



Marh 19th 2025.

Ms. Olivia Chow
Mayor
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen St. W.
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
mayor_chow@toronto.ca

Re: Support for Increasing the Number of Meetings Per Year for the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of the Executive Committee,

I am writing to express our **strong support** for increasing the number of meetings per year for the **Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee (CABRAC)** and to **endorse the recommendations outlined in the letter from the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee (January 30, 2025)** ([Background Document](#)) as well as **the letter from Deputy Mayor and Councillor Amber Morley** ([Background Document](#)).

The **Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee** plays a crucial role in ensuring that the City of Toronto remains accountable in addressing **anti-Black racism, systemic inequities, and barriers to social and economic participation for Black residents**. However, with only **four meetings per year**, the committee lacks the capacity to effectively respond to urgent issues, advance critical policy recommendations, and engage meaningfully with community concerns in a timely manner.

Why Increasing the Number of Meetings is Essential

1. **Timely and Responsive Action:** Anti-Black racism continues to manifest in various forms across Toronto, impacting housing, employment, education, policing, and access to services. Given the complexity and urgency of these issues, **four meetings per year are insufficient** to provide meaningful oversight and guidance.
2. **Alignment with Other Advisory Committees:** As noted in Councillor Morley's letter, **other advisory committees within the City meet more frequently** to ensure continuous progress. CABRAC must be afforded the same level of engagement to effectively fulfill its mandate.
3. **Commitment to Community-Led Change:** Black communities have long called for **systemic change and city-wide accountability**. A limited number of meetings hinders the ability of CABRAC to maintain **consistent engagement with stakeholders, advocate for necessary policy shifts, and hold the City accountable to its commitments**.
4. **Strengthening Implementation of the Toronto Action Plan:** The City's **Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism** must be continuously reviewed and updated based on lived

experiences and emerging challenges. More frequent meetings will allow CABRAC to **provide proactive recommendations and support the City's commitments to address anti-black racism in a meaningful way.**

Call to Action:

We urge the **Mayor and Members of the Executive Committee** to **support the recommendation to increase the number of meetings per year for CABRAC** and ensure that this committee has the resources and platform necessary to **effectively address the challenges facing Black Torontonians.**

A commitment to **equity, justice, and meaningful community engagement** requires more than symbolic gestures—it demands sustained, ongoing dialogue and action. Increasing the number of CABRAC meetings is a **necessary and urgent step** in making this commitment a reality.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration of this critical issue. I look forward to seeing the City take meaningful action to support CABRAC's work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Walied Khogali Ali', with a stylized, flowing script.

Walied Khogali Ali

Coordinator

Neighbourhood Pods TO (NPTO)

The Neighbourhood Pods TO (NPTO) embodies a consortium of grassroots organizations, community workers, and advocates, all rallying under a unified mission to bolster the economic livelihoods and enhance the overall well-being of low-income individuals and communities across Toronto.