



## CITIZEN COMMITTEE REPORT

<b>To:</b>	Audit, Finance and Administration Committee; General Issues Committee; and City Council
<b>From:</b>	LGBTQ Advisory Committee  Cameron Kroetsch, Chair
<b>Date:</b>	August 17, 2021
<b>Re:</b>	Changing the Standing Committee to which the LGBTQ Advisory Committee Reports

### Recommendations

That the City of Hamilton change the Standing Committee to which the LGBTQ Advisory Committee Reports from the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee to the Emergency and Community Services Committee, including updating the Procedural By-law (21-021) and any Standing Committee mandates or terms of reference that might be impacted by this change.

### Background

The LGBTQ Advisory Committee (LGBTQAC) has been discussing this change for over a year and feels that the mandate of the Emergency and Community Services Committee (ECS), including the complement of City staff that assist ECS in its deliberations, would be in a better position to support the LGBTQAC than the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee (AFA), to which the LGBTQAC currently reports.

## **Analysis / Rationale**

A number of the recommendations, discussions, and motions put forward by the LGBTQAC during this term of Council have much more closely aligned with the mandate of ECS than AFA, in the Committee's opinion. Apart from some language in AFA's mandate, that the LGBTQAC understands was specifically included to set up an Advisory Committee reporting structure, there is nothing linking the work of the LGBTQAC to the core mandate of AFA.

Community services, more broadly, align with not only the work that the LGBTQAC has done in this term of Council but with its own mandate, terms of reference, and list of outstanding business items.

This is not an unprecedented recommendation, as AFA's own mandate suggests the following with respect to the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities -

"To act as liaison to the Access & Equity volunteer advisory committees (with the exception of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities reporting to the General Issues Committee)"

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, a Sub-Committee that clearly falls under the purview of "Access & Equity advisory committees" reports to the General Issues Committee (GIC).

Aside from this example, it's important to note that the Hamilton Cycling Committee, which has brought forward recommendations related to access and equity, reports to PW. In fact, of the current 14 official Advisory Committees listed on the City of Hamilton's website, 8 of them do not report to AFA. They are -

- Arts Advisory Commission - reports to GIC
- Food Advisory Committee - reports to Board of Health
- Hamilton Cycling Committee - reports to PW
- Hamilton Veterans Committee - reports to ECS
- Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee - reports to ECS
- Keep Hamilton Clean and Green Committee - reports to PW
- Seniors Advisory Committee - reports to ECS
- Waste Management Advisory Committee - reports to PW