



**WOMEN AND GENDER EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
August 7, 2025**

PRESENT: Doreen Redmond, Chair
Michelle Benson, Vice Chair
Councillor Hinch
Councillor Hartling
Devi Ayyagari
Rhiannon Makohoniuk
Delainey McCarron
Sherryll Murphy

REGRETS: Natalie Borden
Cheryl Copage-Gehue
Mairi Graham

STAFF: Carla John, Advisor, Diversity & Inclusion
Amy Brierley, Social Policy Strategist
Raine Sparling, Coordinator 2SLGBTQ+ /Gender Equity Community
Engagement and Research
Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the Women and Gender Equity Advisory Committee at a future meeting.

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.

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 – June 5, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Hinch, seconded by Michelle Benson

THAT the minutes of June 5, 2025 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Sherryll Murphy, seconded by Councillor Hartling

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

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 – NONE

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 COMMITTEE MEMEBRS

9.1.1 Work Plan Discussion

The following was before the Committee:

- Draft Women and Gender Equity Advisory Committee 2025 Work Plan
- Staff presentation dated August 7, 2025

Amy Brierley, Social Policy Strategist, Carla John, Advisor, Diversity & Inclusion and Raine Sparling, Coordinator 2SLGBTQ+ /Gender Equity Community Engagement and Research gave a presentation.

Brierley, John and Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee identified the following topics for further learning:

- JustFOOD – Action Plan for the Halifax Region;

- Equitable water access in the Halifax Regional Municipality;
- Halifax Regional Police's approach to intimate partner violence;
- Community Mobilization Teams;
- Emergency Management;
- Accessibility concerns as they relate to Halifax Transit;
- The 2026/27 Municipal Budget planning process;
- The Strategic Plan 2026-2030;
- Services provided by Feed Nova Scotia; and
- 211 Nova Scotia.

The Committee requested that staff circulate presentations the Committee had previously received on the topic of housing.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 4, 2025

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald
Legislative Assistant