

Status Update - Administrative Inquiry on Hate Sponsored Rallies

Date: June 5, 2018
To: Executive Committee
From: Interim City Manager
Wards: All

SUMMARY

The report provides an overview of the City of Toronto's progress in responding to EX29.42 - Hate Sponsored Rallies such as Al-Quds Day, which was referred to the City Manager by the Executive Committee on November 28, 2017 for follow up and consultation. The report outlines the strategy the City has developed for meaningful consultation with the broad range of stakeholders and outlines the timeline.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Interim City Manager recommends that:

1. Executive Committee receive this report for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

The Interim Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

EX29.42 - Hate Sponsored Rallies such as Al Quds Day

On November 28, 2017, Executive Committee referred item EX29.42, to the City Manager with the request that the City Manager consult with a range of internal and external stakeholders on the City's legal responsibility and options for leveraging

existing and developing new policies to prevent public gatherings that promote hate and incite discrimination from taking place on the City's property; and report back to the Executive Committee by the second quarter of 2018.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.EX29.42>

COMMENTS

City Staff were directed by Executive Committee to consult with a wide range of stakeholders including:

- constitutional and Charter rights scholars,
- the Toronto Police Service,
- the City Solicitor,
- the Deputy City Manager, Internal Corporate Services,
- representatives of the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario,
- various human rights groups and
- other stakeholders

on the City's legal responsibility and options for preventing public gatherings that promote hate and incite discrimination from taking place on the City's property. The City Manager was directed to report back to Executive Committee by the second quarter of 2018.

Given the large number of stakeholders and the complexity of the issues involved, a report back within the proposed time frame is not possible. Staff in the Equity Diversity and Human Rights (EDHR) and Legal Services Divisions have consulted with colleagues in Strategic Communication, City Clerks, Internal Corporate Services, the Toronto Office of Partnership and with City staff with expertise on public consultations on engagement approaches.

The Survey

Staff have determined that a survey designed to allow for fulsome responses is the most appropriate approach to engage such a broad base of stakeholders. To that end, comprehensive survey questions have been drafted. The survey will launch by the end of June 2018 and will stay open for eight weeks.

The survey is designed to allow for meaningful input on each question. Where appropriate, respondents may also attach documents responsive to the question.

Survey Communication Strategy

Staff are developing a communication strategy to raise awareness about the survey among scholars, human rights groups and other stakeholders who may have expertise or a particular interest in responding. These individuals will be identified through a variety of means, including past participation in key constitutional and Charter matters.

The Toronto Office of Partnership will also assist in contacting academic institutional contacts.

Working with City Clerks, all stakeholders who have expressed an interest in the report will be advised of the survey.

Other Consultations

In addition to the survey, City Staff will consult with the Ministry of the Attorney General, the Toronto Police and internal City stakeholders over the summer.

The timeline contemplated for the survey and consultations will allow staff to assess the volume and robustness of the feedback obtained in early Fall and determine if other consultation processes are necessary to inform Staff's recommendations.

Staff expect to be in a position to provide a report to Executive Committee in Q2 of the next Council year.

CONTACT

Omo Akintan, Director (Acting), Equity, Diversity & Human Rights,
omo.akintan@toronto.ca, 416-392-8703.

SIGNATURE

Giuliana Carbone
Interim City Manager