



City of Hamilton
ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES
AGENDA

Meeting #: 23-003
Date: March 9, 2023
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: YouTube Channel Streaming for Virtual Meetings

All electronic meetings can be viewed at:
City's YouTube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/InsideCityofHamilton>

Lina El Khalil, Staff Liaison (905) 546-2424 ext. 7219

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Land Acknowledgment

The City of Hamilton is situated upon the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabek to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. We further acknowledge that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Today, the City of Hamilton is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island (North America) and we recognize that we must do more to learn about the rich history of this land so that we can better understand our roles as residents, neighbours, partners and caretakers.



Hamilton

Minutes
Advisory Committee for Immigrants and Refugees
Thursday, February 9, 2023
6:30 pm
Webex

Present: Jennie Hamilton (Chair), Eisham Abdulkarim (Vice Chair),
Aref Alshaihahmed, Rami Safi, Lina El Khalil (Staff Liaison).

Regrets: Dorar Abuzaid (Recording Secretary), Dina Honig, Ammira Ali, Councillor
Maureen Wilson

1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

- 1.1 J. Hamilton read the Land Acknowledgement.
- 1.2 J. Hamilton called the meeting to order and took roll call.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

(E. Eishaam/R. Safi)

That the Agenda for the February 9, 2023 meeting, be approved.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- (i) Minutes – December 8, 2022 (item 4.1)
- (ii) Quorum Report – January 12, 2023 (item 4.2)

(R. Safi/E. Eishaam)

That the Minutes of December 8, 2022 and Quorum report for January 12, 2023 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)

(i) Review and feedback of the Code of Conduct for Local Boards (item 10.1)

The advisory committee to review and submit comments on the Code of Conduct.

(E. Eishaam/A. Alshaikhahmed)

The committee reviewed the Code of Conduct for Local Boards and has no comments.

CARRIED

(ii) Hamilton Immigrant Partnership Council (HIPC) Update (item 10.2)

The committee discussed the Hamilton Immigrant Partnership Council (HIPC) presentation.

(E. Eishaam/A. Alshaikhahmed)

That the topic be added as a discussion item at the next meeting.

CARRIED

6. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (item 13)

(i) Annual report on activities over the previous year (item 13.1)

(E. Eishaam/A. Alshaikhahmed)

That the committee will finalize the presentation during their next meeting for the Chair to present to the Audit, Finance, and Administration Committee on March 23, 2023.

CARRIED

6. ADJOURNMENT

(E. Eishaam/A. Alshaikhahmed)

That the Advisory Committee for Immigrants and Refugees be adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

CARRIED

Jennifer Hamilton, Chair

Date: February 27, 2023
To: Members of the Advisory Committee for Immigrants and Refugees
From: Jennie Hamilton, Chair, Advisory Committee for Immigrants and Refugees
Subject: Immigration Number Targets

During the February meeting of the Committee, a question was raised with regards to immigration targets for cities and provinces. I advised the committee during that meeting that I will find a resource that could answer this question.

I approached Mohammad Araf, Program Officer for the Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council (HIPC) with the question. Below is his answer to our inquiry:

There are no immigration target numbers for cities or provinces (except Quebec which has its own immigration level targets). Every year, the government of Canada announces its immigration level targets for the next three years. It sets targets for each of the class/categories of immigration, such as economic class, family reunification, refugees. However, there are no provincial or municipal targets. Historically, immigrants have tended to move to large urban centres.

In the recent past, there have been several programs towards regionalization of immigration and ensuring that smaller and remote/rural communities benefit from immigration. The Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot, the Atlantic Immigration Pilot, the Municipal Nominee Program (not implemented yet) are examples of programs that aim to distribute immigration to other places than large urban centres like Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal etc.

The closest case of immigration numbers being determined provincially is the Provincial Nominee Program (one of the several programs under Economic Class), which allocates a certain number of permanent resident spots per province. For example, the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program allocation was 9,000 in 2022.

As for Family Reunification and Refugee categories, there are no allocations per province or city. Under the Refugee category, the Government Assisted Refugees (GARs) are resettled to a particular community based on their existing family ties or

other considerations. These refugees are matched with cities where a Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) agency is operating. Usually these agencies agree on a certain target number each year with IRCC.

Please note that immigrants, especially economic class immigrants, are highly mobile and move from one city/province to another in search of opportunities, connections etc. A recent HIPC report showed that while many immigrants move in and out of Hamilton each year, Hamilton is a net beneficiary of secondary immigration.

Check out the following links for more information:

IRCC Immigration Level Targets for 2023-2025: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/notices/supplementary-immigration-levels-2023-2025.html>

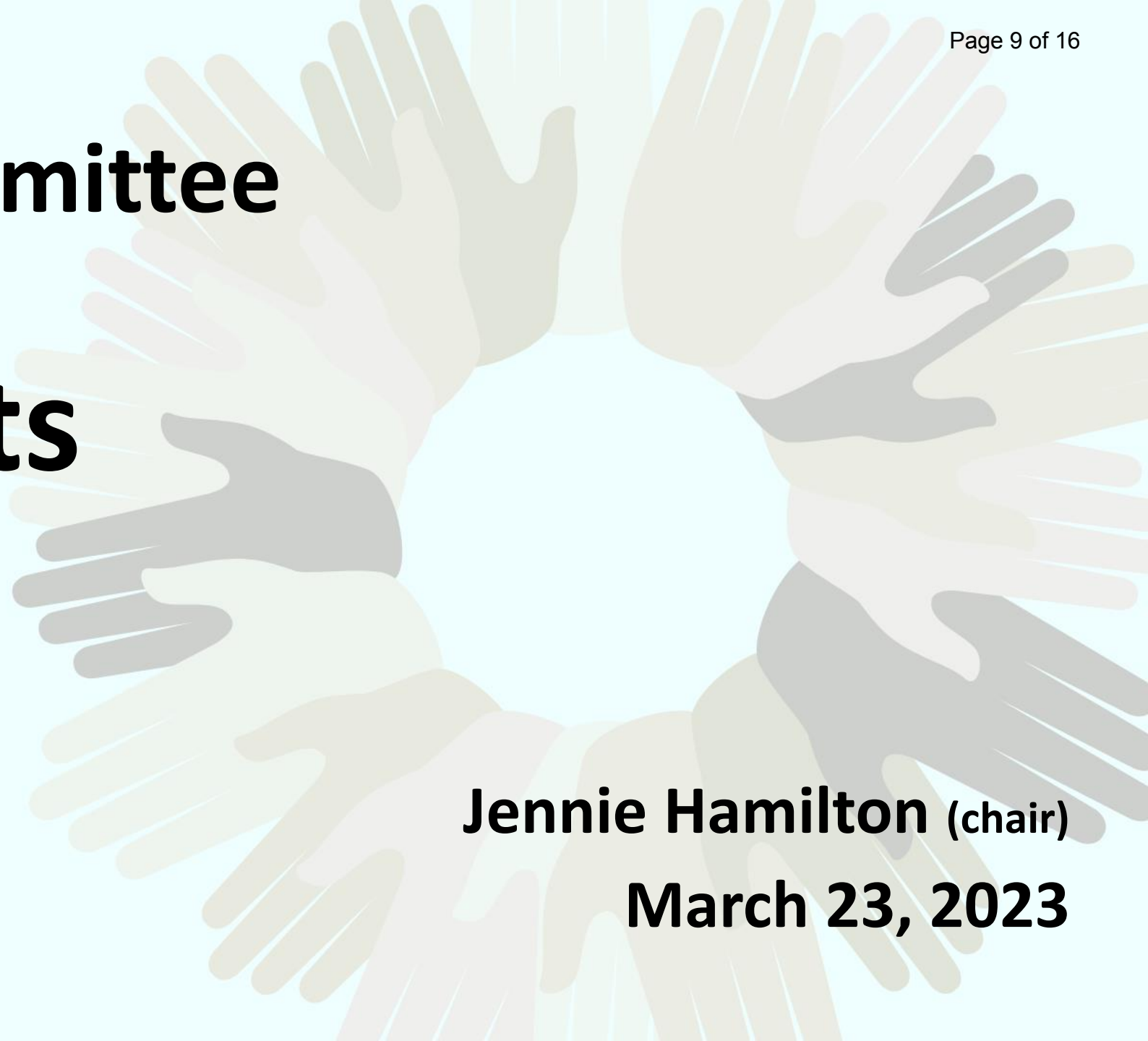
Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program Target: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2022-ontario-immigrant-nominee-program-updates>

*Immigrants here refer to landed immigrants/permanent residents, NOT temporary foreign workers, international students or refugee claimants. There are no targets set for non-permanent resident admissions.

Advisory Committee for Immigrants and Refugees

Jennie Hamilton (chair)

March 23, 2023



Immigrants and Refugees

Mandate

To make recommendations regarding policies, procedures and guidelines that address the needs and concerns of people who are immigrants or refugees.



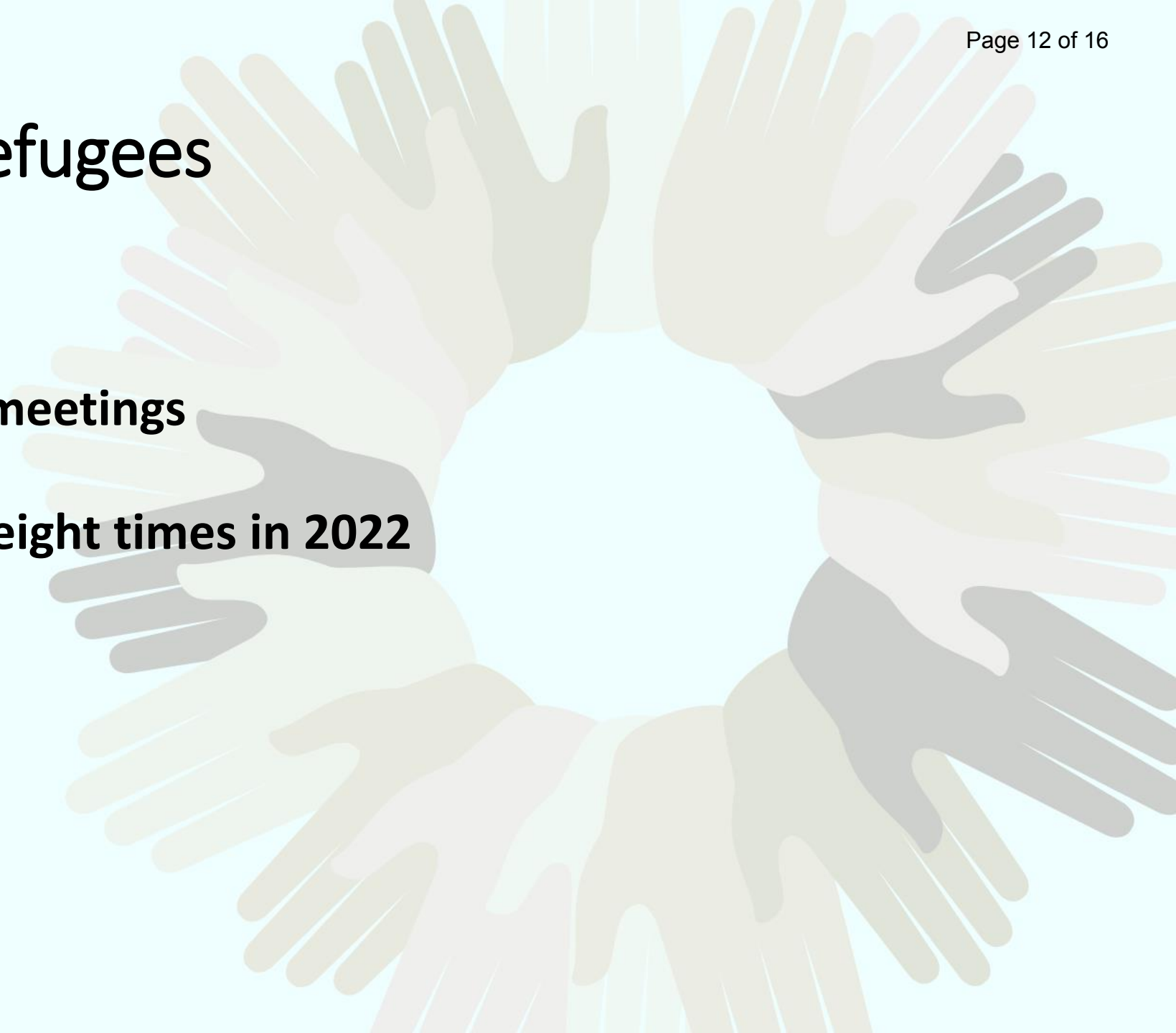
Immigrants and Refugees

- Reports to Audit, Finance and Administration Committee
- Jennie Hamilton (Chair), Eisham Karim (Vice), Dorar Abuzaid (Recording Secretary)
- There are currently 6 committee members
- Lina El Khalil – Staff Liaison
- Councillor Maureen Wilson – Advisor

Immigrant and Refugees

2022

- **Able to attend HIPC meetings**
- **The Committee met eight times in 2022**



Immigrant and Refugees

Challenges

- Reaching quorum during meetings
- Training on being a member of an advisory committee



Immigrant and Refugees

Plan of Action

- Recruitment
- Training for Committee Members



Immigrant and Refugees

QUESTIONS?



Immigrant and Refugees

Thank you.

