

LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, December 01, 2021

Electronic Meeting at 5:45pm

Attendance:

Liam Coward
Marissa Daniels
David Hall
Rick Kennedy
Deb Pearce
Rin Simon
Stephanie Vail
Committee Member, Name Redacted

Absent:

Enzo DeDivitiis

Staff Liaison:

Shannon McHugh, Manager, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

1. Call meeting to order (Chair)

R. Kennedy called the meeting to order at 5:51pm.

2. Recognition of Traditional Territories

Committee Member, Name Redacted, acknowledged that the land on which the LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee meets today is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples. Acknowledging this is a reminder that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

3. Amendments to the Agenda

R. Simon would like to add a discussion of how to add 'new business' to the agenda.

4. Motion to approve the agenda

Moved by L. Coward

THAT the Agenda of the December 1, 2021 meeting of the LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee be approved as amended.

Carried

5. Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the November 3, 2021 meeting. AIDS should be capitalized.

Moved by D. Hall

THAT the minutes of the November 3, 2021 meeting of the LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee be adopted as amended.

Carried

6. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

7. Acknowledgment of World AIDS Day

R. Kennedy and L Coward acknowledged World AIDS Day and Indigenous AIDS Awareness Week. A candle was lit in vigil to honour the memory of lives lost to AIDS, in honour of the resilient people who live with HIV and as a sign of hope. The good work of Positive Living Niagara was acknowledged.

8. Welcome and Introductions to New Members

Committee members and Staff Liaison introduced themselves to new members, new members introduced themselves to Committee members and Staff Liaison.

9. Business arising from the minutes

a. Social Category Update

The Committee reviewed and confirmed the organizations to be added to the Social Category as part of the workplan item regarding the 'Environmental Scan', including some of the gaps that exist in local

services and what constitutes a 'social' category. M. Daniels will send contact information for Transgender Niagara to S. McHugh. R. Kennedy to research the Gay Men's Group that meets at Mahtay Café.

b. Business Category Update – DEFERRED to next meeting

c. Review and Update of Workplan Items

i. Environmental Scan

This workplan item was discussed at items 9(a), 9(b), and 10(a)(10.1).

ii. Gender and Sexual Diversity Training

S. McHugh provided an update on this item that there is no known training provided to staff at present addressing gender and sexual diversity specifically. The Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee has a similar item on its workplan; S. McHugh will share those resources with L. Coward, M. Daniels and D. Pearce who will continue to work on this item.

iii. Gender Inclusive Washrooms Project

S. McHugh provided an update on this item from staff. It is believed that recent upgrades to Bill Burgoyne and Merritton Lions Arena included gender inclusive washrooms. To S. McHugh's knowledge, there is no current plan of an overhaul to current City owned properties/facilities as this would be a capital budget item needing approval.

M. Daniels and R. Kennedy presented on gender inclusive washrooms, specifically signage.

Moved by M. Daniels

THAT the LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee thanks the Social Pillar and Accessibility Advisory Committees for their very helpful work on the Multi-year Accessibility PLAN 2021-2025; and

THAT the LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee requests that wherein the plan describes the "design of public spaces" due consideration be given to the design and implementation of signage on what is described as "universal

washrooms” to clearly indicate that people of all genders - including trans and non-binary are welcome to use the washroom.

Carried

Moved by L. Coward

THAT with respect to the reported Update to Facility Accessibility Design Standards (FADS) in 2020, in Partnership with the Accessibility Advisory Committee, the Social Pillar Committee, and City Council the LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee requests that its input also be sought with respect to the design and implementation of universal washrooms so that they can be truly welcoming and safe spaces for all.

Carried

iv. Recognition of Days of Significance to Members of the LGBTQ2+ Communities – DEFERRED to next meeting

d. Committee Term Update from Staff Liaison

S. McHugh updated Committee members that the Committee will keep meeting until the new term of Council appoints new members which may be into 2023.

e. Conversion Therapy Update from Staff Liaison

S. McHugh updated Committee members that per request from Councillor Miller, a memo has been drafted.

10. Business

a. 10.1 Health Category – DEFERRED to next meeting

b. 10.2 Dealing with New Business

R. Simon brought forward two new items for discussion.

R. Simon asked the Committee to consider altering the acronym used for the Committee name as Two-spirit is a uniquely Indigenous worldview and should not be incorporated into the

LGBTQ+ acronym. R. Simon suggested either LGBTQ+ and Two-Spirit Advisory Committee or Two-Spirit and LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee would be more appropriate. D. Pearce would like to work on this item – asked for the inclusion of intersex specifically.

R. Simon asked the Committee to allow them to put some recommendations forward to better the land acknowledgment. Committee Member, Name Redacted advised the Committee that the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee is also discussing the Land Acknowledgement.

11. Date of next meeting

Wednesday, January 05, 2022 at 5:45pm

12. Motion to Adjourn

Moved by D. Pearce

THAT the December 1, 2021 meeting of the LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.