit to protecting water, land and trees
- » Consider sites where there are already Indigenous art projects underway: 'Eagles Among Us' in Battlefield Park and 'All Our Relations' at West Harbour James Street Plaza

**MEETING #6:
 TUESDAY DECEMBER 4, 2021
 DISCUSSION: RECOMMENDATIONS
 REVIEW**

In the final Circle of Experts gathering of 2021, FPG presented draft report recommendations that were based on the discussions of the last five meetings.

Comments and ideas from Circle of Experts:

- » The recommendations are good; when considering land though, also consider the development and real estate industries
- » Bring focus back to "What is Hamilton's Indigenous story? What happened here? Who were the people?"

- » Prioritize the hiring of an Indigenous historian / more Indigenous staff at City of Hamilton
- » Develop a website and tangible virtual tools that link to maps and QR codes on the ground
- » Signs and plaques at minimum for sites of Indigenous historical significance
- » Don't forget about contemporary Indigenous stories as well
- » Public art process should be stronger and more welcoming/accessible to Indigenous artists.

"The governments aren't going to change anything because there is nobody calling for it. You must have the people change things, and the only way to do that is to educate them. We have been brainwashed to ignore the rest of creation. Education is key."

**ONE-ON-ONE MEETINGS: JANUARY &
 FEBRUARY 2022
 VALIDATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Once recommendations were drafted, FPG invited each member of the Circle of Experts to provide additional feedback on the engagement process and the draft recommendations. We also had conversations with staff to gain a better understanding of how these recommendations could be implemented.

The Honouring Our Roots framework and process for moving forward that follows is a culmination of what was heard at the meetings with the Circle of Experts. We hope that they see their voices in the recommendations below, and that the City continues the forward momentum brought forth by this engagement work.



Honouring Our Roots Framework and Process for Moving Forward





THIS IS NOT A LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT⁵

by Heather George

This is not a land acknowledgment.

What is there to acknowledge
What once was ours to care for is now yours to benefit from
Corporations become the colonizers through resource extraction
Retirement funds are invested in resource extraction
We are taught wealth is in money
It's a cycle and we have become complacent.

This is not a land acknowledgement.

But we've consulted you say
How can you consult the coming faces?
How can you consult the waters?
How can you consult the plants, animals, birds?
Have you spoken to the winds?
Did you call out to the sun, moons and stars?
Did you sit in silence with all beings?

This is not a land acknowledgment.

This is an acknowledgement of systemic racism
This is an acknowledgement of privilege built on colonization
This is an acknowledgement of a broken relationship
This is a call to rebuild your relationship to the Earth Mother
This is a reminder of the coming faces.

This is not a land acknowledgment.

This is an acknowledgment of the work that needs to be done.

⁵ George, Heather. Published in Collections: A journal for Museum and Archives Professionals 2022, Vol. 18 (1) 3-4.
Used with permission of the author.



Core Themes

In the Fall of 2021, the *Honouring Our Roots Circle of Experts* (CoE) was formed as part of the Indigenous Landmarks and Monuments Working Group (WG) to review a list of City owned landmarks, spaces, monuments, and markers. They were asked to identify sites that are high priority to the Indigenous community for potential removal or recontextualization. While high priority sites were discussed, and many ideas were shared for moving forward in a good way, concerns and comments were raised at every meeting that speak to the systemic transformation that needs to occur to foster right relations with Indigenous peoples and with the land that the municipality occupies. These thoughts and ideas are summarized below as core themes of the Honouring Our Roots Framework.

1. CONNECTION TO LAND

In the opening and closing prayers at each of the CoE meetings, Peter Schuler grounded the group in traditional teachings, reminding us of the importance of the “morals and values that kept us alive for thousands of years”. In his prayers, he recognized the interconnectedness of all the elements, the land, animals, and plant life on earth, only mentioning humans at the very end. He warned against the irreparable harm that has been done to the earth since people forgot their natural place in the circle.

This distinct way of framing human responsibilities puts the land and consideration for its wellbeing ahead of the human desire for more accumulation wealth at the expense of health of the earth and all its inhabitants.

“What needs to happen before we realize that putting a man on a stick isn’t the way to learn about history”

In discussing the reasons why monuments and commemorations exist in the first place, one participant noted that they often merely serve political functions to reinforce the narratives of the dominant culture. The functions and intentions of monuments, and especially statues of commemorated individuals should be examined and exposed as the work to recontextualize these sites moves forward.

Members of the CoE reiterated and asked to be heard when speaking about the importance of not only considering but centering the land and its gifts in all municipal decisions. This holistic approach requires authenticity, humility, and great respect.

Ideas that emphasize that connection to land included the re-naturalization of sites where statues or monuments once stood, creating community gardens, growing traditional medicines, expanding, and taking care of the tree canopy, connecting Indigenous teachings to trails and other natural attractions in the area. One participant suggested that a “Nature as Monuments” strategy be created to house some of this important work.

Finally, this theme invokes the Haudenosaunee philosophy of the Seventh Generations Principle which reminds us to think about the world our descendants will inherit--that the decisions we make today should lead to a sustainable world for at least the next seven generations to come.

“History is not about buildings and monuments, it’s about the destruction of Turtle Island”



2. RELATIONSHIPS AND RECIPROCITY

Authentic long-term relationships built on respect and reciprocity are essential for this cultural heritage work to move forward in a good way. Engagement should demonstrate deep care for all who are invited to the table and must be designed to ensure past and existing wrongs are not perpetuated or reproduced. Where possible, community engagement should support capacity development, with Indigenous partners co-designing and taking on leadership roles within the engagement work.

In 2021, the University of Manitoba published a [framework for Indigenous community engagement](#) that offers seven principles for building healthy relationships with Indigenous communities that includes cultural literacy and self-reflection, relationship and reciprocity, following nation- and community-specific protocols and puts emphasis on the importance of humility and mutually-beneficial collaboration.

The City of Hamilton is encouraged to follow these same principals when working with Indigenous Nations and urban communities.

Hamilton's Urban Indigenous Strategy and UIS Implementation Plan also outlines these values, not just in community engagement, but in co-creating a City where Indigenous peoples feel respected and see their culture reflected in physical spaces and through services provided by the City.

Working to implement the Urban Indigenous Strategy and the recommendations outlined in this report will require connection and relationship with the Hamilton Indigenous community. Acknowledging again the challenge of doing this work within a colonial system, movement forward will require a whole new way of engagement and collaboration. We recognize that this can be paralyzing for staff who are not used to engaging in this way. We suggest that City staff use the following questions to guide their interaction.

Table 1: Guiding Questions to Support Indigenous Relationship-Building in Hamilton

Level	Principle	Question	How?
Individual	Trauma-informed workplace: It is not the responsibility of Indigenous people to continuously educate settlers about history, both traumatizing or not.	Am I ready to work with Indigenous people? Has this project meaningfully engaged the people who will be most affected by the initiative?	Self-awareness check-in: How have I benefited from colonialism? Do I have the basic information to engage in this topic? If not, where can I access this learning? What cultural competency training is available to me through work?
Workplace/ Department	Nothing about us, without us	Have I made an effort to learn about Indigenous perspectives [with regards to this project] ahead of time? Does this work connect with the Urban Indigenous Strategy? If not, are there any strategic points of connection?	Map out the project and who will be most affected: Urban Indigenous, treaty territory representatives, Indigenous youth, etc. Think about what 'meaningfully engaging' means in this context. Reach out to contacts.
Community	"100 cups of tea": Indigenous connections are based on relationships built over time.	Am I building a relationship or checking a box?	-Map out the Indigenous people already in my network. How can I grow this in an authentic way? -Attend Indigenous community events as a member of the public. Ask how you can be a helper.



3. CULTURAL HUMILITY

Cultural humility requires taking the time for critical self-reflection and for listening to and learning from others. Cultural awareness and cultural safety training are crucial to increase City staff and Council's knowledge of Indigenous cultures, traditions, and worldviews. Educational opportunities, learning events, and training programs are all initiatives that should be implemented through the Urban Indigenous Strategy.

Following the lead of municipalities such as Toronto and Saskatoon, cultural competency training should be mandatory across the corporation and adopted as part of the onboarding process for all new staff. City Council and upper management should receive custom in-person experiential training at least once in each new election term.

When the Circle of Experts talked about ways to create spaces in Hamilton for Indigenous voices to be heard, they cautioned against taking a pan-Indigenous approach, instead distinguishing between First Nations, Métis, and Inuit urban experiences and the distinctions between different First Nations from the area.

Having cultural humility also means taking a strengths-based approach to working with community, recognizing Indigenous peoples as experts of their own experiences. Instead of a partnership where Indigenous people are seen as "stakeholders" who feed into a consultation process, the City should partner in a way where Indigenous peoples can take the lead, and the City supports the vision and goals of the community or communities.



Recommendations for moving forward

1. Continue to foster long-term relationships with local First Nations and urban Indigenous communities (organizations, educational institutions, artists, and individuals) that are based on mutual trust and respect.

Meaningful engagement and relationship building will take time and focus but is necessary for positive outcomes. **A further engagement plan is recommended** as each Indigenous community is different and requires a deeper synergy of cultural understanding for relationships of mutual benefits.

The Urban Indigenous Strategy outlined several actions for the City of Hamilton to take including to “Improve meaningful consultation with urban Indigenous residents and First Nations communities on municipal projects, plans and approvals”. We know that both Council and City staff are aware of the gravity and importance of this task, and we acknowledge that it is not easy work. To improve in this area, we recommend a coordinated approach by all departments to commit to making Indigenous Relations a top priority.

- » Use Table 1: Guiding Questions to Support Indigenous Relationship-Building in Hamilton in all project plans and should be made available to all City employees and elected officials when setting out to work with Indigenous communities or individuals.
- » A guiding resource that we can recommend to learn about how to effectively engage Indigenous community is [Working in good ways: a framework and resources](#), published by the University of Manitoba.
- » The Federation of Canadian Municipalities [Stronger Together Toolkit](#) is another helpful resource that speaks directly to community economic development and could help bridge relationships on specific projects.

- » [Working Effectively with Indigenous Peoples](#) by Bob Joseph & Cynthia F. Joseph should be required reading for staff.
- » [Engaging and Empowering Aboriginal Youth](#) is a toolkit for service providers that outlines ways to involve and elevate Indigenous youth voices.

2. Create and action a communications plan that includes interpretive signage at the high priority sites [Sir John A Macdonald monument site, Queen Victoria monument, Augustus Jones monument, and United Empire Loyalist monuments] that indicates that the City is aware that these sites are problematic and educates the public about the need for further consultation and action.

This action can be taken immediately and doesn't require further consultation or to wait for a more comprehensive workplan to be designed. Installing signage at the high-priority sites that were reviewed by the CoE demonstrates *respect and humility*⁶ on the part of the City towards Indigenous communities and members of the public who are calling for more diverse narratives to be told through commemoration and interpretation. The signage should indicate that the City is aware that certain monuments, commemorations and historical interpretations are problematic and that the City is aware, and starting the process of engaging with Indigenous communities to ensure that the work moves forward in a good way.

3. Prioritize the building of Indigenous community gathering spaces, both indoors and outdoors.

In the Urban Indigenous Strategy report, Action 14 calls for the establishment of “an Indigenous Cultural Centre that offers interpretive programming, provides a gathering space for Indigenous peoples to practice their ceremonies and hold cultural events”. We are reinforcing

6 Respect and Humility are two of the Seven Grandfather teachings. See APPENDIX B for details.



this action as a recommendation here. These conversations about monuments and commemorations could not be held without hearing about the need for Indigenous peoples to feel a sense of belonging on their own land. Whether talking about Indigenous historical places that should be honoured, or new opportunities for Indigenous public art or commemorative space, the question of whether community could also use that space to gather and do ceremony was always top of mind. Several ideas for both indoor and outdoor gathering spaces were discussed, including at the site of the All Our Relations public art piece; at Battlefield Park; or anywhere along the lake.

For more information on the importance of urban Indigenous spaces, please see [APPENDIX C](#).

4. Hire an Indigenous curatorial team composed of a Project Manager and a Curator. These positions would be housed in the Heritage Resource Management Section of the Tourism and Culture division and would be part of a cross-departmental work group that works closely with the Indigenous Relations Team, the Placemaking Public Art and Projects section, and Landscape Architectural Services. Recommended projects and initiatives within their portfolio include:

A Participate in the development of the city-wide Interpretive Master Plan to ensure that Indigenous perspectives are embedded and that there is a plan for sites of significant Indigenous cultural and historical importance to be commemorated.

Noting existing frameworks and best practices such as [Parks Canada's Framework for History and Commemoration](#)⁷, a city-wide Interpretive Master Plan needs to be developed from a place of integrity and inclusion, ensuring the Indigenous histories and perspectives are central to all work going forward. This links to the deliverable in the

UIS Implementation plan to “Incorporate more Indigenous stories and voices into the City of Hamilton’s culture and heritage plans”.

While an extensive list of landmarks, spaces, monuments, and markers was reviewed by the CoE during this process, the next step is to gather information from many different sources about the Indigenous history of the area. This could include published histories that already exist through local First Nations and at educational institutions but could also be an opportunity for a wide-scale storytelling project that invites the Indigenous community to crowd-source the history of the area from political, cultural, social, and environmental perspectives. This project has the potential to lend itself to creative community engagement opportunities and long-term virtual projects that tell the true history of Hamilton from many perspectives. It could also serve to identify sites of significant cultural and historical importance to Indigenous peoples and/or to aid the decision-making process for the location of an Indigenous community gathering space.

Within this work, there are several war monuments and interpretive sites in Hamilton that teach Canadian and British military history but don’t speak to Indigenous involvement in or contributions to war efforts or the way that these conflicts would have affected First Nations and Métis communities. This important piece of the story could be added by reinterpreting plaques and signage or by adding new interpretive components to existing memorials. There is also great potential for Battlefield Park to become a gathering space for Indigenous community to gather and host events.

Lastly, this recommendation would lead to the fulfillment of the UIS action to “Ensure that Indigenous stories and local Indigenous history are included in official archives across Hamilton”.

⁷ <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/plan/cadre-framework>



B) Strengthen the presence of Indigenous Heritage on the [Hamilton Civic Museums website](#) by expanding the timeline to include Indigenous heritage and indicate that Indigenous Peoples inhabited the area for thousands of years before the City's founding.

There is great potential for adding and expanding the presence of Indigenous history and current realities on the Hamilton Civic Museums website. This could include but is not limited to the expansion of the timeline of the Hamilton 175 website to include historical context of the land and people who lived in the area prior to Hamilton becoming a city; the development of an interactive digital map-based interpretation of Indigenous names, places, history, and stories; or other visual project connected to the Indigenous History audit to be completed by the Indigenous curatorial team.

C) Review and recommend changes to applicable policies to ensure that placemaking and public art processes are welcoming, accessible, and inclusive of Indigenous history and current realities.

While lots of work has already taken place to foster positive relationships between Indigenous artists and the City, this recommendation will ensure that opportunities for public art by Indigenous artists are embedded in the next Public Art Master plan. This recommendation also links to the deliverable with the UIS Implementation Plan to "Identify or create ways to support Indigenous artists" and will hopefully lead to the intention to "Commission public art in a prominent location that honours mutual respect and the spirit of reconciliation".

D) Work with the Indigenous Relations Team to create a public education campaign to communicate why elevating Indigenous voices and histories is important, and what the process will be for Hamilton to take on this work.

While the Indigenous Community Liaison (see recommendation #6) is engaging with the Indigenous community on how to move forward in a good way on issues placemaking and interpretation, the Indigenous curatorial team will need a plan to engage the public in an education campaign to explain why amplifying Indigenous voices on these topics is so important. The CoE came up with many ideas to engage the public including learning circles, Indigenous walking tours, cross-cultural sharing and a [Monument Lab](#)-type event that brings together diverse voices.

Education and awareness should start internally with the staff team, and all departments should be encouraged to participate in these educational opportunities.

E) Advance Indigenous place-making practices in urban centres by collaborating with the City of Toronto (and/or other municipalities) on a gathering, interactive event or exhibit on this subject.

Monuments and commemorations around the world are being scrutinized to identify "problematic" historical figures who contributed to discrimination and oppression, often through colonial practices. Many municipalities in Canada are in the process of reviewing their inventory of city-owned public art, monuments, and the origins of the meanings behind street, park and building names. The City of Toronto is currently undergoing a process to rename a major roadway and are taking advantage of the opportunity to do a wider review of their inventory of assets and commemorations. Collaboration with the City of Toronto and/or other municipalities is recommended with many exciting opportunities for events or exhibits that are centred around Indigenous participation and the Indigenous experience of places and spaces.



5. Hire an Indigenous Community Liaison to lead engagement with local First Nations and the urban Indigenous community in Hamilton. This position would be housed in the Indigenous Relations Team of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department and would work closely with other sections, especially the Heritage Resource Management curatorial team. Recommended projects and initiatives within their portfolio include:

- A) Support the Indigenous Relations Team with relationship-building initiatives that continue to grow connections between the City and the Indigenous communities in and around Hamilton.**
- B) Identify and implement ways to make City spaces and buildings welcoming and safe for Indigenous peoples and ensure they can see themselves reflected in the City's spaces and places.**
- C) Work with the Indigenous curatorial team to design and implement a community engagement plan that includes activities that are interactive, intergenerational, and inclusive.**
- D) Lead Indigenous engagement on the building of Indigenous community gathering space(s) in Hamilton.**
- E) Lead Indigenous engagement required to implement the plan to commemorate sites of significant cultural and historical importance to Indigenous peoples.**

The Indigenous Community Liaison position will be the main point of contact for First Nations and the urban Indigenous community to engage in topics of heritage, culture, and movement forward on the issues listed throughout this report. The posting for this job should prioritize Indigenous applicants and the position itself should be partnered with a

“municipal champion” who can help the successful candidate navigate the establishment of this new role within the bureaucratic system it resides in.

A significant portion of the first year of this new role will be needed to get to know community dynamics both between the City and local First Nations, but also between urban Indigenous organizations, programs, projects, educational institutions, artists, Elders and youth. Time should be spent to establish relationships before an invitation goes out to partner or engage on a specific initiative. This can be accomplished by hosting small community gatherings, meeting with individuals one-on-one, and attending as many community-based events as possible. This could involve putting in volunteer hours as a helper or attending ceremonies, and these extra activities should be recognized and compensated appropriately by the City. The position will require flexibility that may not be available to other employees.

Once relationships are established and moving in a positive direction, a community engagement strategy can be implemented that invites Indigenous residents and visitors to participate in the retelling of history and revisioning of monuments and Indigenous place making from their unique perspectives. The CoE discussed many creative ideas for engagement including but not limited to design charettes, community mapping, PhotoVoice projects and special events.

These various engagement activities should incorporate Indigenous methodologies for hosting engagements and conversations – honouring local protocols, centering Indigenous wisdom, and using trauma informed design and facilitations, while recognizing that the Indigenous population in Hamilton is also very diverse.

This new position, along with the hiring of an Indigenous curator and Project Manager to lead the research and development of final deliverables are vital for all these recommendations to move forward in a good way.



Teachings and frameworks to apply to this work

To answer the question *why* this work is important, we need look no further than the Urban Indigenous Strategy and Urban Indigenous Strategy Implementation Play, where need for action is clearly laid out and answered by multiple Indigenous contributors. These documents show that significant foundations for this work have already been established in the community and at the City of Hamilton. The *how* and *what* are now the outstanding pieces that have been articulated in the recommendations and core themes above.

The UIS is guided by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls for Justice. It lays out a clear pathway for the City of Hamilton to engage with Indigenous Urban peoples. Further refinement and prioritization were made in the UIS Implementation Plan (2021) with priority areas further identified and the appropriate working groups detailed and assigned.

The Civic Museum Strategy which was adopted by City Council in November 2021 further supports these areas. The Strategy demonstrates how museums are changing and are being called to change their place in public life and places and better represent the histories of all peoples and offer curation, story-telling, and spaces beyond their traditional role. There are several sites which are highlighted below which could connect and intersect with the Urban Indigenous Strategy for a deeper connection to Hamilton's land, archaeology and history.

Alignment between the recommendations in this framework that the internal documents that already exist can be found in the chart in [APPENDIX A](#).

Beyond these high-level Indigenous frameworks and internal guiding documents that already exist, we have referenced other frameworks and resources within this report, including the [Parks Canada Framework for History and Commemoration](#) which outlines the following key practices that should also be applied to this work:

1. **Craft big stories**
2. **Address conflict and controversy**
3. **Seek opportunities for Indigenous peoples to share and communicate their history, on their own terms**
4. **Realize that history is written from a worldview**
5. **Share authority**
6. **Emphasize a full range of voices, perspectives, and experiences**
7. **Acknowledge that humans have touched all heritage places, including parks and natural areas**
8. **Recognize that power dynamic affect understandings of heritage places**
9. **Explore the spectrum of powerful memories and meaning attached to heritage places**
10. **Appreciate that interpretations of the past are constantly evolving**



Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we encourage staff and City Council to seek out traditional Indigenous teachings to truly understand the root of what is needed to move forward with this work. Teachings that could be used as frameworks for designing next steps include the [Seven Grandfathers Teaching](#), the [Seven Generations Principal](#), the [Two-Row Wampum](#) and [Dish with One Spoon Treaty](#) [see APPENDIX B].

These teachings call upon current policymakers to speak the truth and to uphold their responsibilities as treaty peoples and good neighbours. The truth is now undisputable through the TRC findings, the MMIW reports and the rediscovery of undocumented remains of thousands of children at residential school sites since May 2021. This truth is unpleasant for settlers. It is traumatizing for Indigenous peoples who are reliving these painful experiences. The question remains as to how this new truth will find its way into historical narratives in the places where history was made.

Applying the Seven Generations Principle to this work will help to prioritize the health of the land we live on and the earth we share as we think history that we are currently living and making and the world we are leaving for our descendants. There is a responsibility of current decision-makers and public servants to develop a better relationship with Indigenous peoples, respect treaty rights and ensure that in seven generations, the relationship between Indigenous peoples and all Canadians is prosperous and respectful. What better gift to its people could be a dedicated, thoughtful rethinking of the future.



APPENDIX A

ALIGNMENT AROUND RECOMMENDATIONS: CIRCLE OF EXPERTS, URBAN INDIGENOUS STRATEGY, AND CIVIC MUSEUM STRATEGY

Circle of Experts	UIS and UIS Implementation Plan	Civic Museum Strategy
<p>2. Remove all remaining components of the Sir John A MacDonald statue from their current location in Gore Park.</p> <p>3. Create and action a communications plan that includes interpretive signage at the high priority sites that indicates that the city is aware that these sites are problematic and educates the public about the need for further consultation and action.</p>	<p>18 Ensure that Indigenous stories and local Indigenous history are included in official archives across Hamilton.</p>	<p>"Battlefield Park and the 1876 Gage house occupy land traditionally used by Indigenous peoples. "has a declared connection to Indigenous peoples and strong public art piece done by an Indigenous artist.</p>
<p>5. Hire an Indigenous curatorial team composed of a Project Manager and a Curator. Recommended projects and initiatives within their portfolio include:</p> <p>A) Participate in the development of the city-wide Interpretive Master Plan to ensure that Indigenous perspectives are embedded and that there is a plan for sites of significant Indigenous cultural and historical importance to be commemorated.</p> <p>B) Strengthen the presence of Indigenous Heritage on the Hamilton Civic Museums website by expanding the timeline to include Indigenous heritage.</p> <p>C) Review and recommend changes to applicable policies to ensure that placemaking and public art processes are welcoming, accessible, and inclusive of Indigenous history and current realities.</p> <p>D) Work with the Indigenous Relations Team to create a public education campaign to communicate why elevating Indigenous voices and histories is important, and what the process will be for Hamilton to take on this work.</p> <p>E) Advance Indigenous place-making practices in urban centres by collaborating with the other municipalities on a gathering, interactive event or exhibit on this subject.</p>	<p>-Indigenous cultures and traditions need to be respected and seen as more than a performance.</p> <p>-Indigenous stories and languages need to be seen as part of Hamilton's heritage.</p> <p>From UISIP:</p> <p>#11: Incorporate more Indigenous stories and voices into the City of Hamilton's culture and heritage plans.</p> <p>#12: Use markers and signs to restore Indigenous names and identify significant Indigenous landmarks in Hamilton. This could include street names, trails, and parks.</p> <p>#18: Ensure that Indigenous stories and local Indigenous history are included in official archives across Hamilton.</p> <p>#19: Continue to improve how the City works with First Nations when conducting archaeology. This will include identifying how to educate the public on the rich archaeological history in Hamilton.</p> <p>Use markers and signs to restore Indigenous names and identify significant Indigenous landmarks in Hamilton. This could include street names, trails and parks.</p> <p>Continue to improve how the City works with First Nations when conducting archaeology. This will include identifying how to educate the public on the rich archaeological history in Hamilton.</p>	<p>Hamilton Museum Vision: "The Hamilton Civic Museums will become museums of, by and for the city rather than just museums which are operated by the City. To do this they will preserve and present the many untold stories of Hamilton and Hamiltonians in a sustainable, accessible, inclusive and engaging manner.</p> <p>The city itself, including its peoples, streetscapes, parks, theatres, neighborhoods, buildings and public spaces, will be treated as a museum that embodies its collective history. The Hamilton Civic Museums will become equal parts physical, mobile and virtual"</p>



Circle of Experts	UIS and UIS Implementation Plan	Civic Museum Strategy
<p>1. Continue to foster long-term relationships with local First Nations and urban Indigenous communities that are based on mutual trust and respect.</p> <p>4. Prioritize the building of Indigenous community gathering spaces, both indoors and outdoors.</p> <p>6. Hire an Indigenous Community Liaison to lead engagement with local First Nations and the urban Indigenous community in Hamilton. Recommended projects and initiatives within their portfolio include:</p> <p>A) Support the Indigenous Relations Team with relationship-building initiatives that continue to grow connections between the City and the Indigenous communities in and around Hamilton.</p> <p>B) Identify and implement ways to make City spaces and buildings welcoming and safe for Indigenous peoples and ensure they can see themselves reflected in the City's spaces and places.</p> <p>C) Work with the Indigenous curatorial team to design and implement a community engagement plan that includes activities that are interactive, intergenerational, and inclusive.</p> <p>D) Lead Indigenous engagement on the building of Indigenous community gathering space(s) in Hamilton.</p> <p>E) Lead Indigenous engagement required to implement the plan to commemorate sites of significant cultural and historical importance to Indigenous peoples.</p>	<p>P. 25; Goal 14: Establish an Indigenous Cultural Centre that offers interpretive programming, provides a gathering space for Indigenous peoples to practice their ceremonies and hold cultural events.</p> <p>Urban Indigenous people need a space outdoors for gathering, practicing sacred ceremonies and sharing teachings.</p> <p>-Care for the environment, including the land and water, are important. Respecting Indigenous ecological knowledge will benefit environmental restoration and preservation in Hamilton.</p> <p>- Acknowledgment of traditional Indigenous territory in Hamilton should be practised across the city. The City needs to demonstrate this acknowledgement beyond words.</p> <p>p. 26; Goal 23: Bring together partners to offer public education to all residents about the history of Indigenous people and current topics that will contribute to reconciliation. This public education program should include highlighting local Indigenous resources and museums and promote awareness of national holidays such as National Indigenous Peoples Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.</p>	<p>Public Engagement requested: Stories and Narratives</p> <p>-Broader representation in the stories told</p> <p>-A greater breadth of story subjects</p> <p>-Use stories to make connections between the museums</p> <p>-Strong appreciation for existing stories and narratives</p> <p>Hamilton Children's Museum already has a site that could easily be the home-base for this project: "Home to interactive, hands-on galleries, the museum encourages learning through self-directed play and offers a range of engaging programs and experiences to children and their families."</p>



APPENDIX B

Traditional Teachings

SEVEN GRANDFATHER TEACHINGS

1. Humility – Dbaadendiziwin

Humility is represented by the wolf. For the wolf, life is lived for his pack and the ultimate shame is to be outcast. Humility is to know that you are a sacred part of creation. Live life selflessly and not selfishly. Respect your place and carry your pride with your people and praise the accomplishments of all. Do not become arrogant and self-important. Find balance in within yourself and all living things.

2. Bravery – Aakwa'ode'ewin

Bravery is represented by the bear. The mother bear has the courage and strength to face her fears and challenges while protecting her young. The bear also shows us how to live a balanced life with rest, survival and play. To face life with courage is to know bravery. Find your inner strength to face the difficulties of life and the courage to be yourself. Defend what you believe in and what is right for your community, family, and self. Make positive choices and have conviction in your decisions. Face your fears to allow yourself to live your life.

3. Honesty – Gwekwaadziwin

Honesty is represented by either the raven or the sabe. They both understand who they are how to walk in their life. "Sabe reminds us to be ourselves and not someone we are not. An honest person is said to walk tall like Kitchi-Sabe... Like Kitchi-Sabe, Raven accepts himself and knows how to use his gift. He does not seek the power, speed or beauty of others. He uses what he has been given to survive and thrive. So must you." The Seven Sacred Teachings of White Buffalo Calf Woman, by: David Bouchard & Dr. Joseph Martin. To walk through life with integrity is to know honesty. Be honest with yourself. Recognize and accept who you are. Accept and use the gifts you have been given. Do not seek to deceive yourself or others.

4. Wisdom – Nbwaakaawin

The beaver represents wisdom because he uses his natural gift wisely for his survival. The beaver also alters his environment in an environmentally friendly and sustainable way for the benefit of his family. To cherish knowledge is to know wisdom. Use your inherent gifts wisely and live your life by them. Recognize your differences and those of others in a kind and respectful way. Continuously observe the life of all things around you. Listen with clarity and a sound mind. Respect your own limitations and those of all of your surroundings. Allow yourself to learn and live by your wisdom.



5. Truth – Debwewin

Truth is represented by the turtle as he was here during the creation of Earth and carries the teachings of life on his back. The turtle lives life in a slow and meticulous manner because he understands the importance of both the journey and the destination. Truth is to know all of these things. Apply faith and trust in your teachings. Show honor and sincerity in all that you say and do. Understand your place in this life and apply that understanding in the way that you walk. Be true to yourself and all other things.

6. Respect – Mnaadendimowin

Respect is represented by the buffalo. The buffalo gives every part of his being to sustain the human way of living, not because he is of less value, but because he respects the balance and needs of others. To honor all creation is to have respect. Live honorably in teachings and in your actions towards all things. Do not waste and be mindful of the balance of all living things. Share and give away what you do not need. Treat others the way you would like to be treated. Do not be hurtful to yourself or others.

7. Love – Zaagidwin

The eagle that represents love because he has the strength to carry all the teachings. The eagle has the ability to fly highest and closest to the creator and also has the sight to see all the ways of being from great distances. The Eagle's teaching of love can be found in the core of all teachings, therefore an eagle feather is considered the highest honor and a sacred gift. To know love is to know peace. View your inner-self from the perspective of all teachings. This is to know love and to love yourself truly. Then you will be at peace with yourself, the balance of life, all things and also with the creator.

Source: <https://unitingthreefiresagainstviolence.org/the-7-grandfathers-teachin/> Accessed March 11, 2022



HAUDENOSAUNEE THANKSGIVING ADDRESS GREETINGS TO THE NATURAL WORLD

The People

Today we have gathered and we see that the cycles of life continue. We have been given the duty to live in balance and harmony with each other and all living things. So now, we bring our minds together as one as we give greetings and thanks to each other as people.

Now our minds are one.

The Earth Mother

We are all thankful to our Mother, the Earth, for she gives us all that we need for life. She supports our feet as we walk about upon her. It gives us joy that she continues to care for us as she has from the beginning of time. To our mother, we send greetings and thanks.

Now our minds are one.

The Waters

We give thanks to all the waters of the world for quenching our thirst and providing us with strength. Water is life. We know its power in many forms- waterfalls and rain, mists and streams, rivers and oceans. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to the spirit of Water.

Now our minds are one.

The Fish

We turn our minds to the all the Fish life in the water. They were instructed to cleanse and purify the water. They also give themselves to us as food. We are grateful that we can still find pure water. So, we turn now to the Fish and send our greetings and thanks.

Now our minds are one.

The Plants

Now we turn toward the vast fields of Plant life. As far as the eye can see, the Plants grow, working many wonders. They sustain many life forms. With our minds gathered together, we give thanks and look forward to seeing Plant life for many generations to come.

Now our minds are one.

The Food Plants

With one mind, we turn to honor and thank all the Food Plants we harvest from the garden. Since the beginning of time, the grains, vegetables, beans and berries have helped the people survive. Many other living things draw strength from them too. We gather all the Plant Foods together as one and send them a greeting of thanks.

Now our minds are one.



The Medicine Herbs

Now we turn to all the Medicine herbs of the world. From the beginning they were instructed to take away sickness. They are always waiting and ready to heal us. We are happy there are still among us those special few who remember how to use these plants for healing. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to the Medicines and to the keepers of the Medicines.

Now our minds are one.

The Animals

We gather our minds together to send greetings and thanks to all the Animal life in the world. They have many things to teach us as people. We are honored by them when they give up their lives so we may use their bodies as food for our people. We see them near our homes and in the deep forests. We are glad they are still here and we hope that it will always be so.

Now our minds are one

The Trees

We now turn our thoughts to the Trees. The Earth has many families of Trees who have their own instructions and uses. Some provide us with shelter and shade, others with fruit, beauty and other useful things. Many people of the world use a Tree as a symbol of peace and strength. With one mind, we greet and thank the Tree life.

Now our minds are one.

The Birds

We put our minds together as one and thank all the Birds who move and fly about over our heads. The Creator gave them beautiful songs. Each day they remind us to enjoy and appreciate life. The Eagle was chosen to be their leader. To all the Birds-from the smallest to the largest-we send our joyful greetings and thanks.

Now our minds are one.

The Four Winds

We are all thankful to the powers we know as the Four Winds. We hear their voices in the moving air as they refresh us and purify the air we breathe. They help us to bring the change of seasons. From the four directions they come, bringing us messages and giving us strength. With one mind, we send our greetings and thanks to the Four Winds.

Now our minds are one.



The Thunderers

Now we turn to the west where our grandfathers, the Thunder Beings, live. With lightning and thundering voices, they bring with them the water that renews life. We are thankful that they keep those evil things made by Okwiseres underground. We bring our minds together as one to send greetings and thanks to our Grandfathers, the Thunderers.

Now our minds are one.

The Sun

We now send greetings and thanks to our eldest Brother, the Sun. Each day without fail he travels the sky from east to west, bringing the light of a new day. He is the source of all the fires of life. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to our Brother, the Sun.

Now our minds are one.

Grandmother Moon

We put our minds together to give thanks to our oldest Grandmother, the Moon, who lights the night-time sky. She is the leader of woman all over the world, and she governs the movement of the ocean tides. By her changing face we measure time, and it is the Moon who watches over the arrival of children here on Earth. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to our Grandmother, the Moon.

Now our minds are one.

The Stars

We give thanks to the Stars who are spread across the sky like jewelry. We see them in the night, helping the Moon to light the darkness and bringing dew to the gardens and growing things. When we travel at night, they guide us home. With our minds gathered together as one, we send greetings and thanks to the Stars.

Now our minds are one.

The Enlightened Teachers

We gather our minds to greet and thank the enlightened Teachers who have come to help throughout the ages. When we forget how to live in harmony, they remind us of the way we were instructed to live as people. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to these caring teachers.

Now our minds are one.

The Creator

Now we turn our thoughts to the Creator, or Great Spirit, and send greetings and thanks for all the gifts of Creation. Everything we need to live a good life is here on this Mother Earth. For all the love that is still around us, we gather our minds together as one and send our choicest words of greetings and thanks to the Creator.

Now our minds are one.



Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address

Closing Words

We have now arrived at the place where we end our words. Of all the things we have named, it was not our intention to leave anything out. If something was forgotten, we leave it to each individual to send such greetings and thanks in their own way.

Now our minds are one.

This translation of the Mohawk version of the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address was developed, published in 1993, and provided, courtesy of: Six Nations Indian Museum and the Tracking Project All rights reserved.

Thanksgiving Address: Greetings to the Natural World English version: John Stokes and Kanawahienton (David Benedict, Turtle Clan/Mohawk) Mohawk version: Rokwaho (Dan Thompson, Wolf Clan/Mohawk) Original inspiration: Tekaronianekon (Jake Swamp, Wolf Clan/Mohawk)

Source: https://americanindian.si.edu/environment/pdf/01_02_Thanksgiving_Address.pdf

Accessed March 15, 2022



SEVEN GENERATIONS PRINCIPLE

Spirituality is a central part of the lives of the Haudenosaunee people but parallel to this is a respect for other religions. Unlike many religions which promote the recruitment of new followers, the Haudenosaunee have never tried to force their beliefs on anyone and allow for their own people to follow their own beliefs without criticism. The Great Law of Peace itself was built into its freedom of religion which is respected by all its followers.

Among the nations of the Haudenosaunee is a core value called the Seventh Generation. While the Haudenosaunee encompass traditional values like sharing labour and maintaining a duty to their family, clan and nation and being thankful to nature and the Creator for their sustenance, the Seventh Generation value takes into consideration those who are not yet born but who will inherit the world.

In their decision-making Chiefs consider how present-day decisions will impact their descendants. Nations are taught to respect the world in which they live as they are borrowing it from future generations. The Seventh Generation value is especially important in terms of culture. Keeping cultural practices, languages, and ceremonies alive is essential if those to come are to continue to practice Haudenosaunee culture.

Source: <https://www.haudenosauneeconfederacy.com> Accessed Dec 21, 2021



THE DISH WITH ONE SPOON TREATY- SEWATOKWAT'SHERA'T BELT-GREAT LAW OF PEACE

In 1142 Indigenous people of the Americas had a law called "the Dish with One Spoon" to describe hunting territory to be shared by two or more nations. This treaty or agreement show us just how old such agreements were. Centuries later, this image was still vivid in the relationships entered into between Indigenous people. It had carried on from generation to generation. In fact, in downtown Toronto today, the land acknowledgement declares that we are on the traditional lands of The Dish with One Spoon Treaty. It recalls the treaty or agreement between the Anishinaabe and the Haudenosaunee made in Montreal in 1701 as part of the Great Peace of Montreal, which includes a good part of Southern Ontario. It is such a beautiful, intimate and powerful image of a relationship. The phrase signifies that those sharing the land share a hunting territory. They have the responsibility to take care of the land and the creatures within it. They must be sure that the dish is never empty; that is, they are expected to limit the game they take and leave enough for others. There is to be "no knife near our dish," indicating that the sharing is to be without bloodshed.

This treaty is graphically illustrated by a wampum belt called The Dish with One Spoon wampum belt. This part of the Great Law of Peace was preserved on the wampum belt, as were many other crucial elements of the law. The belt is short, narrow and plain. It bears a round purple area---the dish with one spoon---on a field of white.

A Wampum is created from the shell of a clam. The bead is cut from the white and purple parts of the shell. The shell is thought of as a living record. A wampum belt is a series of these shells tied together like a necklace. Different colours on the belt as well as the shape of the image on the belt symbolize the event being commemorated. It could be offered to a chief, to an outstanding warrior, it could be offered to a couple from two different tribes who were being united, it could be a form of currency, and it could symbolize a treaty between nations. It is part of recording the oral history of a Nation. While Wampum belts were very common in the East, weaving often illustrated the oral history in parts of the West. As recently as 1924, the RCMP, with approval from the federal cabinet, seized the Wampum that was used to sanction council proceedings of the Six Nations band within the Haudenosaunee Confederacy in Ontario and removed the chiefs from office. In the Great Law of Peace, it is stated that:

"It will turn out well for us to do this: we will say, 'We promise to have only one dish among us; in it will be beaver tail and no knife will be there'.. We will have one dish, which means that we will all have equal shares of the game roaming about in the hunting grounds and fields, and then everything will become peaceful among all of the people; and there will be no knife near our dish; which means that if there is a knife were there, someone might presently get cut, causing bloodshed, and this is troublesome, should it happen thus, and for this reason there should be no knife near our dish."

There are references in early European records of dealings with the Haudenosaunee that the boundaries of the hunting grounds were sometimes marked with trees.



THE TWO ROW WAMPUM BELT

Gusweñta- The Haudenosaunee and the Dutch agreed to call this the Silver Covenant Chain of Friendship.

Unlike the Dish with One Spoon which was a treaty between Indigenous Nations, the Two Row Wampum belt, created in 1613, represented the oldest recorded treaty between Indigenous people and new settlers from Europe, in this case, the Haudenosaunee and the Dutch.

The Haudenosaunee and the Dutch agreed on three principles to make this treaty last. The first was **friendship**; the Haudenosaunee and their white brothers will live in friendship. The second principle is **peace**; there will be peace between their two people. The final principle is **forever**; that this agreement will last forever.

The belt has two purple rows running alongside each other representing two boats. One boat is the canoe with the Haudenosaunee way of life, laws, and people. The other is the Dutch ship with their laws, religion, and people in it. The boats will travel side by side down the river of life. Each nation will respect the ways of each other and will not interfere with the other. "Together we will travel in Friendship and in Peace Forever; as long as the grass is green, as long as the water runs downhill, as long as the sun rises in the East and sets in the West, and as long as our Mother Earth will last."

Source: <https://circlesforreconciliation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Respect-Trust-Treaties-Reconciliation.pdf> Accessed March 11, 2022



APPENDIX C

UNDERSTANDING THE NEED FOR URBAN INDIGENOUS SPACES & GOOD RELATIONS

By Cassidy Caron, First Peoples Group⁸

Throughout Canada, there is an increase of rural to urban migration of Indigenous peoples. Though statistics about Indigenous identity are difficult to collect, it is widely accepted that over 60% of Indigenous peoples in Canada live in urban centres.

Though many Indigenous peoples who live in cities maintain close ties to their home communities—an integral part of sustaining their traditional cultural practices and identities – this isn't the case for all Indigenous peoples. Urban Indigenous peoples may not have such connections to their communities or ancestral homelands for a number of reasons, including those that involve colonial policies implemented by the Government of Canada. In many cases, Indigenous peoples without close ties to a particular community outside the urban context endure a constant struggle to establish a form of collective identity in the city and have a shared feeling of being “placeless.”

Katherine Neal (2018), explains the importance of carving out spaces or places for urban Indigenous peoples and states that ‘place’ can be conceptualized as, “a social construction and relational site, a ‘meeting-up’ point of relations.”⁹ Neal proceeds by explaining the importance of Urban Indigenous organizations and spaces in unifying Urban Indigenous peoples and carving out places for solidarity and knowledge sharing within city boundaries:

Urban Indigenous organizations and spaces come to symbolize places of resilience and sustainability as they promote the preservation of Indigenous cultures and languages in an urban context... Urban Indigenous-run organizations ‘actively enable people to belong and, though highly mutable, facilitates one’s feeling at home.’¹⁰

Neal, continues to explain that urban Indigenous organizations, which ultimately have spaces throughout cities, play “a critical role in promoting kinship relations between Indigenous peoples of different cultural backgrounds, a vital part of identity-construction and reinforcement.”¹¹

⁸ Written in 2019 for City of Kingston as part of the *Engage for Change* project.

⁹ Neal, Katherine. (2018). Feeling ‘at home’: Re-evaluating Indigenous identity-making in Canadian cities. Retrieved from: <https://journals.uvic.ca/index.php/platform/article/view/18314/7696>. Pg. 81.

¹⁰ Neal. (2018). Pg. 82.

¹¹ Neal. (2018). Pg. 82.



Urban Indigenous spaces become important for individuals who are not related by kinship networks or connected to their ancestral homelands to meet, socialize and engage in cross-cultural interactions. Neal explains that:

Kinship networks often manifest in the city between Indigenous peoples of shared ancestral backgrounds, culminating in a form of social organization. The diversity of urban Indigenous communities poses a challenge to the development of social relations between Indigenous people who fall outside these kinship ties, both linguistically and culturally. For individuals who feel isolated from their kinship roots, urban Indigenous organizations and spaces can provide them with the opportunity to re-identify as Indigenous by partaking in cultural activities and engaging with the urban Indigenous community.¹²

Ultimately, urban Indigenous organizations and spaces create a heightened sense of community in cities and “come to symbolize places in which individuals can engage with and situate themselves in the broader urban community without having direct access to a “traditional” land base.”¹³

Many municipalities across Canada are responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and are working with local Indigenous communities to co-create a better future for Indigenous people living in and around urban centres.

Case Study: City of Calgary

The City of Calgary, located on Treaty 7 territory, home to the Kainiaí, Siksika, Piikani, Tsuut’ina and Stoney Nakoda Nations as well as Métis peoples, has undertaken a number of initiatives to better collaborate and respect their Indigenous Nation neighbours as well as seek to serve the large urban Indigenous population in the city – the fifth largest urban Indigenous population in Canada.

Gathering Space

In 2014, a reconciliation workshop was held in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Actions. An outcome of the workshop was a call for a safe place for Indigenous peoples to gather. From this call, the Indigenous Gathering Place Society of Calgary was originated. The group has stated that in two years’ time, Calgary will be home to a new Indigenous Gathering Place.¹⁴

Indigenous Gathering Place Society is a non-profit organization in Calgary that has been created to guide the development of an Indigenous gathering place in Calgary. The society is comprised of a seven-member board of directors alongside many volunteers. The vision of the society is, “a space where we share, connect, heal, renew and celebrate Indigenous culture. A place to protect Indigenous practices, languages; and Elders’ wisdom, oral and written teachings among all nations and all our relations.”¹⁵

12 Neal. (2018). Pg. 82-83.

13 Neal. (2018). Pg. 83.

14 <https://www.calgaryjournal.ca/news/4449-calgary-s-first-Indigenous-gathering-place-will-allow-urban-Indigenous-people-to-thrive.html>

15 <https://www.Indigenousgatheringplace.com/>



Urban Indigenous Coalitions

The Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee is a collaborative effort between the City of Calgary and the Indigenous community to address and resolve issues pertaining to urban Indigenous residents.

Mission: "The Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee is authorized, on behalf of City Council, to investigate areas of concern to people of Aboriginal ancestry and to make recommendations on policies. These recommendations are meant to help give urban Aboriginal people a more meaningful role within the governance of the Calgary community."¹⁶

Indigenous Policy Framework

In 2017, the City of Calgary published the "Indigenous Policy Framework for The City of Calgary."¹⁷ The policy was directed by City Council and completed by a project team from the City with a consultant who brought together a group of diverse individuals to support the policy development process.

The Indigenous Policy Framework for the City of Calgary is intended to support internal efforts primarily by City Council and Administration to sustain meaningful and mutually beneficial ways forward together with Treaty 7 First Nations and urban Indigenous peoples in the Calgary.

¹⁶ <https://www.calgary.ca/CSPS/CNS/Pages/First-Nations-Metis-and-Inuit-Peoples/Calgary-Aboriginal-Urban-Affairs-Committee/Calgary-Aboriginal-Urban-Affairs-Committee.aspx>

¹⁷ <https://www.calgary.ca/CSPS/CNS/Documents/CAUAC/Indigenous-Policy-Framework.pdf?noredirect=1>



LANDMARKS AND MONUMENTS REVIEW

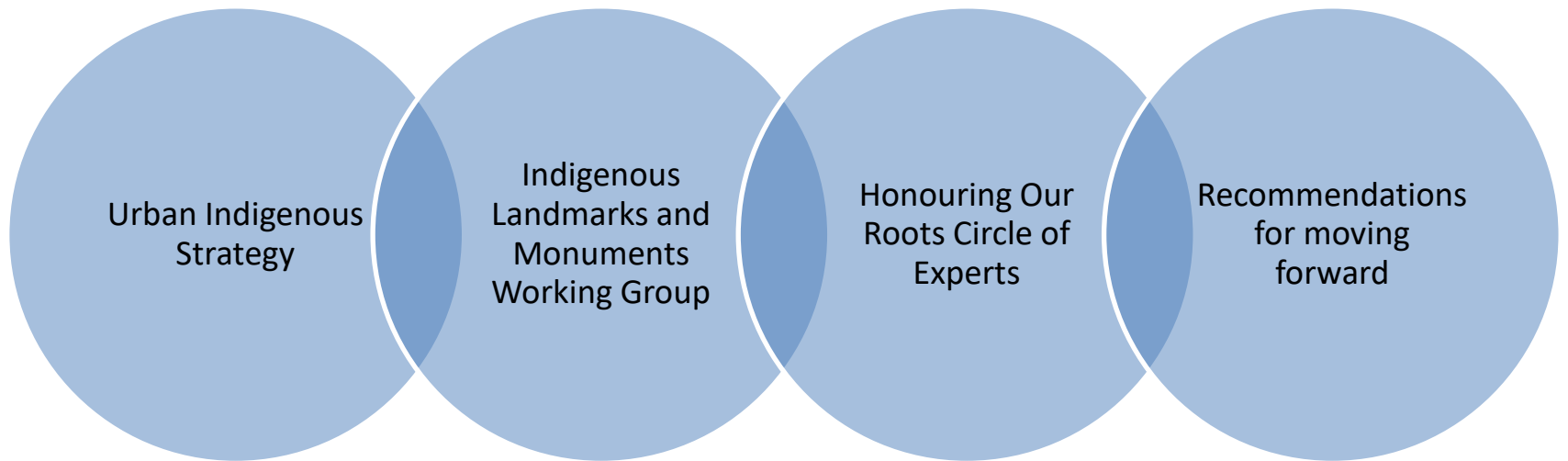
Emergency and Community Services Committee

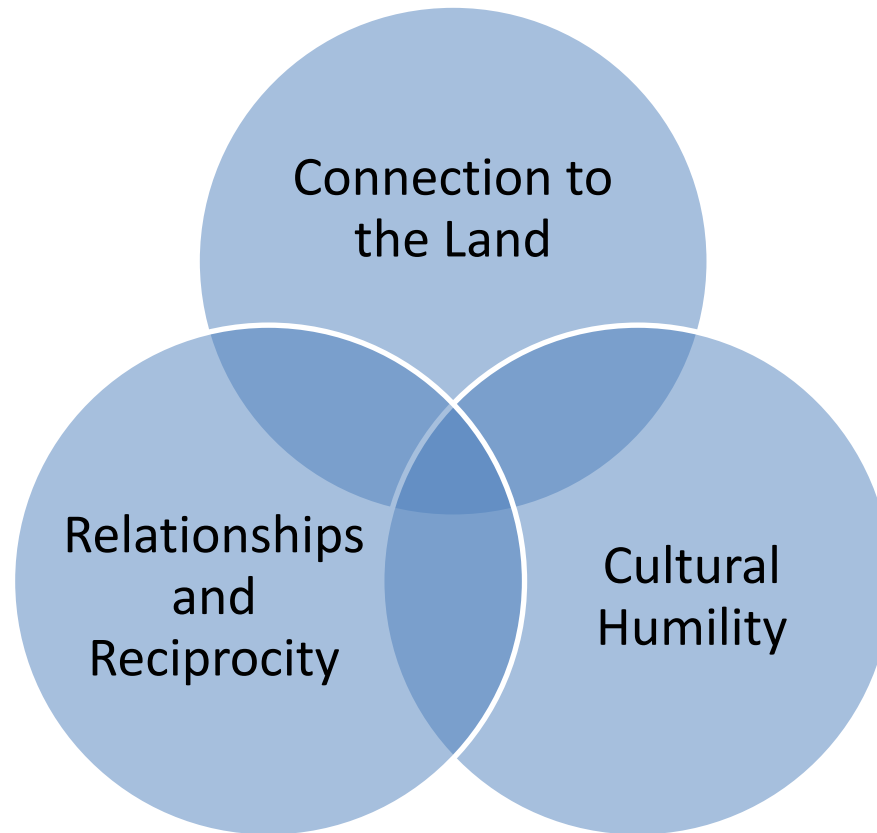
May 5, 2022

- The Process
- What We Heard
- Next Steps

Melissa Hammell, Senior Associate First Peoples Group

When, Who, How





- Authentic long-term relationships built on respect and reciprocity are essential for this work to move forward in a good way
- Use of a framework to guide how the City engages with First Nations and the urban Indigenous community
- Framework examines three levels and poses questions about how we can engage and collaborate in meaningful ways:
 - Individual
 - Workplace/department
 - Community

Shelly Hill, Manager Indigenous Relations

Next Steps

“Honouring Our Roots: Creating Space for Indigenous Voices” was prepared as a guide to start addressing priority sites in Hamilton. The next phase of work with the community will prioritize:

- Continuing to foster long-term relationships with local First Nations and urban Indigenous communities that are based on mutual trust and respect
- Creating and actioning a communications plan that includes interpretive signage at the high priority sites that indicates that the City is aware that these sites are problematic and educates the public about the need for further consultation and action



Next Steps

- Engaging with the community to find ways to reflect a new, fuller truth into historical narratives in the places where history was made
- Gathering information from many different sources about the Indigenous history of the area, invite Indigenous residents and visitors to participate in the re-telling of history, re-visioning of monuments and Indigenous place making from their unique perspectives
- Undertaking a complementary education campaign in parallel to help the general public understand why amplifying Indigenous voices on these topics is so important





Hamilton

THANK YOU

Bates, Tamara

From: clerk@hamilton.ca
Sent: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 11:59 AM
To: Bates, Tamara
Cc: Vernem, Christine
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Request to Speak to Committee of Council Form

-----Original Message-----

From: City of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada via City of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada <no-reply@hamilton.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 11:50 AM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Form submission from: Request to Speak to Committee of Council Form

Submitted on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 - 11:49am Submitted by anonymous user: 172.70.131.29 Submitted values are:

==Committee Requested==

Committee: Emergency & Community Services Committee
Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video? No

==Requestor Information==

Name of Organization (if applicable): Liberty For Youth
Name of Individual: Frederick Dryden
Preferred Pronoun: He/Him
Contact Number: 9052977929
Email Address: frederick@libertyforyouth.org
Mailing Address: 1925 King St East, Hamilton Ontario, L8K 1V9
Reason(s) for delegation request:

In response to the task force/meeting hosted by the City of Hamilton this past year, combined with the exacerbated conditions brought forth by COVID-19, Liberty For Youth is continuing to develop programming that will support the at-risk-youth of Hamilton and surrounding areas to overcome and succeed in this challenging environment.

In response to both the City of Hamilton's call to action and COVID-19 recovery plan, Liberty For Youth is going to shine a light on the increased need for support in mental health, employment, & education while also deploying resourced action plans to help youth in these three categories.

There is a disparity in communication for youth to discuss their point of view with their elected officials. We are hoping to bridge this gap by giving youth the opportunity to meet with city council members to share their concerns and propose ideas for solutions.

This request for delegation is to announce our intentions, our sponsors, our call-to-action, and to request all available

resources at the council's disposal. We consider that this will be the first of many meaningful conversations with the council as we report our progress in the days and years ahead.

****This is not a request for funding****

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? Yes

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.hamilton.ca/node/286/submission/581091>



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	May 5, 2022
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	LGBTQ Advisory Committee Citizen Committee Report, respecting Recommendations from the Community Conversation (HSC22016) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Jennifer Hohol (905) 546-2424 Ext. 7857
SUBMITTED BY:	Angela Burden General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

The Emergency and Community Services Committee at its meeting of November 4, 2021, approved the following:

“That the LGBTQ Advisory Committee Citizen Committee Report, respecting Recommendations from the Community Conversation, be received & referred to staff for review & report back to Emergency and Community Services”.

INFORMATION

On June 15, 2021, the LGBTQ Advisory Committee held a Community Conversation bringing together members of Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ communities from across Hamilton. Recommendations for implementation that were identified during the Community Conversation were brought to the Emergency and Community Services Committee on November 4, 2021.

Staff have reviewed the recommendations from the Community Conversation and have identified many recommendations that align with existing work within the City of

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

**SUBJECT: LGBTQ Advisory Committee Citizen Committee Report, respecting
Recommendations from the Community Conversation (HSC22016)
(City Wide) - Page 2 of 2**

Hamilton, specifically Hamilton's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan. Some of this work includes but is not limited to increasing the availability of affordable housing, creating plans and providing staff support for LGBTQIA+ programming, and increasing community safety by responding to the Pride in Hamilton report commissioned by Hamilton Police Services. Staff have also identified where recommendations may fall outside of the City's mandate or scope of work (e.g. the residential eviction process which is controlled by the Province).

Continued engagement with the LGBTQ Advisory Committee is essential to ensure the staff review appropriately reflects the intentions of the recommendations put forward by the Advisory Committee as staff were not active participants in the Community Conversation. Staff attend the LGBTQ Advisory Committee meetings and have an established relationship with the committee. As a next step, staff will engage with the LGBTQ Advisory Committee at a future meeting to provide an update on City actions relevant to recommendations from the Community Conversation.

Given the results of the staff review related to alignment with the Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan, and to ensure ongoing focus on this important work, future updates on this work will be reported to the Emergency and Community Services Committee through updates on Hamilton's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	May 5, 2022
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Update on Youth Violent Crimes Motion (HSC22017) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Chelsea Kirkby (905) 546-2424 Ext. 3539 Jenn Hohol (905) 546-2424 Ext. 7857
SUBMITTED BY:	Angie Burden General Manager Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

The Emergency and Community Services Committee Meeting at its meeting on October 7, 2021, approved that staff be directed to:

- a) Review projects like Operation Ceasefire and other holistic community responses, that were designed to deter youth from joining gangs and holding guns;
- b) That staff be directed to engage youth to inform the process and partner together to address the issues that are driving our youth to guns and gangs;
- c) That staff invite the Ontario Solicitor General, Hamilton Police, youth workers, clergy, criminal justice practitioners, and other experts to identify solutions to create a city-wide action plan response to guns and gangs in our community;
- d) That staff be directed to include a city-wide action plan response to guns and gangs in our community through Hamilton's Youth Strategy;

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

SUBJECT: Update on Youth Violent Crimes Motion (HSC2017) (City Wide) - Page 2 of 7

- e) That staff be directed to share any data specific to guns, gangs and violence through our 2021 re-engagement for the Youth Strategy; and,
- f) That the city-wide action plan response to guns and gangs in our community be created in collaboration with and incorporated into Hamilton's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan under the priority of violence.

INFORMATION

Since October 2021, City staff supporting Hamilton's Youth Strategy and Community Safety and Well-Being Plan have started work to respond to all parts of the motion on youth violent crimes.

In Hamilton, overall youth crime is declining, with violent crimes decreasing by 23% from 2019 to 2020¹. Youth crime is also decreasing across the province, yet there continues to be worrying trends related to youth and fire-arm related cases, with approximately 60% of cases at the Ontario Court of Justice since 2013 involving an accused person under the age of 29². Through preliminary discussions with service providers in Hamilton, the issue of youth violence, although improving, continues to be one of concern and has a lasting impact on individuals and communities involved.

As this work has taken shape it has been acknowledged that the complexity of this issue requires meaningful engagement with service providers, youth and community members that are involved in, impacted by, or at risk of youth violent crimes, guns, and gangs. This includes building trust with Indigenous and Black youth and communities facing long-standing inequities, such as overrepresentation in the criminal justice and child welfare systems³; discrimination and racism in health, education, and social systems; and lack of representation in leadership positions across institutions and systems^{4,5}. Ensuring that this work is led by community providers and partners who bring relevant expertise is also a key factor in moving forward successfully.

Environmental Scan

¹ Hamilton Police Services. (2021). 2020 Hamilton Police Service - Youth Services Annual Report. Retrieved from: <https://pub-hamilton.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=270500>

² Government of Ontario. (2021). Ontario Increasing Community Programs to Prevent Youth Violence and Human Trafficking. Retrieved from: <https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1000604/ontario-increasing-community-programs-to-prevent-youth-violence-and-human-trafficking>

³ John Howard Society Ontario. (2021). UnEqual Justice: Experiences and outcomes of young people in Ontario's youth bail system. Retrieved from: <https://johnhoward.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Youth-Bail-Highlights-Final.pdf>

⁴ Government of Canada. (2022). Social determinants and inequities in health for Black Canadians: A Snapshot. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/health-promotion/population-health/what-determines-health/social-determinants-inequities-black-canadians-snapshot.html>

⁵ National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health. (2022). Anti-Indigenous Racism in Canada. Retrieved from: https://www.nccih.ca/28/Social_Determinants_of_Health.nccih?id=337

SUBJECT: Update on Youth Violent Crimes Motion (HSC22017) (City Wide) - Page 3 of 7

As per part (a) of the motion, a review of holistic community responses being used to prevent and address youth violence, guns and gangs has been completed. This included a literature review of international, national, and provincial programs for youth 14-29 years old as well as a scan of local programs delivered in Hamilton. Successful community responses reviewed applied approaches across the spectrum of the Community Safety and Well-Being Planning Framework⁶ from social development and prevention to risk mitigation and incident response. Some programs focused on changing social and economic structure (e.g. providing universal income to eliminate poverty) and others addressed the effects of youth violence (e.g. providing counselling for youth who have served time in custody)⁷. The most common conclusion in the research is that “the most effective and sustained response to youth violence is a balanced and strategic prevention approach”⁸.

With the best available evidence, there are three common types of youth violence intervention models that experts have relied on to build recommendations to reduce youth violent crimes. These three models include:

- Focused deterrence model which attempts to change criminal behaviour through enforcement and social service support⁹. This approach is often seen as problem-oriented, which means proactively addressing criminal and social problems through law enforcement and community resources instead of responding to a single incident or crime¹⁰;
- Public health model which focuses on preventing violence before it happens and is an alternative to law enforcement-based strategies¹¹. This approach includes using data to assess the problem and identify effective strategies and collaboration across sectors that can work together to produce change, and

⁶ Ministry of the Attorney General. (2018). Community Safety and Well-Being Planning Framework: A Shared Commitment in Ontario. Retrieved from: <https://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/english/Publications/MCSCSSOPanningFramework.html#Section2>

⁷ National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health. (2014). *Let's Talk: Moving Upstream*. Antigonish, NS. National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health, St. Francis Xavier University.

⁸ International Centre for the Prevention of Crime. (2005). Youth and Gun Violence: The Outstanding Case for Prevention. Retrieved from: <https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/youth-and-gun-violence-outstanding-case-prevention>

⁹ Urban Institute. (2022). A Research-Based Practice Guide to Reduce Youth Gun and Gang/Group Violence. Retrieved from: <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/105303/a-research-based-practice-guide-to-reduce-youth-gun-and-gang-group-violence.pdf>

¹⁰ Centre for Evidence-Based Crime Policy. (2022). Focused Deterrence Strategies. Retrieved from: <https://cebcp.org/evidence-based-policing/what-works-in-policing/research-evidence-review/focused-deterrence/>

¹¹ Urban Networks to Increase Thriving Youth through Violence Prevention. (2009). A Public Health Approach to Preventing Violence: FAQ. https://www.preventioninstitute.org/sites/default/files/publications/FAQ%20preventing%20violence_A_112109-1.pdf

SUBJECT: Update on Youth Violent Crimes Motion (HSC22017) (City Wide) - Page 4 of 7

solutions that improve the well-being on an entire community or population.^{12,13,14}; and,

- Comprehensive Gang Model which is a collaborative multidisciplinary response that leverages community resources to make the community better able to prevent, intervene, and suppress youth gang crime and violence¹⁵. This is achieved through five main strategies including:
 - a. Community mobilization, such as involvement of local citizens and former gang members and coordination of programs across agencies;
 - b. Opportunities provision, including education, training and employment opportunities for gang-involved youth and young adults;
 - c. Social intervention, including outreach and access to services;
 - d. Suppression, including law enforcement and close supervision or monitoring of gang-involved youth; and,
 - e. Organizational change, such as the development of policies for the effective use of resources¹⁶.

One intervention that reflects the models above is Operation Ceasefire which began as a focused deterrence strategy that includes street outreach and changing community norms¹⁷. The program has since evolved into more of a Comprehensive Gang Model approach through the development of the Partnership for Safe Communities, Cure Violence, and Safe Streets programs. A key takeaway from the history and evolution of the Operation Ceasefire program is that any deterrence strategy should be used within a larger partnership-focused approach to gun violence.

Beyond the literature, service providers shared several programs with staff that are in place in Hamilton to address youth violence including:

- Initiatives that address root causes, such as breakfast programs and empowerment programs for youth involved in the justice system;
- Extrajudicial programs; and,
- Detention and reintegration programs.

¹² Prevention Institute. (2022). Gun Violence Must Stop. Here's What We Can Do to Prevent More Deaths. Retrieved from: <https://www.preventioninstitute.org/focus-areas/preventing-violence-and-reducing-injury/preventing-violence-advocacy>

¹³ Urban Institute, 2022.

¹⁴ Urban Networks to Increase Thriving Youth through Violence Prevention, 2009.

¹⁵ Urban Institute, 2022.

¹⁶ National Gang Center. (2022). Comprehensive Gang Model: Core Strategies. Retrieved from: <https://nationalgangcenter.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh331/files/media/document/CoreStrategies.pdf>

¹⁷ David-Ferdon, C., Vivolo-Kantor, A. M., Dahlberg, L. L., Marshall, K. J., Rainford, N. & Hall, J. E. (2016). A Comprehensive Technical Package for the Prevention of Youth Violence and Associated Risk Behaviors. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/yv-technicalpackage.pdf>

SUBJECT: Update on Youth Violent Crimes Motion (HSC22017) (City Wide) - Page 5 of 7

There are also many programs and services that community partners, organizations and/or City of Hamilton offers that address the various risk factors that may prevent involvement in youth violence. City programs include services for child care and early years, parents and families, recreation, mental health, housing, and social assistance.

Identifying existing programs has shown the range of services and approaches currently available in Hamilton and confirms that there is a solid foundation of local programming on which to build a city-wide plan to further address youth violence.

Stakeholder Engagement

In addition to the environmental scan, as per part (c) in the motion above, over 50 service providers and other key stakeholders were engaged during a virtual consultation session on November 30, 2021 and through individual meetings co-facilitated by Hamilton's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan and Hamilton's Youth Strategy. The purpose of this engagement was to better understand the context of youth violent crimes in Hamilton and how these issues are impacting the broader community. Those consulted included representatives from Hamilton Police Services; the Province; school boards; hospitals; child welfare agencies; organizations focused on youth justice, housing and homelessness, mental health and substance use services, education and employment; faith organizations; and other community-based policy and advocacy groups.

Stakeholders shared what initiatives and strategies already exist in Hamilton to address youth violent crimes and where there are gaps. This consultation demonstrated the complex nature of youth violence and involvement in guns and gangs in Hamilton and identified factors that contribute to youth involvement in violent crimes, including but not limited to:

- Unstable or unsafe home and/or school environment;
- Trauma, mental health and/or substance use;
- Lack of sense of belonging, lack of connection to services/supports;
- Poverty;
- Homelessness;
- Gender;
- Influence of social media; and,
- Systemic racism and racial bias.

Many of these factors match what are identified in the literature related to youth involvement in violence^{18,19}.

¹⁸ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020). Youth Violence – Risk and Protective Factors. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/youthviolence/riskprotectivefactors.html>

¹⁹ Public Safety Canada. (2018). Youth gang involvement: What are the risk factors? Retrieved from: <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/yth-gng-nvlvmnt/index-en.aspx#s2>

SUBJECT: Update on Youth Violent Crimes Motion (HSC22017) (City Wide) - Page 6 of 7

Service providers also identified gaps in initiatives to prevent and address youth violence, including the need for:

- Increased access to services during the evening and overnight hours;
- Safe spaces for youth to gather and/or seek support without repercussion or judgement;
- Harm reduction approaches to youth violence and associated risk factors;
- More wraparound support for youth to address various needs (e.g. housing, food, income, trauma, etc.); and,
- Culturally appropriate care.

A key learning from this consultation is the need to be more intentional in engaging with Black service providers who were under-represented at the initial consultation to ensure Black voices and experiences are centred in this discussion. It has also been acknowledged that engagement with individuals and communities impacted by gun violence must be trauma-informed and facilitate recovery and healing from the consequences of trauma.

As per part (e) in the motion above, concerns related to youth violence, guns, and gangs were also identified through the 2021 Youth Re-engagement Survey that informed the City of Hamilton's Youth Strategy. This survey had 523 respondents including youth, parents, organizations and service providers. Although youth violence, guns, and gangs were not identified as priority areas of concern in the survey, the three top priorities all contribute to addressing root causes of youth involvement in violence, guns, and gangs. These priority areas include:

- Improve access to mental health supports;
- Increase supports to youth who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness; and,
- Improve youth access to safe and affordable housing.

To ensure a continued focus on youth gun and gang violence in Hamilton and to address part (d) in the motion above, the Youth Strategy includes the priority of Enhance Safety and a Sense of Inclusion.

Next steps

This work fits within the context and priorities of Hamilton's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan. With local experts and community leadership, staff will continue to support community partners in the development of a city-wide action plan responding to guns and gangs in Hamilton. The action plan will build on existing community-wide and current community youth initiatives. Immediate next steps include staff support for community-led engagement with youth who are or have been involved with, impacted by, or at risk of gun and gang violence in a trauma-informed, healing-centred way, and identifying appropriate community leadership in the development of this plan. This will address part (b) of the motion above.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

SUBJECT: Update on Youth Violent Crimes Motion (HSC22017) (City Wide) - Page 7 of 7

City staff have started bringing together community partners to lead and guide the pace and approach of youth engagement to ensure a safe space for these conversations, meet basic needs of participants, and provide opportunities for healing throughout the process. As recommended from initial engagement with service providers, further community-led engagement will also take place with Black service providers in a trauma-informed, and healing-centred way, following the guidance of Black service providers and community leaders. Staff will serve in a supportive role for this engagement, however will not be leading these conversations.

The success of this plan relies on a collaboration with community partners to ensure a comprehensive, community-driven response that both prevents and addresses youth violent crimes. The City will support community partners in the development of this action plan by providing coordination support, bringing partners together for discussion, collaboration and the identification of community leads to champion and progress this work.

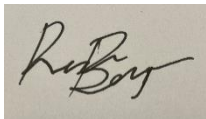
As per part (f) in the motion above, collective work on reducing youth gun and gang violence in Hamilton will continue to be done in partnership with the Youth Strategy through Hamilton's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan. Future updates on this work will be provided to the Emergency and Community Services Committee through reporting on Hamilton's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

N/A



CITIZEN COMMITTEE REPORT

To:	Emergency and Community Services Committee
From:	LGBTQ Advisory Committee <div style="text-align: right;"> _____ Rebecca Banky, Chair</div>
Date:	April 19,2022
Re:	Accessible Captioning Timeline

Recommendations

That accessible captioning is available on all advisory committee meetings through WebEx by May 30th 2022.

Background

Members of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee have asked for accommodations, specifically that there be captions in meetings, so that they can participate without barriers. There has been a previous Citizen Committee Report filed through the Audit and Finance Administration Committee on December 15,2020 and presented to the Audit and Finance Administration Committee on February 18, 2021 .

As indicated on the previous report, City staff reported back that the option for accessible captioning through WebEx was explored and available but not enabled or

purchased at this time. We believe that it is crucial to recommend May 30th, 2022 for implementation of this recommendation. Having access to accessible captions as soon as possible would be a way to reach new people during these meetings and gain valuable insight from members of the public that were previously unable to engage in municipal government. This is something that the City has been made aware of for over a year. This is imperative for members on citizen committees as well as members of the public to have equal access to meetings.

Analysis / Rationale

The LGBTQ Advisory Committee considers this accommodation a matter of human rights and disability justice. We are confident that this barrier can be overcome by the City of Hamilton. This Citizen Committee Report serves as a reminder that we are dedicated to ensuring that reasonable accommodation can be provided to members of citizen committees as well as members of the public. We strongly believe that accessible captioning would be a reasonable accommodation.

While the LGBTQ Advisory Committee recognizes that its members are not employees, it is participating in a virtual workplace with support from city staff and should have access to the same level of accommodation as others in the workplace. This recommendation would also allow us to meet our obligation to have public meetings whilst ensuring access to the broader community. Furthermore, the LGBTQAC would like to recommend that captioning be applied to all city meetings. It is important that Hamiltonians can participate in municipal government.

Note: We ask that the LGBTQ Advisory Committee be updated regarding the progress of this recommendation.