



Hamilton

**Minutes  
IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, March 14, 2019  
City Hall 71 Main St. W.  
Room 192/193, 6:30pm

---

**Present:** Eman Ismail-Elmasri, Marie Robbins, Beau Daniels, Dena Honig, Suad Badri, Mir Islam, Yohana Otite, Sam Abraham

**Also Present:** Nadia Olivieri, Staff Liaison

**Regrets:** n/a

**Absent:** Leo Johnson, Mané Arratia

**Chair:** **Suad Badri**

**Welcome and Introductions (6:40 pm)**

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

**(M. Islam/M. Robbins)**

Approve the Agenda of March 24, 2018 as presented

**CARRIED**

**2. Declarations of Interest -none**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**(D. Honig/M. Islam)**

Immigrant and Refugee Meeting Minutes of Oct 11, 2018 approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Presentations – Conor Flood**

**HSR Conor Flood, Coordinator, Customer Experience and Innovation Transit (HSR), City of Hamilton**

Revision the HSR project – put together with McMaster Civil Engineering Project

To engage with the entire community reflection of what the community wants

- Report to council in Spring 2020
- Survey takes about 20 minutes
- Data is base on postal code – not asking for demographic information.
- Presently 4500 respondents, looking for a minimum of 5500 respondents as a minimum

- Closing at the end of March 31, 2019
- Working with Operations (Bus Operators- staff) to identify who speak different languages and may be familiar with the community.
- Had consulted with HIPC and realized that the translation piece was a lesson learned
- Community engagement is really going to try to address some of these issues.
- Eman to speak: there is an opportunity to develop relationships with ESL
- How does HSR help Immigrants to get settled as they have specific needs.
- McMaster has identified community engage as a key aspect of informing the project.
- Dr. Moataz Mohamed – Assistant Professpr Department of Civil Engineering

## **5. Business / Discussion Items**

### **5.1 Housing Working Group Update** -no update available

**FYI: Employment – Immigration and Refugee Fedral Government –** have funding available for agencies with programs geared to Immigrants and Refugee.  
HIPC having the “Annual Event” at the end of March 25 or 26 (during work day 11:00 to 2:00 with lunch provided). This is a net working session for different informal settlement providers.  
Information is available on the HIPC site.

### **5.2 Employment Working Group Update** - Suad asking for help with the development of an Employment Award

### **5.3 Education Working Group Update –defer to next meeting** - The Chair encourages the sub committee to meet.

### **5.4 Membership Status** **(D. Honig/ S. Badri)** That the resignation of Holly McClean be accepted as requested. **CARRIED**

## **6. Other Business**

### **6.1 The Committee would like to generate ideas for New Comer Day Update:** Friday June 14, 2019 is the established date. Citizen enrolment Cermony a goal but not yet confirmed.

There was a suggestion to utilize a Passport stamping concept to encourage circulation – an idea from the past used by I&R with little success.

Time of the event shortened to 11-3;

Need to focus on social media marketing and specific information sharing.

Entertainment to continue; possible art competition suggested.

Suad is part of a sub committee-trying to think of a way to collect information to evaluate the day: there was a suggestion to put ipads out at key locations to collect information.

School Board participation in the day can be access through Yohana- need to connect as soon as possible.

#### INFORMATION SHARING

DZ Truck License preparation Program- have to be an Ontario Works Recipient

Professional Mentorship – opened to everyone Tuesday March 19, 2019

Conference Board of Canada Immigration Summit (May 2019)  
info-graph presented to members– interesting statistics presented.

**7. Adjournment** – Having addressed all items on the agenda, the meeting adjournment 8:00 pm.

**Next Meeting:     April 11, 2019  
                             City Hall Rm 192/193**