

Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference 2022-2026

A. Purpose

1. The City of Toronto recognizes and respects the unique status and cultural diversity among the Aboriginal communities of Toronto.
2. The City of Toronto continues its commitment to truth and reconciliation and supporting the Aboriginal right to self-determination by working inclusively with Aboriginal communities in Toronto to achieve equitable outcomes for Aboriginal peoples within their communities and in their day-to-day lives.
3. The mandate of the Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee is to provide advice to City Council on:
 - a) the elimination of barriers faced by Indigenous peoples including barriers related to City by-laws, policies, programs and service delivery;
 - b) liaising with external bodies on barriers to the participation of Indigenous peoples in public life; and
 - c) advancing the achievement of the social, cultural, economic and spiritual wellbeing of Indigenous peoples.
4. The Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee is a Council Advisory Body. It may not direct City staff or make binding decisions on Toronto City Council or the City of Toronto. Any advisory body recommendation that requires action by City officials or City Council must first be considered by the appropriate Council Committee and, when necessary, approved by City Council.

B. Composition and Term

1. The Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee will be composed of up to 25 public members and one Member of City Council.
2. The public members will be representatives of member agencies of the Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council (TASSC) and representatives of Indigenous organizations identified by the City and/or TASSC.
3. Public members will be nominated by TASSC and recommended to the Civic Appointments Committee through the City Manager for appointment by City Council, and Striking Committee will recommend the Member of City Council for appointment.

4. The Advisory Committee will elect a Chair and Vice Chair, who can act as Co-Chairs if desired, from among its public members at its first meeting or as soon as possible thereafter.
5. Public members are appointed for a four-year term, coinciding with the term of City Council and the Council Member is appointed for a two-year term. The Advisory Committee will meet until the completion of its mandate or the end of the current City Council term, whichever comes first.
6. The Advisory Committee's public members will be eligible to receive an honorarium of \$125.00 per meeting attended in recognition of the contributions they are providing to Toronto. Honoraria payments will be available for the maximum number of meetings approved by City Council for the Advisory Committee, as specified in this Terms of Reference. The Advisory Committee's honoraria payments are subject to the following:
 - a) Public members who serve as Chair or Vice Chair of the Advisory Committee are not eligible for any additional honoraria.
 - b) Honoraria are not paid for attendance at sub-committee meetings or events.

C. Governance

1. The Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee will provide its advice to City Council through the Executive Committee or other appropriate Council Committee.
2. The Advisory Committee will operate in accordance with City Council's Simplified Procedures for Advisory Bodies, unless alternative procedures proposed in the Terms of Reference by the Advisory Committee, through the appropriate Council Committee, are approved by City Council.
3. The Advisory Committee will hold up to 5 meetings annually at the call of the Chair or Vice Chair.
4. The City Manager's Office will provide governance, program and administrative support to the Advisory Committee, if requested by the Advisory Committee.
5. The City Clerk's Office will provide meeting management support to the Advisory Committee.
6. The quorum necessary for an Advisory Committee meeting is 30 percent of members exclusive of vacancies.