

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole Report

DATE: Wednesday, October 13, 2021

TITLE: HONORARIA FOR PUBLIC MEMBERS OF COUNCIL ADVISORY BODIES

FROM: COUNCILLOR TONY CARELLA, FRSA

WHEREAS, the City of Vaughan has established advisory bodies, such as the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, composed of an array of citizen members, to make recommendations to Council on how the corporation can consider the impact of policy, planning and services on the diverse communities in the city and steps the corporation needs to take to ensure the fullest inclusion of said citizenry in the life of the city;

WHEREAS, equitable representation of people with lived experience in the City of Vaughan's advisory committees and task forces are a valuable avenue for policymakers, staff and others to better understand and address the issues that impact them;

WHEREAS, including individuals with lived experience creates equitable approaches to policy-making, research, and all other endeavours, that directly impact their lives; and lack of meaningful inclusion often leads to further marginalizing of service recipients, subjects of policy-making and communities;

WHEREAS, lived experiences are a valid form of expertise that can only be attained by having a particular identity or group of identities; and learned experiences are those that can be acquired through education, practice, opportunity, and exposure;

WHEREAS, the City is committed to developing a multi-year action plan to address anti-Black racism that is informed by extensive consultation with the diverse Black communities residing in the City of Vaughan and organizations within the GTA serving Black individuals, families and communities residing in Vaughan;

WHEREAS, the City intends to develop a Special Advisory Committee reporting to the City Manager to advise the Addressing Anti-Black Racism project; facilitate community connections for the project; inform and guide the engagement process for the project; provide feedback on the multi-year action plan;

WHEREAS, the Special Advisory Committee is expected to meet between seven (7) and ten (10) times for up to an hour and a half, subject to the recommendations of City staff and external consultant to the project, to review the engagement strategy, facilitation process, multiple reports and an action plan that will involve a substantial amount of intensive work over a short time frame (13 to 15 months); and

WHEREAS, honoraria may remove barriers to participation; support the diverse engagement of equity-deserving communities; and give recognition to the value of perspective and lived experience to Council's decision-making.

It is therefore recommended:

1. **THAT** members of the City of Vaughan's Special Advisory Committee on Addressing Anti-Black Racism be paid \$125 for each meeting of the committee they attend. Honoraria are not intended for members who serve on the Special Advisory Committee as representatives of organizations or businesses where they are employed. Additional honoraria are not intended for the chair and/or co-chair of the Special Advisory Committee. Honoraria are not paid for attendance at sub-committee meetings or events.
2. **THAT** this action not be deemed a precedent at this time; and
3. **THAT** staff report on the outcome of this arrangement, and whether there is merit in developing a policy to address similar situations in the future, the financial considerations and impact and if so, to do so.

Attachments

1. City of Toronto's policy on [Honoraria for Public Members of Council Advisory Bodies](#)
2. [Terms of Reference](#) for the Town of Georgina's Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee.