

Appointment of Public Members to the Toronto Zoo Board

Date: June 21, 2023

To: Civic Appointments Committee

From: City Clerk

Wards: All

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

This report deals with personal matters about identifiable individuals who are being considered for appointment to the Toronto Zoo Board.

SUMMARY

The Civic Appointments Committee will conduct interviews and recommend three candidates to City Council for appointment to the Toronto Zoo Board of Management.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Clerk recommends that:

1. Civic Appointments Committee recommend three candidates to City Council for appointment to the Toronto Zoo Board, at pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending on July 21, 2027, and until successors are 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 Zoo Board.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting held May 30, 2023, the Civic Appointments Committee selected eight candidates for interview at its July 6, 2023 meeting:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.CA6.2>.

At its meeting on December 14 and 15, 2022, City Council appointed Councillor Paul Ainslie as Chair of the Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo for a term of office until December 31, 2024 and until a successor is appointed:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.CC2.4>

At its meeting held November 9, 10 and 12, 2021, City Council appointed five public members to the Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo, at pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending on November 10, 2025, and until successors are appointed:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2021.CA24.1>

At its meeting held April 16 and 19, 2019, City Council appointed four public members to the Toronto Zoo Board, at pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending on April 16, 2023, and until successors are appointed:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.CA5.5>.

COMMENTS

Composition of the Toronto Zoo Board

The board has a total of 12 members including:

- the Mayor or designate appointed by the Mayor
- 3 Council members
- 8 public members

City Council appoints the board's Chair, and the board elects a Vice Chair from amongst its members.

Committee members must be eligible and meet certain qualifications

In addition to the general eligibility requirements set out in the Public Appointments Policy, public members of the board should collectively demonstrate a range of qualifications including:

- financial management

- tourism/attractions marketing
- knowledge of zoos and the role they play in wildlife conservation and education
- largescale fundraising or public-private partnerships, leadership, and partnership development
- general public sector board experience
- a youthful perspective, defined as an individual in the 18-30 age range, is a desired qualification for at least one public member

City staff have consulted with Toronto Zoo staff

The Public Appointments Secretariat consulted with the Toronto Zoo CEO in April 2023 to discuss the Toronto Zoo's strategic plan and current board needs. In addition to the qualifications identified, it was suggested that the following areas of expertise, experience, and/or skills would be assets:

- Fundraising skills
- Experience engaging communities
- Technical expertise in conservation science or related sciences

There are currently three positions under consideration

The Toronto Zoo Board has staggered terms for its public members. Three positions on the board are currently held by members whose terms ended on April 16, 2023, and who are continuing to serve until successors are appointed.

The remaining five public positions are currently held by members whose terms end on November 10, 2025, though members continue to serve until successors are appointed.

Term of Office

The term of office for public members is four years. Members will be appointed for a term of office ending July 21, 2027, and until successors are appointed.

Public release of names of recommended candidates

The names of the recommended candidates will be publicly reported once the Civic Appointments Committee forwards its recommendations to City Council.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

John D. Elvidge
City Clerk

ATTACHMENTS

Confidential Attachment 1 – List of Candidates, Qualifications, Confidential Diversity Information Summary, and Applications for Appointment to the Toronto Zoo Board (previously circulated with Item CA6.2)

Confidential Attachment 2 – Diversity Data for Current Public Members on the Toronto Zoo Board (previously circulated with Item CA6.2)

Confidential Attachment 3 - Interview questions for July 6, 2023 (to be circulated under separate cover)

Confidential Attachment 4 - Interview schedule for July 6, 2023 (to be circulated under separate cover)