



Scan of community organizations with mandates and/or services aligned with City of Hamilton Volunteer Advisory Committees

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Prepared for: City of Hamilton

Prepared by: Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton

In November 2023, the Social Planning and Research Council (SPRC) was engaged by the City of Hamilton’s Government Relations and Community Engagement Division to collect feedback from key community partners including VAC members, staff liaisons, and council members as part of the Volunteer Advisory Committee (VAC) review undertaken by the City. SPRC’s report “*City of Hamilton Volunteer Advisory Committee Review: Engagement Report*” outlines the feedback and recommendations based on these engagements.

In addition, at the request of City’s Government Relations and Community Engagement Division, SPRC developed the below list of organizations, community tables, and local collaboratives that have a mandate that, at least in part, are similarly aligned with the mandates of VACs. This includes organizations that provide significant programming and/or services in related areas.

Similarly aligned organizations and community tables have been provided for all VACs. The City’s Sub-Committees (e.g. Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities and Agriculture and Rural Affairs Sub-committee) have not been included as they are not Volunteer Advisory Committees.

At the outset, it is important to acknowledge that this is not an exhaustive list. It is not intended to capture all not-for-profit entities that operate in areas related to the VACs, but rather provides a broad picture of organizations working in each area. The fluid nature of community-based work makes it difficult to capture all not-for-profit entities and community tables working in similar areas to VACs.

The selection of organizations and collaboratives was based on reviews of publicly available lists of organizations in different subject areas, the Hamilton Red Book, the City's Enrichment Fund recipient lists, a previous survey of city staff¹, and existing knowledge and networks of SPRC staff. The criteria for inclusion were limited to non-profit organizations and associated community tables. In some instances where government/quasi-government entities are key players in a specific area, these have also been included. In generating this list, SPRC looked at organizations similarly aligned with aspects of the VAC mandates. Where not included on the City's VAC listing webpage, the mandates of the VACs included below were provided by City staff.

As highlighted in Appendix F of SPRC's "*City of Hamilton Volunteer Advisory Committee Review: Engagement Report*", VACs provide unique engagement opportunities for City staff and Council, and while there may be some consistencies between VACs and engagements with other community tables and organizations, there are also distinctions between engagement opportunities. These include:

- VAC membership is often made up of a larger portion of individual community members/constituents, whereas community tables are often made up of organizational representatives. Consultation with community tables or directly with organizations may provide a different perspective, representing institutional or agency feedback.
- As council representatives make up part of VAC membership, VACs have a direct link to council, which is not necessarily the case with community tables, collaboratives and organizations as consultation with these groups is often conducted by City staff.
- There are delineated processes for how VACs should be engaged and consulted by the City, that support transparency of VACs. These parameters are available to the public through VAC Terms of Reference, public VAC meetings, agendas, and minutes. The City's process for engaging and consulting with community bodies may not have the same degree of transparency for the public, although these consultations and relationships between the City and outside organizations also bring valuable feedback. City consultations with community organizations and tables are not typically open or recorded for the public and therefore may not have a clear framework on who gets consulted, when, and how frequently.

¹ See Appendix G of SPRC's "*City of Hamilton Volunteer Advisory Committee Review: Engagement Report*"

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Arts Advisory Commission</p> <p>Mandate: <i>“To recommend activities for the stabilization and strengthening of the arts community; to inform Council of issues and achievements in the Hamilton arts community; to liaise with and act as a point of contact for members of the arts community regarding issues affecting the arts community; to monitor and assist with the implementation of the Public Art Program; to monitor and assist with the implementation of the Arts Awards Program.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hamilton Arts and Culture Collective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Art Gallery of Hamilton - Centre [3] for Artistic and Social Practice - CoBALT Connects - Dundas Arts & Crafts Association - Dundas Little Theatre - Dundas Valley School of Art - Hamilton Arts Council - Hamilton Artists Inc. - Hamilton Festival Theatre Company (Fringe Festival) - Hamilton Music Collective - Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra - Hamilton Theatre Inc. - Immigrant Culture and Art Association - Players Guild Theatre - Re-Create Outreach Art Studio - Supercrawl Productions - Theatre Ancaster - Theatre Aquarius - Women’s Art Association of Hamilton - Workers Arts and Heritage Centre - Various choir and music performance organizations - Various craft-specific guilds

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Climate Change Advisory Committee*</p> <p>Purpose: <i>“To provide advice to Council and City Staff on the prioritization, implementation and monitoring of Hamilton’s Climate Action Strategy, through an equitable and inclusive manner and a climate justice lens, that responds to the perspectives and needs of all, while transitioning to a prosperous, healthy and vibrant net-zero greenhouse gas community that is a national leader in climate adaptation.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clean Air Hamilton - Friendly Streets - Hamilton Community Climate Action Network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bay Area Restoration Council - Environment Hamilton - Green Venture - Hamilton 350 - Hamilton Conservation Authority - Hamilton Conservation Foundation - Hamilton Industrial Environmental Association - Hamilton Naturalist Club - Royal Botanical Gardens

*While not included in as part of the VAC Review engagements conducted by SPRC, the Climate Change Advisory Committee was included in this list at the direction of City staff. Please also note that a SPRC staff is a member of the Climate Change Advisory Committee.

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Committee Against Racism</p> <p>Mandate: <i>“The Committee is empowered by and responsible to City Council for its activities; it reports to City Council, on issues and concerns pertaining to racism and provides advice to address the impacts of racism, through the Audit, Finance & Administration Committee.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Circle of Beads - Hamilton For All - No Hate in the Hammer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hamilton Anti Racism Resource Centre - Hamilton Community Legal Clinic - Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion - Various faith and cultural organizations

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Food Advisory Committee</p> <p>Mandate: <i>“As a volunteer advisory committee to the Board of Health, the Food Advisory Committee will support and advise on the implementation of Hamilton’s Food Strategy, and the development of inclusive and comprehensive food related policies and programs at the individual, household, and community/population level based on internationally recognized principles of healthy public policy and best practices/available evidence.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction - Hamilton Emergency Food Network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compass Community Health Centre - De dwa da dehs nye -Aboriginal Health Centre - Eva Rothwell Centre - Food4Kids - Good Shepherd - Hamilton Community Food Centre - Hamilton Community Garden Network - Hamilton Dream Centre - Hamilton Foodshare - Hamilton Regional Indian Centre - Hamilton Sustainable Victory Gardens - Hamilton Tastebuds Student Nutrition Program - Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre - Living Rock Ministries - McQuesten Urban Farm - Mission’s Services - Native Women’s Centre - Niwasa Kendaaswin Teg - Neighbour to Neighbour - Salvation Army - St. Matthew’s House - Welcome Inn Community Centre - Various foodbanks at places of worship

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Hamilton Cycling Committee</p> <p>Purpose: <i>“The Hamilton Cycling Committee (HCC) advises City Council on:</i> <i>a. all matters related to cycling and micro-mobility</i> <i>b. monitors the implementation of the Hamilton Cycling Master Plan</i> <i>c. encourages and participates in planning for bicycling and micro-mobility facilities</i> <i>d. encourages citizens to cycle instead of drive</i> <i>e. educates the public about the benefits and necessities of cycling</i> <i>f. integrates the work of area municipal bicycle and active transportation committees”</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bike for Mike - Cycle Hamilton - Daily School Route - Environment Hamilton - Hamilton Bike Share/Everyone Rides Initiative - Hamilton Burlington Mountain Biking Association - Hamilton Glow Riders - New Hope Community Bikes - Steel Town Athletic Club (Cycle)

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<p>Hamilton Veterans Committee</p> <p>Mandate: <i>“Reporting to Council, through the Emergency and Community Services Committee, the Hamilton Veterans Committee oversees the planning and delivery of military remembrance and commemoration activities on behalf of the City of Hamilton. When directed by Council, the Committee will provide input on projects and issues that are of concern to Hamilton Veterans.”</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cadets - Legions - Veteran Affairs, Hamilton District Office - Veterans Service League

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee</p> <p>Mandate: <i>“The mandate of the HHAC is to: - communicate and work to address the needs of citizens within the community for whom barriers exist to accessing safe, suitable, and affordable housing, including the supports needed to enable citizens to obtain and retain their homes; and - support the City of Hamilton’s 10-year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan by providing information, advice, and recommendations to the Emergency & Community Services Committee regarding its successful and meaningful implementation.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coalition of Hamilton’s Indigenous Leadership - Men’s Emergency Services Committee - Women’s Housing Planning Collaborative - Street Youth Planning Collaborative - Hamilton is Home - Emergency Shelter Coordination Table 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACORN Hamilton - City Housing Hamilton - Golden Horseshoe Co-operative Housing Federation - Good Shepherd - Greater Hamilton Health Network - Habitat for Humanity - Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters - Hamilton Community Benefits Network - Hamilton Community Legal Clinic - Hamilton Housing Help Centre - Hamilton Regional Indian Centre - Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre - The Hub - Indwell - Interval House of Hamilton - Keeping Six/HAMSMaRT - Kiwanis Non-Profit Homes - Living Rock Ministries - Mission’s Services - Native Women’s Centre - Nisa Homes - Residential Care Facilities - Sacajawea Non-profit Housing - Shelter Health Network - Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton - St Matthew’s House - The Salvation Army - Womankind Addiction Services - Wesley - West End Home Builders Association - YMCA - YWCA

		- Various non-profit and co-operative housing providers
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VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Immigrant and Refugee Advisory Committee</p> <p>Mandate: <i>"To make recommendations to City Council and staff regarding policies, procedures and guidelines, which address the needs and concerns of people who are immigrants or refugees."</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council (HIPC) - Hamilton Coalition for Refugee Claimants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Afro Canadian Caribbean Association - Centre de Sante Communautaire Hamilton/Niagara - College Boreal Hamilton - Compass Community Health - Empowerment Squared - Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre - Immigrant Culture and Art Association - Immigrant Working Centre - Micah House - Open Homes Hamilton - Rafiki Hamilton - Refuge: Hamilton Centre for Newcomer Health - Welcome Inn Community Centre - Wesley - YMCA - YWCA - Various cultural groups and events

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Indigenous Advisory Committee</p> <p>Mandate: <i>“The Indigenous Advisory Committee assists the City of Hamilton to honour and engage its Indigenous citizens in the pursuit of the City’s vision by providing advice and/or recommendations, through the appropriate Standing Committee of Council, that enhance the wellbeing of Indigenous people and/or resolve municipal issues.</i> <i>The Committee envisions a future where Hamilton is an inclusive and culturally-aware community, where issues of importance to its Indigenous peoples are addressed proactively, effectively and respectfully on the municipal agenda.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Circle of Beads - Coalition of Hamilton’s Indigenous Leadership (CHIL) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - De dwa da dehs nye -Aboriginal Health Centre - Hamilton Regional Indian Centre - Native Women’s Centre - Niwasa Kendaaswin Teg - NPAAMB Indigenous Youth Employment & Training - Sacajawea Non-Profit Housing - Woodland Cultural Centre

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Keep Hamilton Clean and Green Committee</p> <p>Mandate: <i>“The KHCG Committee will support and provide advice to City staff, elected officials and other stakeholders to implement the Clean & Green Hamilton Strategy and Our Future Hamilton community vision. Reporting through the Public Works Committee, the KHCG Committee will provide input to staff and Council on issues relating to environmental sustainability and stewardship and advice on approaches to engaging citizens to take greater responsibility to protect and revitalize natural and built environments. The KHCG Committee’s primary focus is on effecting behaviours and attitudes conducive to a clean, healthy and safe community through leadership and action. The Committee will provide input and guidance to City staff, Council and other stakeholders on community and private sector involvement and identification of resources to sustain Clean and Green programs and initiatives that aim to beautify our community, promote environmental stewardship and prevent litter, illegal dumping and graffiti.”</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bay Area Restoration Council - Environment Hamilton - Green Venture - Hamilton Conservation Authority - Hamilton Naturalists Club - Trees for Hamilton

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Advisory Committee</p> <p>Mandate: <i>“The Committee is empowered by City Council and is responsible to City Council for its services; it reports to City Council on issues and concerns pertaining to the LGBTQ communities through the Audit, Finance & Administration Committee.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hamilton Trans Health Coalition - Queer and Trans Youth Collaborative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compass Community Health - Good Shepherd - Greater Hamilton Health Network - Hamilton Community Legal Clinic – Queer Justice Project - Positive Health Network - Pride Hamilton - Shelter Health Network - Sexual Assault Centre (Hamilton & Area) - Youth Wellness Centre - YWCA/Spectrum

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Mundialization Committee</p> <p>Mandate: <i>“The Committee is empowered by City Council and is responsible to City Council for its activities; it reports to City Council, on facilitating and supporting peace initiatives, supporting, facilitating twinned city relationships, through the Audit, Finance & Administration Committee.”</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rotary Club of Hamilton - Various cultural organizations, societies and clubs

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Seniors Advisory Committee</p> <p>Mandate: <i>“The Senior Advisory Committee is empowered by City Council and is responsible to City Council for its activities; it reports to City Council, on issues and concerns pertaining to seniors in Hamilton, through the Emergency & Community Services Committee.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Age Friendly Hamilton - Seniors at Risk in Hamilton Collaborative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Able Living - The Alzheimer Society of Brant, Haldimand Norfolk, Hamilton Halton - Afro Canadian Caribbean Association Hamilton - Ancaster Community Services - Banyan Community Services - Centre de Sante Communautaire de Hamilton/Niagara - Compass Community Health - DARTS - Dundas Community Services - Flamborough Connects - Glanbrook Community Services - Good Shepherd - Hamilton Council on Aging - Hamilton Health Sciences - Hamilton Public Library - Hamilton Recreation Centres - Hamilton Regional Indian Centre - Meals on Wheels (various organizations) - Non-profit long term care homes - Public Health Seniors Dental Bus and Clinic - Seniors Centres - St. Joseph’s Healthcare - St. Matthew’s House - Victorian Order of Nurses - Wesley

VAC name and mandate	Tables/collaboratives	Service Providers/ Organizations
<p>Women and Gender Equity Committee</p> <p>Mandate: <i>“The Women and Gender Equity Committee for the City of Hamilton acts as an Advisory Committee on matters pertaining to gender inequities faced by women, trans, and non-binary individuals. It achieves this mandate by providing Council input on matters of municipal concern and evaluating the City on its related efforts.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women Abuse Working Group (WAG) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Centre de Sante Communautaire de Hamilton/Niagara - Good Shepherd - Hamilton’s Women’s Clinic - Interval House - Mission’s Services - Native Women’s Centre - Nisa Homes - Sexual Assault Centre (Hamilton and Area) - Sex Workers Action Plan - Womankind Addiction Service - YMCA - YWCA - Zonta Club