

## **Appointment of a Public Member to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority**

**Date:** November 23, 2021

**To:** Civic Appointments Committee

**From:** City Clerk

**Wards:** All

### **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

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This report deals with personal matters about an identifiable individual who is being considered for appointment to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

### **SUMMARY**

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A public member of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Board resigned in August 2021. The Civic Appointments Committee will conduct interviews and recommend one public member to City Council for appointment to the TRCA to fill this vacancy.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The City Clerk recommends that:

1. The Civic Appointments Committee recommend one candidate for appointment to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, at pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending July 16, 2023, and until a successor is appointed.
2. City Council direct that the confidential information contained in Confidential Attachments 1 - 4 remain confidential in its entirety as it relates to personal matters about identifiable individuals being considered for appointment to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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At its meeting held November 18, 2021, the Civic Appointments Committee selected three candidates for interview at its December 6, 2021 meeting:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.CA25.2>

At its meeting held December 17 and 18, 2019, City Council adopted item CA11.2, Appointment of a Public Member to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and appointed Xiao Han to the TRCA Board for a term of office ending July 16, 2023, and until a successor is appointed:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.CA11.2>

At its meeting held July 16-18, 2019, City Council adopted item CA8.8, Appointment of Public Members to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and appointed seven members of the public to the TRCA Board for a term of office ending July 16, 2023, and until successors are appointed:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.CA8.8>

At its meeting held April 16 and 19, 2019, City Council adopted as amended item CC6.1, Composition of Council's appointments to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and directed that the majority of the candidates recommended by the Civic Appointments Committee be women:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.CC6.1>

## **COMMENTS**

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### **Composition of the TRCA**

The TRCA consists of 28 members and is composed of:

- 14 representatives from the City of Toronto appointed by City Council of which 7 are Members of Council and 7 are public members
- 14 members representing the Regional Municipalities of Peel, Durham, and York, the Township of Adjala-Tosorontio, and the Town of Mono

### **Public members should meet certain qualifications**

In addition to the general eligibility requirements in the Public Appointments Policy, public members of the TRCA must demonstrate:

- broad interest in, and knowledge of, conservation and the management of natural resources
- knowledge of the natural resources in the regions under the TRCA's jurisdiction
- flexible schedules for attendance at meetings, tours, special events, and other activities relating to the Authority's work
- ability to actively participate in the decision-making process
- interest in, and ability to, be an advocate of the Authority's programs, goals, and objectives

### **There is currently one position under consideration**

The current vacancy on the board is a result of the resignation of Estair Van Wagner effective August 23, 2021.

### **The majority of public appointees to the TRCA should be women**

In April 2019, City Council amended the composition of the TRCA and directed that the majority of the candidates recommended for public appointment by the Civic Appointments Committee be women.

### **Members serve four year terms of office**

The term of office for public appointees to the TRCA is governed by the Conservation Authorities Act which states that "A member shall be appointed for a term of up to four years, as may be determined by the council that appoints the member."

The new appointee will serve a term ending July 16, 2023, and until a successor is appointed.

### **Public appointments staff have consulted with the TRCA**

In preparation for this process, Public Appointments staff consulted with the TRCA in the fall of 2021 to discuss the current work of the TRCA and how members can best support its programs and strategic direction.

In addition to the Council-approved board qualifications, TRCA staff suggested that ideal candidates would have experience or strong familiarity with relevant policy work, scientific and academic research, intergovernmental relationships, and board governance.

### **Public release of the name of the recommended candidate**

The name of the recommended candidate will be publicly reported once the Civic Appointments Committee forwards its recommendation to City Council.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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John D. Elvidge  
City Clerk

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Confidential Attachment 1 – List of candidates, qualifications, confidential diversity information summary, and applications for appointment to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (previously distributed with Item CA25.2)

Confidential Attachment 2 - Voluntary Diversity Information for Current Appointees to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (previously distributed with Item CA25.2)

Confidential Attachment 3 - Interview schedule for December 6, 2021 (to be circulated under separate cover)

Confidential Attachment 4 - Interview questions for December 6, 2021 (to be circulated under separate cover)