

Diversifying Civic Appointees on the Toronto Transit Commission Board

Date: May 15, 2023

To: Executive Committee

From: City Council

Wards: Ward: All

CITY COUNCIL DECISION

City Council on May 10, 11 and 12, 2023, referred Motion MM6.33 to the Executive Committee for consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Councillor Jamaal Myers, seconded by Councillor Amber Morley, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Civic Appointments Committee, as part of the current selection process for Toronto Transit Commission Board Members, to recommend candidates for the Toronto Transit Commission Board who meet the following criteria:

- a. represent all four community council areas of the City;
- b. at least one identifies as a person with a disability; and
- c. are regular transit users.

2. City Council request the City Manager, in consultation with the City Clerk and the City Solicitor, to report back to City Council by the end of the year on:

- a. amending the composition of the Toronto Transit Commission Board so that the publicly appointed members represent each of the 4 community council areas and that one of those members identifies as a person with a disability; and
- b. the feasibility of collecting information on Presto card usage by Toronto Transit Commission Board Members and on the frequency with which the Toronto Transit Commission Board Members use the TTC.

SUMMARY

Public appointees are a vital part of ensuring that both democracy and public interest are advanced and protected. The City of Toronto's Public Appointments Policy recognizes that candidates' qualifications, experiences and skills shall meet boards' individual requirements; our City is best served 'by boards that collectively reflect the geographic distribution and diversity of the community that they serve.'

Diverse and equitable representation on the Toronto Transit Commission Board is a crucial, basic requirement. Our Policy requires City Council to employ proactive strategies in achieving qualified and representative boards, with variations only implemented in unusual circumstances which are expressly approved by Toronto City Council.

The needs and interests of transit riders, particularly for people with disabilities differs greatly amongst riders in Toronto and East York, North York, Scarborough and Etobicoke-York. Candidates and those appointed must reflect the diversity of TTC riders in order to bring the lived experiences of the City's transit riders to the Toronto Transit Commission Board, which includes regularly taking transit.

This Motion aims to enhance the diversity and representation of candidates being considered for appointment to the Toronto Transit Commission Board and requests the Civic Appointment Committee members to consider candidates who:

- represent all four community council areas of the City;
- identify as a person with a disability; and
- are regular transit users.

This Motion is urgent as the Civic Appointment Committee is scheduled to consider candidates for appointment to the Toronto Transit Commission Board later this month.

Communications (City Council)

(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Shelagh Pizey-Allen (MM.New)
(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Elahveyini Veemharaj Aswaththaman (MM.New)
(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Nithursan Elamuhilan (MM.New)
(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Victoria Catterson (MM.New)
(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Kaila Hunte (MM.New)
(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Helen Brown (MM.New)
(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Kate Hendry (MM.New)
(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Taban Isfahaninejad (MM.New)
(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Bailey Chui (MM.New)
(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Heather Belanger (MM.New)
(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Sahana Gunaratnam (MM.New)
(May 10, 2023) E-mail from Krissan Veerasingam (MM.New)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Sophia Tevez (MM.New)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from John Crunkleton (MM.New)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Jessica Garnier (MM.New)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Kaitlyn Cernanec (MM.New)

(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Israt Ahmed (MM.New)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Antonio Pilla (MM.New)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Amrith David (MM.New)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Letna Allen-Rowe (MM.Main)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Kayla Armstrong (MM.Main)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Seemi Qaiser (MM.Main)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Rosemary Boissonneau (MM.New)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Charles Jackson (MM.Main)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Suzanne Narain (MM.New)
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(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Jeff Sobil (MM.New)
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(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Andrew Thompson (MM.New)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Alice Reygel (MM.New)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Janine Cole (MM.New)
(May 11, 2023) E-mail from Mark Foo (MM.New)
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