

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM31.14	ACTION			Ward:All
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Reinstating the City's LGBTQ2S+ Community Advisory Committee - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Paul Ainslie

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Paul Ainslie recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Manager in consultation with the Director, Equity, Diversity and Human Rights and the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to establish a new Community Advisory Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Two-Spirited Issues and report back to the October 24, 2017 meeting of the Executive Committee with recommended terms of reference and a composition.

Summary

In December 1999, City Council approved the establishment of a City-wide advisory committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues. With the Committee's disassembly in 2006, this community has been without an effective channel to voice concerns and review policy.

Toronto arguably has the country's largest and most diverse LGBTQ2S+ community. Yet, sadly these communities continue to experience hate, discrimination and marginalization. Since 2006, this group has been in the top three most targeted groups for hate/bias crimes in Toronto.

Toronto is also home to an estimated 32 percent of transgender Canadians, or 57,600 people. "Towards an Action Plan for Transgender Youth," a report from Social Development, Finance and Administration identified trans-identified youth as a particularly vulnerable group who face persistent discrimination in our City.

The LGBTQ2S+ community has important perspectives on many of the challenges and needs the City works to address, including HIV/AIDS services and funding, public housing, employment, social services, and shelters. LGBTQ2S+ community leadership has helped advance causes like Toronto's LGBTQ2S+ youth transitional housing, approved in 2015. Similarly, LGBTQ2S+ outreach agencies continue to be on the front line dealing with substance abuse and addictions issues that are a growing concern for our communities.

Reinstating the City's community advisory committee composed of representatives and organizations that represent Toronto's diverse LGBTQ2S+ communities, would provide City Council with community-informed advice to consider when making decisions that impact this very important part of Toronto's population.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM31.14

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2017/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-105414.pdf>)