



**WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 7, 2024**

PRESENT: Jacquie Gahagan, Chair
Hannah Jackson, Vice Chair
Councillor Pam Lovelace
Elizabeth Fraser
Jane McKay-Nesbitt

REGRETS: Sonia Ikeloa
Councillor Becky Kent

STAFF: Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion / ANSAIO
Baylee Brown, Coordinator 2SLGBTQ+ /Gender Equity, Community Engagement & Research
Amy Brierley, Social Policy Strategist
Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m., the Committee adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 1, 2024

MOVED by Elizabeth Fraser, seconded by Hannah Jackson

THAT the minutes of February 1, 2024 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions:

- Item 10.1 – Application of GBA+ to Planning & Development Policy

Deletions: None

As provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Jane McKay-Nesbitt requested that Item 9.1.1 - Administrative Order 2023-001-GOV, *Respecting Public Appointments to Committees of Council and External Boards* be considered prior to item 6.1.

MOVED by Jane McKay-Nesbitt, seconded by Hannah Jackson

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – February 1, 2024

6.1 Review of the Indigenous Women and Two Spirit Campaign School and Leadership Summit

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated March 7, 2024

Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion / ANSAIO, Baylee Brown, Coordinator 2SLGBTQ+ /Gender Equity, Community Engagement & Research, Jerid Watton, Coordinator, Outreach & Research Indigenous and external presenter, Karen Bernard gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence – None

7.2 Petitions – None

7.3 Presentation – None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Administrative Order 2023-001-GOV, Respecting Public Appointments to Committees of Council and External Boards

The following was before the Committee:

- Admin Order 2023-001-GOV, *Respecting Public Appointments to Committees of Council and External Boards*
- Staff presentation dated June 26, 2023

Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding the possibility of holding “exit interviews” with outgoing Committee members, the volume of applications received for the Women’s Advisory Committee and staff capacity related to the Public Appointments policy.

Annie Sherry, Public Appointments Coordinator and Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

9.2.1 Regional Council Update

Councillor Lovelace provided an update on Regional Council’s recent activities including the 2024/25 Municipal Budget, ongoing work by the department of Community Safety, Phase 5 of the Regional Plan, and the Housing Accelerator Fund. Lovelace noted their ongoing work with past Committee presenter, Wyndolyn Brown to establish a support centre for survivors of human trafficking and initiating a learning session between Halifax Regional Police and Regional Council where Councillors received an in-depth education on the issue of human trafficking.

9.3 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

9.3.1 Administrative Order 2019-004-GOV, Respecting the Women's Advisory Committee in the Halifax Regional Municipality

The following was before the Committee:

- Administrative Order 2019-004-GOV, *Respecting the Women's Advisory Committee in the Halifax Regional Municipality*

The Committee discussed past amendments to Administrative Order 2019-004-GOV, the possibility of passing a motion to rename the Women’s Advisory Committee and agreed to discuss the item further at a future meeting.

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant and Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion / ANSAIO responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

9.3.2 Discussion of Meeting Dates and Times

The following was before the Committee:

- Approved 2024 Women’s Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

The Committee discussed the meeting schedule for 2024 and the possibility of holding in-person meetings at Halifax Hall.

10. ADDED ITEMS

10.1 Application of GBA+ to Planning and Development Policy

The Committee discussed questions raised in the Women’s Advisory Committee general correspondence February 10-29, 2024 regarding the application of Gender Based Analysis Plus in Planning and

Development (P&D) policy at Halifax Regional Municipality and requested staff arrange for the Committee to receive a presentation from P&D at a future meeting.

Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion / ANSAIO responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 4, 2024

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald
Legislative Assistant