

From: [Walied Khogali Ali](#)
To: [Economic and Community Development](#)
Subject: [External Sender] Re: Deputation Request – Item EC27.4: Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism: Year Five Update
Date: April 9, 2026 9:57:05 AM

Dear Christine,

Please see a copy of my deputation below for circulation.

Deputation – Item EC27.4

**Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism: Year Five Update
Economic and Community Development Committee**

Good morning Chair and Members of Committee,

My name is Walied Khogali Ali, and I am a member of the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee, known as CABRAC.

I am here today to speak to Item EC27.4 - the Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism: Year Five Update and to raise a critical concern regarding governance, accountability, and process.

Let me begin by acknowledging that the Toronto Action Plan represents an important and necessary commitment by the City to address systemic anti-Black racism. The Five-Year Update is a significant milestone, and the work reflected in this report matters deeply to Black communities across Toronto.

However, there is a serious gap that must be addressed.

Despite the completion of public consultation and the direct relevance of this report to CABRAC's mandate, the Committee has not had an opportunity to review or provide input on this update prior to its consideration today.

This is not a minor procedural issue, it is a fundamental governance concern.

While it has been noted that the Action Plan is directed by the Partnership and Accountability Circle, as outlined in Item CR2.4 from July 27, 2021, CABRAC has a distinct and essential role. Our mandate is to advise City Council on policies, programs, and institutional efforts to confront anti-Black racism — and to support accountability in this work.

That advisory role cannot be fulfilled after decisions are made. It must be part of the process.

In 2026, CABRAC has had very limited opportunity to carry out its mandate. The January meeting was cancelled, and no meetings were held in February or April. This leaves only one remaining meeting — on May 28 — before the end of the current term.

As a result, members have not had a meaningful opportunity to review this report, engage with its findings, or provide informed advice to Council.

This undermines both the intent of CABRAC and the integrity of the Action Plan itself.

So today, I am respectfully asking for two things:

First, that consideration of this item be deferred or at minimum,

Second, that City Council ensure CABRAC is formally engaged prior to final decision-making.

This should include:

- A full presentation of the Five-Year Update at the May 28 CABRAC meeting;
- Sufficient time for discussion and community-informed feedback; and
- The inclusion of CABRAC's advice as part of the public record before final decisions are made.

This is about more than process, it is about accountability.

If we are serious about advancing the principles of **Recognition, Justice, and Development**, as outlined in the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent, then we must ensure that Black-led advisory bodies are meaningfully engaged — not symbolically included after the fact.

CABRAC exists to strengthen accountability between the City and Black communities. That role must be respected and operationalized in practice.

I urge the Committee to take this step to ensure that the governance of the Action Plan reflects the same equity principles it seeks to advance.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Walied Khogali Ali

Member, Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee

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On Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 9:15 AM Economic and Community Development
<ecdc@toronto.ca> wrote:

Hi Walied:

You are signed up to speak on EC27.4, please follow the previous instructions sent to you.

Did you want your e-mail publicly posted as a communication?

Christine Chandler

City Clerk's Office

tel: 416-397-4579

email: ecdc@toronto.ca

www.toronto.ca/council

From: Walied Khogali Ali <walied.k@gmail.com>

Sent: April 8, 2026 11:12 PM

To: Economic and Community Development <ecdc@toronto.ca>

Cc: Mohamed Shuriye <Mohamed.Shuriye@toronto.ca>

Subject: [External Sender] Deputation Request – Item EC27.4: Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism: Year Five Update

Dear Ms. Martins,

I am writing to formally request to depute on **[Item EC27.4 – Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism: Year Five Update](#)** at the Economic and Community Development Committee.

My deputation will focus on governance, accountability, and the critical role of the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee (CABRAC) in relation to this report.

As context, a commitment has been made by Mohamed Shuriye that a presentation on the Five-Year Update will be brought forward for information at the CABRAC meeting scheduled for May 28, 2026. This is a welcome step. However, I wish to raise a significant concern regarding process and timing.

Despite the completion of public consultation and the direct relevance of this report to CABRAC's mandate, the Committee has not yet had an opportunity to review or provide

input on the Year Five Update prior to its consideration at Committee.

While it has been noted that the Toronto Action Plan is directed by the Partnership and Accountability Circle, as outlined in the July 27, 2021 report ([Item CR2.4](#)), it is equally important to affirm that CABRAC maintains a distinct and essential advisory role to City Council. This includes:

- Advising on intergovernmental and institutional efforts to address anti-Black racism;
- Providing input on policies, programs, and service delivery;
- Supporting accountability and monitoring progress related to the Action Plan.

In 2026, CABRAC has had limited opportunity to fulfill this mandate. The January meeting was cancelled, and no meetings were held in February or April, leaving only one scheduled meeting, May 28, 2026, before the end of the current term.

As a result, members have not had a meaningful opportunity to:

- Review the full report and associated background materials;
- Provide informed advice and recommendations to City Council;
- Speak to the report as part of the public record in alignment with our Terms of Reference.

My deputation will respectfully request that:

1. Consideration of Item EC27.4 be deferred, **or**
2. That City Council ensure CABRAC is formally engaged prior to final decision-making, including through:
 - A presentation of the report at the May 28, 2026 CABRAC meeting;
 - Allocation of sufficient time for discussion and feedback;
 - Inclusion of CABRAC's advice as part of the public record.

Ensuring CABRAC's engagement is not only consistent with its Terms of Reference, but is also essential to advancing the principles of **Recognition, Justice, and Development** under the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent, and to strengthening accountability in Toronto's efforts to confront anti-Black racism.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to contributing to this important discussion.

Sincerely,

Walied Khogali Ali

Member, Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee

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