



Hamilton

## **Minutes**

### **IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

January 14, 2021

6:30pm-8:30pm

Due to the COVID-19 and the Closure of City Hall

All electronic meetings can be viewed at:

City's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/InsideCityofHamilton>

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**Present:** Dina Honig, Aref Alshaikhahmed, Rami Safi, Leslyn Gombakomba, Grace Maciak, Councillor Maureen Wilson,

**Also Present:** Cole Gately, Staff Liaison, Diversity & Inclusion, Office  
Taline Morris, Admin Assistant, Diversity & Inclusion

**Chair:** Rami Safi (Vice Chair)

### **Welcome and Introductions**

A round of welcome and introductions from R. Safi

### **1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES**

Alshaikhahmed gave a land acknowledgement

### **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

(Added items, if applicable, will be noted with \*)

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There are no Declarations

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**(R. Safi/ D. Honig)**

That the Immigrant and Refugee Committee approves that Minutes of December 10,2020 as presented.

**CARRIED**

#### **5. COMMUNICATIONS**

R. Safi to invite Sara Wayland from the Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council (HIPC) to present to The Advisory Committee for Immigrant and Refugees.

#### **6. DELEGATION REQUESTS**

Staff to provide more information on the process of internal delegation

#### **7. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

##### **i. Member Recruitment (Item 7.1)**

The members of the Immigrant and Refugee Committee requested an update on previous request to add new members to the committee. T.Morris advised that the request will go to the standing committee in the December 10, 2020 minutes that were approved at today's meeting.

##### **ii. General Discussion (Item 7.2)**

Members discussed the importance of upholding the words contained in the Land Acknowledgment and educating new immigrants and refugees about the rich history of this land. A. Alshaikhahmed suggested preparing a booklet to disseminate to new immigrants. D. Honig recommended collaborating with

other advisory committees and community agencies already working with the Aboriginal community. Members expressed interest in a presentation from the Urban Indigenous Strategy about current initiatives in the City of Hamilton as well as a member of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee once delegation process is confirmed.

### **iii. Councillor Wilson Update (Item 7.3)**

The Hamilton Amateur Athletic Association grounds park, located in the Kirkendall neighbourhood of ward 1, has aged requires some replacement parts. Discussions on how to facilitate this will begin to take place in partnership with the City of Hamilton and a neighbourhood working group. All who want to participate in the conversation are welcome to participate. The 2 upcoming meetings are February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm and Saturday February 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am.

### **iv. Correspondence from Clerk's office regarding Citizen Committee reports (Item 7.4)**

Committee received and reviewed correspondence from the Clerk's office regarding citizen Committee reports and provided the following feedback:

- The process for approval of thing seem strenuous as the committee only meets once a month
- The committee should have been asked if this process would work for them

### **v. Terms of Reference (Item 7.5)**

Members of the Advisory Committee for Immigrants and Refugees discussed a possible review of the Committee's Terms of Reference to understand the role and responsibilities of the Advisory Committee for Immigrants and Refugees. Discussion to continue at next meeting

## **8. ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)**

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 11 , 2021