

Selection of Candidates for Interview for the Toronto Local Appeal Body

Date: May 13, 2026

To: Nominating Panel - Toronto Local Appeal Body

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 Toronto Local Appeal Body.

SUMMARY

The Nominating Panel – Toronto Local Appeal Body must select candidates to interview for appointment to the Toronto Local Appeal Body. Following the interviews, the Nominating Panel will recommend three candidates for appointment to City Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Clerk recommends that:

1. The Nominating Panel - Toronto Local Appeal Body select six candidates listed in Confidential Attachment 1a for interview at its next meeting for appointment to the Toronto Local Appeal Body.
2. The Nominating Panel - Toronto Local Appeal Body direct that Confidential Attachments 1a, 1b, and 2 remain confidential in their entirety as they relate to personal matters about identifiable individuals being considered for appointment to the Toronto Local Appeal Body.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting held on May 21 and 22, 2025, City Council appointed one member of the public as Chair to the Toronto Local Appeal Body, for a term of office ending on May 24, 2029, and until a successor is appointed:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.CC30.6>

At its meeting held on May 21 and 22, 2025, City Council decreased the panel member composition of the Toronto Local Appeal Body from fourteen (14) to ten (10) part-time members including a Chair and Vice-Chair:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.PH21.2>

At its meeting held February 6 and 7, 2024, City Council appointed six members of the public to the Toronto Local Appeal Body, for a term of office ending on February 9, 2028, and until successors are appointed:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.CC14.2>

At its meeting held July 19, 20, 21 and 22, 2022, City Council appointed four members of the public to the Toronto Local Appeal Body, for a term of office ending on July 16, 2026, and until successors are appointed:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2022.CC47.11>

At its meeting held April 6, 2022, City Council increased the size of the Toronto Local Appeal Body from ten members to fourteen members, including the Chair and Vice-Chair:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2022.PH32.2>

At its meeting held March 9, 2022, City Council appointed two members of the public to the Toronto Local Appeal Body, for a term of office ending on March 9, 2026, and until successors are appointed:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2022.CC41.3>

COMMENTS

Composition of the Toronto Local Appeal Body

The Toronto Local Appeal Body consists of 10 public members, including a Chair and Vice Chair.

There are currently three positions under consideration

At its meeting held on May 21 and 22, 2025, City Council decreased the panel member composition of the Toronto Local Appeal Body from 14 to 10 part-time members including a Chair and Vice-Chair, and that the decrease be achieved through the elimination of Toronto Local Appeal Body member positions upon the completion of current terms of appointment, with the exception of any public appointments required for the Chair position, until such point as the Toronto Local Appeal Body membership is comprised of 10 members inclusive of a Chair and Vice-Chair.:

Currently the Toronto Local Appeal Body has 11 members. Following this recruitment the tribunal will achieve the decrease in composition to 10 members. There are three positions under consideration due to the end of terms of Gerald Swinkin and Carissa Wong on March 9, 2026, and Ron Kanter and Trevor Kezwer whose terms will end on July 16, 2026, and until successors are appointed.

Term of office

The term of office for public members is four years. The members appointed through this process will have a term of office ending June 27, 2030, and until successors are appointed.

Under the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act*, members are also required to continue beyond their term of office or resignation date to complete hearing any matters of which they are seized.

Public members should meet certain qualifications

Members should collectively bring the following skills and expertise to the tribunal:

- Experience in adjudication and mediation;
- Knowledge and experience with land use planning and planning law;
- Knowledge of or background in urban forestry and environmental planning;
- Excellent listening skills and ability to analyze complex evidence;
- Sound judgement, tact, fairness and decorum;
- Ability to write clearly and concisely;
- Demonstrated high ethical standards and integrity;
- Ability to work under pressure to ensure timely hearing decisions; and
- Respect for access to justice, diversity and accommodation.

Members must satisfy certain eligibility requirements

In addition to the general eligibility requirements set out in the Public Appointments Policy, members of the Toronto Local Appeal body must meet these criteria:

- Cannot be a member of Toronto's Committee of Adjustment, a land division committee, or planning advisory committee member;
- Former Members of Council who served in the immediately preceding term of Council are ineligible for appointment; and

- Members cannot act as agents for applicants before the Committee of Adjustment, Toronto Local Appeal Body and other City administrative tribunals and would be required to resign from the Toronto Local Appeal Body before doing so.

Members receive remuneration

Public members including the Chair and Vice-Chair, receive a full-day per diem of \$600 and half-day (3.5 hours or less) per diem of \$400 for hearings, business meetings or training sessions. Members also receive remuneration for decisions including: \$50 for withdrawals, \$200 for motions, interim, summary and order decisions, \$400 for review requests and \$400 for final decisions.

In addition, members receive an annual stipend pro-rated from the time of appointment. The Chair receives an annual stipend of \$60,000; the Vice Chair receives an annual stipend of \$15,000 and public members receive an annual stipend of \$1,500.

Public Appointments staff have consulted with Court Services

In preparation for this process, Public Appointments staff consulted with Court Services. In addition to the council approved qualifications, it was suggested that candidates who can conduct hearings via Web or Teleconferencing platforms and who are comfortable utilizing Microsoft 365 software, databases, and information management systems would be an asset to the tribunal.

Outreach was conducted for these vacancies

The opportunity to apply to the Toronto Local Appeal Body was shared externally through LinkedIn, the Public Appointments e-subscribers list, the Society of Ontario Adjudicators and Regulators (SOAR), and the Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario (ADRIO).

The opportunity was also shared with internal City partners including the Indigenous Affairs Office, Confronting Anti-Black Racism Unit, and People and Equity, to promote broadly through their networks.

Next steps - Interviews

Once the Nominating Panel - Toronto Local Appeal Body has selected candidates for interviews, the City Clerk's Office will contact the candidates to schedule them for 15-minute interviews. Six interviews plus deliberations will take approximately 2 hours to complete.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

John D. Elvidge
City Clerk

ATTACHMENTS

Confidential Attachment 1a - List of Eligible Candidates, Qualifications, Confidential Diversity Information Summary, and Applications for Appointment to the Toronto Local Appeal Body

Confidential Attachment 1b - List of Ineligible Candidates, Qualifications, Confidential Diversity Information Summary, and Applications for Appointment to the Toronto Local Appeal Body

Confidential Attachment 2 – Diversity Information Summary for Current Public Members of the Toronto Local Appeal Body