



Hamilton

**Minutes
Immigrant and Refugee Committee
Thursday, May 11, 2017, 6:30 p.m.
City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Room 192**

Present: Aspy Ayrton, Leo Johnson, Holly McKean, Mane Arratia, Dena Honig, Noor Nizam, Ramon Petgrave, Juanita Maldonado, Eman Ismail-Elmasri, Coleen Gallant, Ahmed Farah, Huzaifa Saeed.

Regrets: Marie Robbins, Councillor Donna Skelly, Zenaida Roque Cruz, Yohana Otite, Beau Daniels.

Staff: Jessica Bowen, Human Rights, Access & Equity; Grace Maciak, Ontario Works

Chairperson: Leo Johnson

1. Welcome and Introductions.

All were welcomed and the meeting was called to order at 6:55pm.

2. Declarations of Interest

There was no conflict of interest declared.

3. Approval of Agenda

A. Ayrton/ E. Ismail-Elmasri

That the Immigrant and Refugee Committee Advisory agenda of May 11, 2017 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

No presentations were scheduled.

5. Approval of Minutes

5.1 The Minutes of April 13, 2017 have been suspended.

6. Business Items

6.1 Work-plan date and structure:

Committee members indicated their interest in the following working groups:

Working Group	Volunteers
1. Open House	Juanita Maldonado, Eman Ismail-Elmasri, Noor Nizam, Coleen Gallant, Holly McKean, Suad Badri, Marie Robbins
2. Education	Leo Johnson, Coleen Gallant, Mane Arratia, Sylvia, Mir, Huzaifa Saeed, Beau Daniels, Suad Badri, Marie Robbins
3. Employment	Ramon Petgrave, Dena Honig, Mane Arratia, Noor Nizam, Eman Ismail-Elmasri, Suad Badri, Grace Maciak, Sylvia Gill
4. Housing	Holly McKean, Noor Nizam, Ahmed Farah, Coleen Gallant, Zenaida Roque Cruz

J. Bowen to send an email to all committee members and request that they confirm their interest in participating in any of the working groups by Friday, May 12, 2017.

The committee members discussed the deadline for each working group to report back to the entire Immigrant and Refugee Advisory Committee with an action plan for the year.

A. Farah / N. Nizam

The deadline of working groups to report back to the larger committee with individual Action Plans is September 2017.

CARRIED

7. Correspondences/ Current Affairs

There was no correspondence.

8. New Business

8.1 Newcomer Day:

The committee discussed two separate events, Newcomer Day and the Open House and the collaboration opportunity with HIPC.

D. Honig will provide J. Bowen with contact information for a contact at HIPC who can provide some additional information about the Newcomer Day 2018.

8.2 Open House Event

A working group has been established for the Open House event. J. Bowen to confirm the approved budget for the year and the Open House event.

The working group committed to develop an event proposal for the Open House event and share it with the Immigrant and Refugee committee at the June 8, 2017 meeting.

9. Information Sharing

10. Next Meeting Date

July 13, 2017

11. Adjournment:

J.Maldonado/C.Gallant

That the Immigrant and Refugee Advisory Committee meeting of May 11, 2017 be adjourned at 8:30pm.

CARRIED