

## Agenda

**Thursday, July 22, 2021**

### **Electronic Participation at 4:30 p.m.**

As part of the City's commitment to safety during the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be held electronically.

This Meeting may be viewed online at [www.stcatharines.ca/youtube](http://www.stcatharines.ca/youtube)

**Public Comments:** The public may submit comments regarding agenda matters by contacting [lkurek@stcatharines.ca](mailto:lkurek@stcatharines.ca) by Wednesday, July 21, 2021 before 3:00 p.m. Comments submitted will be considered as public information and entered into public record.

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1. **Call meeting to order (Chair, Bill Phillips)**
  2. **Recognition of Traditional Territories**
  3. **Additions / Deletions to the Agenda**
  4. **Motion to approve the agenda**
  5. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting – Apr 22, 2021.**
  6. **Declarations of Interest**
  7. **Presentations (invited guests)**
  8. **Business arising from the minutes**
  9. **Business**

**Pass a motion to go In-Camera for:** *Personal matters about an identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees*

- a) **9.1** Review of applications for vacancies on Older Adults Advisory, Anti-Racism Advisory, LGBTQ2+ and Equity and Inclusion Advisory and recommendations for the vacancies

**Pass a motion to go back to public session**

**Pass a motion arising from the in-camera session:** *To recommend appointing the people identified in-camera.*

**b) 9.2 Older Adults Advisory Committee 2021 work plan**

**c) 9.3 Recommendation from the Older Adults Advisory Committee:  
Walker YMCA**

- i. Repurposing of the Walker YMCA into a Community Centre for All Ages: The Older Adults Advisory Committee would like to provide some input into the City's exploration of options regarding the Walker YMCA site and specifically how there appears to be an opportunity for the City or St Catharines to potentially gain a valuable municipal community centre.

**d) 9.4 Recommendation from the Older Adults Advisory Committee:  
James Street Civic Space**

- i. James Street Civic Space: The Older Adults Advisory Committee is fully supportive of an age friendly, enhanced outdoor, pedestrian place on James Street, from Church to King.

**e) 9.5 Accessibility Advisory Committee 2021 work plan**

**f) 9.6 Equity and Inclusion 2021 work plan**

**g) 9.7 Review of Leadership Accord for Gender Diversity**

Motion from the Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee (Feb 9, 2021.)

Motion that the Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee would like City Council to reaffirm its commitment to the necessary staffing and resources as it relates to training, capacity, policy building and implementation of diversity, equity and inclusion.

Moved by H. Bateman, Seconded by T. McLennon

**h) 9.8 Resolution in Support of Calls for Action In the Wake of the  
Islamophobic Attack in London, Ontario**

Anti-Racism Advisory Committee: June 15, 2021.

WHEREAS on June 6, 2021, members of a Muslim family were killed in a racist terrorist attack which targeted the family because of they were Muslim; and

WHEREAS Islamophobia is a form of racism and needs to be addressed systemically, and

WHEREAS the National Council of Canadian Muslims has called for a national summit on Islamophobia and the Federal Minister of Diversity, Inclusion, and Youth has committed to holding this summit, and

WHEREAS none of the police-reported hate crimes in Niagara in the last two years have been prosecuted as hate crimes, per the reports of the Niagara Regional Police Service; and

WHEREAS the attack suspect has been charged with terrorism

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of St. Catharines condemns the London attack of June 6, 2021 as an act of Islamophobia and terrorism; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of St. Catharines supports the call for a national summit on Islamophobia; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of St. Catharines urges provincial crown prosecution attorneys to aggressively prosecute hate crimes as hate crimes; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of St. Catharines asks the province of Ontario to re-instate funding for the Anti-Racism Directorate; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of St. Catharines condemns politicians and governments of all political backgrounds who promote hate, including but not limited to xenophobia and Islamophobia, for political gain; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of St. Catharines calls upon the Government of Canada to immediately introduce and strengthen laws to address online hate speech, including white supremacy and the distribution of hateful materials targeting minority groups, including Muslims, and including considering re-introducing Section 13 of the Canada Human Rights Act which targeted online hate; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of St. Catharines denounces the Quebec Charter of Values and Bill 21 as they are inherently biased toward people of faith and in this context in particular Muslim women for its ban on the hijab and other head coverings; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of St. Catharines supports and invites public discussions on how to prevent online hate in coordination with the efforts of other levels of government.

i) **9.9 Motion for Anti-Street Harassment By-law**

Anti-Racism Advisory Committee, April 20, 2021.

WHEREAS hate and personal abuse directed at individuals is contrary to the values of the City of St. Catharines; and

WHEREAS there is a legal precedent when in 2018 the Ontario Court of Appeals decided in *Bracken v. Niagara Parks Police*, 2018 ONCA 261, that a regulatory body can make it an offense to use insulting and abusive language against an individual; and

WHEREAS the City of London passed a by-law PH-18 on public nuisances which states that “No person shall, in a Public Place, unnecessarily interfere with another person’s use and enjoyment of the Public Place by using abusive or insulting language as a personal invective,” and has successfully prosecuted violators in court; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee recommends to city council to amend By-law 2007-295 (A By-law to address Public Nuisances) under Section 2 “Prohibitions” to add:

“No person shall, in a public place, unnecessarily interfere with another person’s use and enjoyment of the Public Place by using abusive or insulting language as a personal invective.”

j) **9.10 Motion for Racist and Hate Incident Response Protocol**

Anti-Racism Advisory Committee, April 20, 2021- During this item only the Respect in the Workplace policy will be discussed as the R-Zone was referred to the Recreation Master Plan committee.

WHEREAS there should be established protocols in the event of a major racist or hate incident

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee recommends:

- 1) When there is a significant racist or hate incident, the mayor will officially and publicly denounce the incident.
- 2) Amend by-law 2007-295 (public nuisances) section 2.5.1 (graffiti on private property) to state additionally “except in the case of hate graffiti, which will be removed by the City within 24 hours”
- 3) Amend the Rzone policy as follows:  
(Adapted from UEFA (Union of European Football Associations) and FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) Guidelines.)
  - If the offenders cannot be identified, or while waiting for police, stop the event and make audible announcements to cease the racist/hate behavior. Address the crowd and make the announcement three times, and then resume the event.
  - If the offense continues and police have not arrived, make a second announcement and suspend the event for 15 minutes. State that if the racist or hateful behavior continues the event will be canceled.

- If the offense escalates after resuming the event and the police have not arrived, cancel the event.

4) Amend the Respect in the Workplace Policy – Harassment and Violence (HR 01-04) to say:

Hate Mail: Hate mail (and any other objects involved in a hate-motivated incident) should be handled as little as possible, to ensure police can obtain fingerprints. Item(s) should be placed in a clear plastic bag and set aside. A direct supervisor should be informed as soon as possible.

Hate Phone Call/Voice Message: Hate motivated phone calls or voicemail messages should be documented immediately by the receiver. The receiver should notify their direct supervisor as soon as possible.

10. **Date of next meeting**  
Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

11. **Motion to Adjourn**