

Appointment of a Public Member to the Committee of Adjustment

Date: October 2, 2023

To: Nominating Panel - Committee of Adjustment

From: City Clerk

Wards: All

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

This report deals with personal matters about an identifiable individual who is being considered for appointment to the Committee of Adjustment.

SUMMARY

The Nominating Panel – Committee of Adjustment will recommend one candidate to City Council for appointment to the Committee of Adjustment from the list of candidates interviewed at the September 14, 15, and 18 Nominating Panel - Committee of Adjustment to replace Harold Tan who withdrew his candidacy on September 20, 2023.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Clerk recommends that:

1. The Nominating Panel – Committee of Adjustment recommend that City Council remove Harold Tan from the list of recommended candidates to the North York Panel, and appoint one public member to the North York Panel of the Committee of Adjustment from among individuals listed in Table 1 of Confidential Attachment 1 for a term of office beginning on October 19, 2023, and ending November 14, 2026, and until a successor is appointed.
2. City Council direct that the confidential information contained in Confidential Attachment 1 remain confidential in its entirety as it relates to personal matters about identifiable individuals being considered for appointment to the Committee of Adjustment.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on September 14, 15, and 18, 2023, the Nominating Panel - Committee of Adjustment recommended that City Council appoint 35 candidates to the Committee of Adjustment for a term of office ending November 14, 2026, and until successors are appointed:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.NA2.1>

COMMENTS

Composition of the Committee of Adjustment

The Committee of Adjustment consists of 35 members of the public organized into four panels corresponding to the Community Council boundaries as follows:

- Etobicoke York: 8 panel members;
- North York: 10 panel members;
- Scarborough: 5 panel members; and
- Toronto and East York: 12 panel members.

The applications heard by each panel correspond with the Community Council boundaries.

Under the Planning Act, members of each panel of the Committee of Adjustment elect their own Chair.

There is currently one position under consideration

One position on the North York Panel is under consideration due to Harold Tan's withdrawal on September 20, 2023.

Committee members must meet certain qualifications

Public members should collectively bring the following skills and expertise to the committee:

- a strong interest in the complexities and challenges of city building
- an understanding of the diverse neighbourhoods and communities across the city

- have knowledge in one or more areas of: law, planning, architecture, government, economic development, community development, land development, urban forestry and environmental planning, or citizen advocacy
- demonstrate decision-making, communication, and mediation skills to facilitate an open and fair hearing process
- each panel should have at least 2 members with adjudication experience and administrative public speaking and organizational skills to be able to chair public hearings and maintain order in conflict situations

Eligibility for the Committee of Adjustment

In addition to the general eligibility requirements set out in the Public Appointments Policy, members cannot act as agents for applicants before the Committee of Adjustment. Former Council members who served in the immediately preceding term of Council are ineligible for appointment as public members on the Committee.

Term of office

Under the Planning Act, the term of office for public members of the Committee of Adjustment is coincident with the term of the council that appointed them. The new appointees will serve a term of office ending on November 14, 2026, and until successors are appointed.

Short-listed candidates wrote write an assignment and were interviewed

Candidates completed a test related to the roles and responsibilities of Committee of Adjustment members. The Nominating Panel - Committee of Adjustment members were provided with the test results during the interview.

Committee members receive remuneration

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

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

We have consulted with City Planning staff

Public Appointments Secretariat staff consulted with City Planning staff to discuss committee qualifications and the appointment process, and how members can best support the committee's work.

Public release of name of the recommended candidate

The name and biography of the recommended candidate will be publicly reported once the Nominating Panel - Committee of Adjustment forwards its recommendation to City Council.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

John D. Elvidge
City Clerk

ATTACHMENTS

Confidential Attachment 1 – List of Interviewed Candidates, Qualifications, Confidential Diversity Information Summary, and Applications for Appointment to the Committee of Adjustment