

Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee

Agenda

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Electronic Participation at 7:00 pm

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

Public Comments: The public may submit comments regarding agenda matters by contacting smchugh@stcatharines.ca by Monday September 13, 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)**
 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**
 6. **Declarations of Interest**
 7. **Committee Update**
 - a) New Members and Introductions
 8. **Presentations (invited guests)**
 - a) Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk – Draft Public Conduct Policy
 9. **Business arising from the minutes**

The

Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee
is an Advisory Committee of City Council



- a) Discussion of Workplan Items
- 10. **Business**
 - a) **10.1 Equitable Recovery Subcommittee Update and Review of Draft Report**
 - b) **10.2 Work Plan Item Updates**
 - i. Equity and Inclusion Training
 - ii. Friendly and Accessible Signage
 - iii. Recognition Program
 - iv. Leadership Accord for Gender Diversity
 - v. Equitable Recovery Plan (see item 9.1)
 - vi. Support for Newcomers
- 11. **Items of Correspondence**
 - a) Memo from Donna Delvecchio, Deputy Clerk regarding 2022 Municipal and School Board Election – Alternative Voting Method Survey
- 12. **Date of next meeting**
- 13. **Motion to Adjourn**

Memorandum

To: Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee
Anti-Racism Advisory Committee
LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee

From: Donna Delvecchio, Deputy Clerk

Date: September 7, 2021

Subject: 2022 Municipal and School Board Election - Alternative Voting Method Survey

At the August 30, 2021 Council meeting, a report was presented from Office of the City Clerk regarding the above noted subject. The report outlined an overview of possible alternative voting methods available, these would be in addition to in-person polls for the 2022 municipal and school board election.

As the City of St. Catharines has not offered an alternative voting method in past elections, a few of the many reasons why offering one would be positive include:

- All eligible voters would have the opportunity to cast their own ballot if they choose to. In-person only voting may not meet this goal if the voter is unable to visit a poll on voting day for a variety of reasons.
- Eligible voters can cast their ballot at their convenience.
- Eligible voters may not be comfortable entering a busy polling location for a variety of reasons.

Community engagement is planned to begin on October 1, 2021 for 2 weeks using the engageSTC platform to obtain feedback on methods of voting that would be preferred by voters. In November 2021, a further report with a recommended method(s) taking into consideration the results of the community engagement, available resources, risks and opportunities for each method, etc. will be presented to Council for consideration.

Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary but welcomed. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,



Donna Delvecchio
Deputy Clerk
Legal and Clerk's Services
ddelvecchio@stcatharines.ca