

# TWCA Toronto Women's City Alliance

## Making Equality Matter.

Toronto City Council  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Dear Councillors,

I am writing on behalf of Toronto Women's City Alliance. We are a diverse group of women who have been organizing to end the growing silence and invisibility of girls' and women's voices and issues from the political agenda in the City of Toronto. TWCA works to ensure political commitment to addressing and removing barriers that many women face in accessing essential services.

In this instance, I am writing with regard to Item EX 2.1 , in which the Executive Committee : "Directed the City Manager to report to Executive Committee in 2015 on establishing an Equity Advisory Committee with a mandate to advise Council on race relations, gender equity, LGBTTQ issues, immigration issues and refugee issues."

We urge City Council to direct the City Manager to consult with relevant and appropriate stakeholders as part of the process of preparing the report on the establishment of an Equity Advisory Committee. This is crucial for full understanding of the need for such a committee in the first place, its terms of reference and important details of the lives of diverse residents who will be served by its work.

Stakeholder Consultations are an important part of the process of creating effective municipal policy. We request that City Council show leadership in creating policy that reflects the voices of those for whom it is intended.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Kara Santokie  
Toronto Women's City Alliance

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c/o North York Women's Centre, 2446 Dufferin St., Toronto, ON M63 3T1  
www.twca.ca | info@twca.ca | 647-235-8575

