



**WOMEN AND GENDER EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
November 6, 2025**

**PRESENT:** Doreen Redmond, Chair  
Michelle Benson, Vice Chair  
Councillor Nancy Hartling  
Councillor Virginia Hinch  
Devi Ayyagari  
Natalie Borden  
Mairi Graham  
Rhiannon Makohoniuk  
Delainey McCarron

**REGRETS:** Cheryl Copage-Gehue  
Sherrill Murphy

**STAFF:** Carla John, Advisor Diversity & Inclusion  
Raine Sparling, Coordinator 2SLGBTQ+ /Gender Equity Community  
Engagement and Research  
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](http://halifax.ca).*

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:33 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 – October 2, 2025**

MOVED by Councillor Hinch, seconded by Natalie Borden

**THAT the minutes of October 2, 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 Natalie Borden, seconded by Delainey McCarron

**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 Presentations – None**

**8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

**9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

**9.1 STAFF**

**9.1.1 Proposed 2026 Meeting Schedule**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff memorandum dated November 6, 2025

MOVED by Michelle Benson, seconded by Councillor Hartling

**THAT the Women and Gender Equity Advisory Committee approve the proposed 2026 Women and Gender Equity Advisory Committee meeting schedule as outlined in the staff memorandum.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.2 Overview of Point-in-Time Count Report**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated November 6, 2025

Max Chauvin, Director Housing and Homelessness gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee requested that the “Point-in-Time Count Report 2024” be distributed to members through the Legislative Assistant and Chauvin attend a future meeting of the Committee. Chauvin advised the Committee that requests for further information regarding the report could be sent through the Legislative Assistant.

## **9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **9.2.1 Regional Council Update**

Councillor Hartling noted the staff recommendation for the item *15.5.5 Gender-Based Analysis Plus Training for Regional Council* passed unanimously at the October 28, 2025 Halifax Regional Council meeting.

Councillor Hartling noted December 6 was Canada’s National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women and requested the Committee discuss the municipality’s role in recognizing this day. Councillor Hartling noted plans to bring a motion forward at an upcoming meeting of the Executive Standing Committee regarding the municipality’s recognition of important dates related to the mandate of the Committee.

The Committee requested that Diversity & Inclusion staff follow up with communications staff regarding plans to acknowledge December 6, noted the upcoming Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20 and requested staff provide a list of significant dates relevant to the Committee.

Carla John, Advisor Diversity & Inclusion, Raine Sparling, Coordinator 2SLGBTQ+ /Gender Equity Community Engagement and Research and Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee expressed an interest in receiving a presentation from Halifax Transit at a future meeting for the purpose of providing feedback.

## **10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

## **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – January 15, 2026**

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald  
Legislative Assistant