



方卓怡 市議員 **Paula FLETCHER**

Councillor Toronto-Danforth Ward 30

September 25, 2008

To: Executive Committee
From: Councillor Fletcher, Chair, Aboriginal Affairs Committee
Subject: Terms of Reference and Membership– Aboriginal Affairs Committee

Recommendations

That the Executive Committee recommend that City Council:

1. adopt the Terms of Reference attached as Appendix A for the Aboriginal Affairs Committee; and,
2. that those organizations with no named representatives and those organizations that have not attended any meeting since inception be eliminated, but be invited to attend the meetings. These organizations are listed on Appendix B.

Background:

At its meeting on September 23, 2008, the Aboriginal Affairs Committee recommended amendments to its Terms and Reference. These amendments are highlighted in gray. The Aboriginal Affairs Committee also made a recommendation regarding members organizations of the Aboriginal Affairs Committee. The recommendation is noted above.

Sincerely,

Paula Fletcher
Councillor, Ward 30
Chair, Aboriginal Affairs Committee
Attach(s).

Appendix A
Proposed Terms of Reference
for the
Aboriginal Affairs Committee

A. Mandate:

The Aboriginal Affairs Committee will provide advice to City Council, on the elimination of barriers faced by Aboriginal people and act as a liaison with external bodies on barriers to participation in public life and to the achievement of social, cultural, economic and spiritual well being of Aboriginal peoples.

The Aboriginal Affairs Committee shall address the specific issues facing the Aboriginal community, develop options for council's consideration and make recommendations.

B. Standing Committee Alignment:

The Aboriginal Affairs Committee will provide its advice to Council through the Executive Committee

C. Membership:

1. The Aboriginal Affairs Committee will be composed of up to 18 Aboriginal organizations and at least 1 member of Council.
2. Each of the member organizations may, if they wish, appoint an alternate member representative to attend, as a full voting member of the Aboriginal Affairs Committee, in the absence of the main member, and in accordance with the following criteria:
 1. If a member organization chooses to submit an alternate member, the member organization must clearly name the main member representative and the alternate member representative.
 2. If a main member representative attends a meeting of the Aboriginal Affairs Committee, s/he will be given full rights as a member representative of the Committee as outlined in the Rules of Procedure for Advisory Bodies, which includes the right to be calculated in quorum, to speak to items, to move motions and to vote.
 3. If an alternate member and a main member both attend the same meeting, only the main member may exercise his/her rights as a member of Committee as outlined in the Rules of Procedures. The alternate member will be present at the meeting in the capacity of an observer.

4. If the main member is unable to attend a meeting, and the alternate member attends, the alternate member will assume the full membership rights as provided to the main member.
3. The majority of the representatives identified by the local organizations will be Aboriginal people. Members of the Aboriginal Affairs Committee should not be employees of the City of Toronto.
4. The members of Council (except for the Mayor who is a member ex-officio of all council committees) will be appointed by City Council on the recommendation of the Striking Committee.
5. The Chair of the Aboriginal Affairs Committee will be a member of Council and at its first meeting, the Aboriginal Affairs Committee will elect 2 co-chairs.

D. Term of Office:

1. Membership is for the 2007 – 2010 term of Council.
2. The local Aboriginal organizations identified to serve on the Aboriginal Affairs Committee will be approved by City Council. If Council does not approve a recommended organization, the matter will be sent back to the Executive Committee for further action.
3. If a local Aboriginal organization representative misses three consecutive meetings the Aboriginal Affairs Committee or the Chair may request the Executive Committee to make a recommendation to Council that the community member representative's seat is declared vacant and the organization be asked to send another representative.
4. If a local Aboriginal organization wishes to resign during the term of their appointment, they will submit a letter of resignation to the Chair.

E. Role and Procedures:

1. The Aboriginal Affairs Committee is an advisory body to the Mayor and City Council.
2. The Aboriginal Affairs Committee is not a decision-making body.
3. The Aboriginal Affairs Committee will provide its advice through the Chair to the Executive Committee.

4. Any advice or recommendations that require action or implementation by staff must be considered by the Executive Committee and approved by City Council.
5. Without limiting the range of issues on which to advise the Mayor and Council, the Aboriginal Affairs Committee will:
 - advise on strategies and actions required to achieve the City's access, equity and human rights objectives;
 - advise on the implementation of Council's policies regarding access, equity and human rights policies and plans, including the Plan of Action for the elimination of racism and discrimination;
 - liaise with other council appointed advisory committees as required ;
 - seek input from community organizations in the provision of advice to the Mayor and Council.
6. The Aboriginal Affairs Committee will advise the Mayor and Council on the actions of other orders of governments.
7. The Aboriginal Affairs Committee will meet **at least four times per year** and additional meetings can be called by the Chair in consultation with the Co-Chairs. The venue for the meetings will be at City Hall but other venues will be used for meetings throughout the year;
8. Quorum of the Aboriginal Affairs Committee shall be 50% of named member representatives. Elected representatives will be counted to make up quorum if they are present. A vacant position will not be counted to calculate quorum."
9. All meetings of the Aboriginal Affairs Committee will be open to the public.
10. The Chief Administrative Officer, Strategic and Corporate Policy Division will provide policy-related staff support to the Aboriginal Affairs Committee.
11. The City Clerk's Office will provide meeting organization and administrative support and will provide the Chair with transmittal documentation as appropriate for the Chair to forward advice and recommendations of the Aboriginal Affairs Committee to the Executive Committee.
12. The City Clerk will not provide support to any sub-committees or working groups of the Aboriginal Affairs Committee
13. Membership on the committee is voluntary and a public service. Citizen/community appointees will not be remunerated or reimbursed for expenses incurred as a result of their appointment to the Aboriginal Affairs Committee.

Appendix B

Organizations to be deleted from Aboriginal Affairs Committee Membership list

Anduhyun Inc.
Anishnawbe Health
Association for Native Development in the Performing and Visual Arts
Centre for Indigenous Theatre
Elders Council
First Nations Junior and Senior Public School
Native Women in the Arts
Spirit of the People
Wigwamen Inc.