

Selection of Candidates for Interview for the Sign Variance Committee

Date: October 23, 2023

To: Nominating Panel – Sign Variance 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 Sign Variance Committee.

SUMMARY

The Nominating Panel – Sign Variance Committee will select candidates for interview for appointment by City Council to the Sign Variance Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Clerk recommends that:

1. The Nominating Panel – Sign Variance Committee select 8 candidates listed in Table 1 of Confidential Attachment 1 for interview at its next meeting for appointment to the Sign Variance Committee.
2. The Nominating Panel - Sign Variance Committee direct that the confidential information contained in Confidential Attachments 1 to 3 remain confidential in its entirety as it relates to personal matters about identifiable individuals being considered for appointment to the Sign Variance Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting held March 9, 2022, City Council appointed two candidates to the Sign Variance Committee, for a term of office ending March 9, 2026, and until successors are appointed:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2022.CC41.2>

At its meeting held June 18 and 19, 2019, City Council appointed three candidates, including one as Chair, to the Sign Variance Committee for a term of office ending June 20, 2023, and until successors are appointed:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2019.CC8.4>

COMMENTS

Composition of the Sign Variance Committee

The Sign Variance Committee is composed of five members of the public who are appointed by City Council.

Committee members must meet certain qualifications

Members of the Sign Variance Committee should collectively bring the following skills and expertise to the committee:

- demonstrate a strong interest in the complexities and challenges of city building
- bring 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, or citizen advocacy
- demonstrate decision-making, communication, and mediation skills to facilitate an open and fair meeting process
- at least 3 members should have adjudication experience and 2 members should have public speaking and organization skills to be able to chair public meetings and maintain order in conflict situations

Eligibility for the Sign Variance Committee

In addition to the general eligibility requirements set out in the Public Appointments Policy, members are ineligible for appointment to the committee if they are an owner, employee, or agent of an advertising, communications, or media relations agency or a business which owns, controls, or has shares in a media outlet. Former Council members who served in the immediately preceding term of Council are ineligible for appointment.

There are currently three positions under consideration including the role of chair

The three positions under consideration are currently held by members, including the Chair, whose terms ended June 20, 2023, and until successors are appointed. The Nominating Panel will recommend one candidate to be appointed as Chair.

Terms of office

The Sign Variance Committee has staggered terms to support business continuity and institutional memory. The three candidates appointed to these positions will serve a four year term of office ending December 16, 2027, and until successors are appointed.

Committee members receive remuneration

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

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

We have consulted with Toronto Building staff

Public Appointments Secretariat staff consulted with Toronto Building staff in the fall of 2023 to discuss committee qualifications, any emerging trends or needs at the committee, and the appointment process.

Outreach was conducted for these vacancies

The opportunity to join the Sign Variance Committee was included as part of ongoing recruitment efforts. Targeted outreach to attract skilled and diverse candidates for this opportunity included contacting professional associations and community groups, outreach via the Public Appointments e-update list, and through divisional partners that work with equity-deserving communities.

Next steps - Interviews

Once the Nominating Panel - Sign Variance Committee selects candidates for interviews, the City Clerk's Office will contact the candidates to schedule them for 20 minute interviews. Eight interviews at 20 minutes each plus deliberations will take approximately 3 hours to complete.

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 Sign Variance Committee

Confidential Attachment 2 – Diversity Information Summary for Current Public Members of the Sign Variance Committee

Confidential Attachment 3 – Interest in Re-appointment and Current members Interest in Role of Chair