

Appointment of Public Members to the Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal

Date: November 21, 2023

To: Nominating Panel – Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal

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 Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal.

SUMMARY

The Nominating Panel – Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal will conduct interviews and recommend two candidates to City Council for appointment to the Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Clerk recommends that:

1. The Nominating Panel – Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal recommend that City Council appoint two candidates for appointment to the Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal for a term of office beginning January 1, 2024 and ending November 14, 2026, and until successors are appointed.
2. The Nominating Panel – Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal direct that Confidential Attachments 1-3 remain confidential in their entirety as they relate to personal matters about identifiable individuals being considered for appointment to the Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on November 14, 2023, the Nominating Panel – Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal selected candidates to be interviewed at its meeting on November 30, 2023 to fill two vacancies on the Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/#/committees/2628/24528>

At its meeting on May 10-12, 2023, City Council appointed 5 public members to the Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal: [Agenda Item History - 2023.CC6.2 \(toronto.ca\)](#).

At its meeting on March 29-31, 2023 City Council appointed nine public members to the Tribunal's Nominating Panel, which is responsible for making recommendations for appointment to the Dangerous Dogs Review Tribunal:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.CC5.7>

COMMENTS

There are two positions under consideration

Randy Yuen resigned from the Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal effective July 26, 2023. Emile Ramlochan will be resigning from the tribunal effective December 31, 2023.

Term of office

Public members will serve a term of office beginning January 1, 2024, and ending November 14, 2026, continuing to serve until successors are appointed.

Tribunal members receive remuneration

Public members, including the chair receive full-day per diem of \$460 and half-day remuneration (3.5 hours or less) of \$275 for hearings, business meetings and training sessions.

Each public member who is not a chair of a tribunal or tribunal panel will receive a stipend of \$1,500 per year, pro-rated on an annual basis from the time of appointment. The chair will receive an annual stipend of \$2,500, pro-rated on an annual basis from the time of appointment.

Tribunal members must meet certain qualifications

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

- Experience in adjudication and mediation;
- Ability to write clear and concise decisions;
- Excellent listening skills and ability to analyze complex information received;
- Sound judgement, tact, fairness, and decorum;
- Demonstrated high ethical standards and integrity;
- Ability to adjudicate without bias and free from the influence of advocacy groups;
- Ability to work under pressure to ensure timely hearing decisions;
- Respect for access to justice, diversity, and accommodation;
- Knowledge of the proper care and handling of domestic animals, particularly related to the care, training, behaviour, and handling of dogs would be an asset; and,
- Society of Ontario Adjudicators and Regulators (SOAR) certificate or Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) training is an asset.

Tribunal members must meet certain eligibility requirements

In addition to the eligibility requirements set out in the Public Appointments Policy, the Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal's public members must satisfy the following additional eligibility requirements:

- Cannot be former Members of Council who served in the immediately preceding term of City Council;
- Cannot act as an agent for applicants before the Tribunal or other local boards of the City, and would be required to resign from the Tribunal before doing so;
- Cannot act as an agent for applicants or individuals appearing in Provincial Offences Court or in matters related to the Dog Owners' Liability Act where these matters are related to the City

Animal Services staff were consulted on qualifications

Public Appointments Secretariat staff consulted with Animal Services staff in the spring of 2023 to discuss Tribunal qualifications and the appointment process. Skills highlighted by staff to consider include: strong communication and presentation skills, facilitation and mediation skills and the ability to demonstrate emotional intelligence in challenging situations where people may be experiencing trauma and ability to make people feel comfortable moving through the process despite high emotions. Staff also emphasized that members should be able to dedicate time to prepare for tribunal cases and review information in advance.

Short-listed candidates will write an assignment and be interviewed

Candidates selected for an interview must complete a test related to the roles and responsibilities of a Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal member in order to proceed to the interview stage. The Nominating Panel - Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal will be provided with the test results during the interviews.

Public release of names of recommended candidates

The names of the recommended candidates will be publicly reported once the Nominating Panel – Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal 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 Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal

Confidential Attachment 2 – Interview schedule for November 30, 2023 (to be circulated once available)

Confidential Attachment 3 – Candidate completed assignments (to be circulated once available)