

George Street Revitalization Project

Stakeholder Reference Group - Terms of Reference

MANDATE

The George Street Revitalization (GSR) Stakeholder Reference Group (SRG) is the renewed version of the former GSR Stakeholder Advisory Group. The SRG represents a cross-section of key stakeholders who receive information and participate in an advisory capacity to the City of Toronto on the GSR project's program and design elements. The group will work in a collaborative spirit in the best interest of all future users of the services to be provided through the GSR.

BACKGROUND & AUTHORITY

George Street is undergoing a large-scale revitalization to integrate services for vulnerable people and the broader community. The new, integrated development will replace the existing Seaton House men's shelter with a smaller emergency shelter, add a new long-term care home, and Community Hub to offer needed services and social supports for community members. The integration of services reflects well-researched best practices that support the needs of populations with vulnerabilities across a continuum of care.

In July 2013, City Council directed the establishment of "an advisory group for the redevelopment of Seaton House that includes current and past residents of Seaton House, representatives from CUPE Local 79, including those working at Seaton House, service partners including other orders of government as appropriate, representatives from local residents' groups and other stakeholders".

TASKS & ACTIVITIES

1. Participate at meetings of the Stakeholder Reference Group to receive information reports on project developments and to advise as required.
2. As an option, participate in a project Working Group. Working Groups will include non-SRG members and will develop their own schedules.

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

Membership is open to individuals from the previous GSR Stakeholder Advisory Group and to new persons interested in participating. While there is no fixed representation, staff will strive to ensure that the clusters listed below are represented. All members should consider the voices, experiences, and perspectives of those not represented at meetings.

MEMBERSHIP CLUSTERS

Members will include persons from the clusters listed below and are not expected to represent their cluster or sector. Members must reside, represent, or provide services to the Downtown East region of the City.

- Indigenous community partners
- Local community members
- Elected officials or their representatives
- Seaton house residents (current or former), staff and volunteers
- LTCHS residents, staff and volunteers
- Local business owners or representatives
- CUPE Local 79 representatives and members
- Health, housing, and community service partners
- Infrastructure Ontario (IO)

MEETINGS

Meetings will occur bi-annually (2-times per year) and are for eligible members. Meeting will be facilitated and supported by City staff, and details and information will be made publicly available. Working groups will be formed as required and meet as needed.

ACCOUNTABILITY & TERMS OF AGREEMENT

The GSR Stakeholder Reference Group is an advisory body to the City of Toronto. Decision-making rests with the City of Toronto, and City staff retain responsibility to provide City Council with professional advice notwithstanding the outcome of the SRG or its Working Group(s).

The Stakeholder Reference Group is committed to respectful dialogue, problem-solving, building partnerships, and working collaboratively. Members are accountable to each other and agree to act respectfully to create a welcoming environment. To foster a respectful and inclusive space, behaviour conflicting with these principles will be addressed by the group, and facilitator(s), including the administration of correction and reconciliation efforts.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Each member is honour-bound to report actual or believed conflicts of interest to the co-chairs prior to, or at the onset of meetings or discussion point. Co-chairs will recommend a course of action.

1. Participate fully to the discussion with the conflict declared
2. Contribute to the discussion, avoid making recommendations and abstain in decision-making
3. Withdraw from the meeting when the issue in conflict is being discussed/decided upon