

STATUS OF WOMEN COMMITTEE

OBJECTIVES

- ◆ Contextualize all the SWC activities with City's strategic directions
- ◆ Prepare motion to present to City Council on the implementation of a gender/equity lens for future municipal budget process
- ◆ Support/promote/inform community activities to enhance the safe, equitable inclusion of women and girls in Hamilton
- ◆ Develop childcare options for volunteer committees
- ◆ Consult with the Urban Indigenous Strategy Project Manager on gender issues related to the Strategy

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ Overview of the City's budget and strategic plan with the City Manager and General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services, providing relevant feedback from a gender perspective.
- ◆ Hosted the Elect More Conference on October 21, 2017, which was attended by over 120 women including women elected representatives from all levels of government. Participants engaged in dialogue around the importance of promoting gender issue in politics and the active participation of all women in all levels of the political process
- ◆ Implemented childminding services for SWC members so that parental responsibilities were not barriers for members to attend meetings in 2017/2018. Surveyed other VAC to see if this resource should be extended to all VAC
- ◆ Provided access to Accessible Parking as a means of eliminating other barriers to meeting attendance
- ◆ Provided feedback on the Equity Toolkit
- ◆ Participated in consultation on the Transgender Protocol and participated as part of the delegation to Council when the Protocol was passed
- ◆ Met with Urban Indigenous Strategy Senior Project Manager to explore women issues in relation to Hamilton's Urban Indigenous Strategy Truth and Reconciliation Commission Recommendations and how the SWC can actively participate

FUTURE GOALS

- ◆ To consider the impact of policy decisions related to transit, gentrification/housing, and environment on the health and wellbeing of women and their children
- ◆ Increase the leadership, representation and participation of women in all City departments and affiliates
- ◆ Advocate for more investment in affordable and accessible childcare
- ◆ Explore opportunities to expand childminding to all volunteers on city committees
- ◆ Explore removing all barriers to full engagement in SWC work including exploring digital and teleconferencing options
- ◆ A gender equity lens the integrated into all City of Hamilton budget processes
- ◆ Support ongoing safety audits, which consider the ways that women, experience the urban environment. Prioritize investments and resources, services and programs in the City of Hamilton that address violence against women and their children

2017-2018

MOTION

- ◆ To integrate a gender equity perspective into the design, development and execution of all budgetary processes in order to support equitable, effective and appropriate resource allocation
- ◆ Establish budgetary allocations to support and build gender equity and development programs, which enhance women's empowerment and engagement in civic life
- ◆ Restructure the allocation of public expenditures to promote women's economic opportunities and access to productive resources and address basic social, educational and health needs of women, particularly those living in poverty
- ◆ Develop the necessary analytical and methodological tools and mechanism for monitoring and evaluating, progress on building gender equity
- ◆ Make efforts to systematically review how women benefit from public sector expenditures; adjust budgets to ensure equity of access to public sector expenditures, both for enhancing productive capacity and for meeting social needs
- ◆ Conduct reviews of city service delivery systems to eliminate any existing bias against women
- ◆ Facilitate at all levels, more open and transparent budget processes using all available resources, including The Equity and Inclusion Toolkit