



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information ☐	Recommendation ☒	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
--------------------------------------	--	---	--

To: Committee of the Whole

Submitted by: Deanna Snair, Municipal Clerk

Date: January 14, 2025

Subject: Diverse and Inclusive Communities Committee Citizen Member Appointment

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act – Section 24 Standing, Special and Advisory Committees

RECOMMENDATION or DECISION REQUEST

That Committee of the Whole recommends ...

Council appoints the following individuals as voting citizen members to become representatives and support to the Diverse and Inclusive Communities Committee:

1. Anne Bishop
2. Lisa Bland
3. Alma Crnalic
4. Jamie Patterson
5. Domenic Padula
6. Charlotte Paul

BACKGROUND

Property ☐	Public Opinion ☒	Environment ☐	Social ☒	Economic ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
-----------------------------------	---	--------------------------------------	--	-----------------------------------	---

West Hants Regional Municipality is full of vibrant and active communities that hosts various events throughout the year. A strong sense of belonging is an important step in becoming an inclusive community to ensure all feel welcomed and valued. It is critical as a Municipality that

we move forward with a strategic road map and an understanding of the need and ability for everyone to have a voice, be heard, receive validation, have equitable treatment, and access resources of one's choosing. The prioritization of cultural diversity and inclusion within our region will allow us to reflect on methods of welcomeness and service delivery while acknowledging and addressing barriers concerning racism, social marginalization, equity, and discrimination. In developing an action plan within the Diverse and Inclusive Communities committee, the Municipality can realize its full potential in becoming a place where "Something Inspiring Awaits".

The purpose of the Diverse and Inclusive Communities Committee is to serve in an advisory capacity and make recommendations to Council which will formulate strategic action plans achieve the following:

1. Advocate, educate, celebrate, address, and advise on issues concerning social marginalization, equity, racism, and discrimination within the Municipality and its workplaces.
2. Break down barriers and implement programs, policies, and practices that promote diversity and inclusion and create opportunities which are inclusive and welcoming to all.

DISCUSSION

Members were notified of the approaching end of their term and were encouraged to apply for the upcoming term.

Public advertisement for resident members was placed in the local paper (the Valley Journal Advertiser), on the Municipal website and Facebook page on September 20, 2022. Applications to be a resident member of the Accessibility Advisory Committee were accepted until 12 p.m. (noon) October 30, 2024.

A total of six (6) expressions of interest were received, including former members who wished to reapply for an additional term. All applications were reviewed by Kevin Waters, the Active Living Coordinator who is the staff person responsible for leading the committee.

NEXT STEPS

Once approved by Council, all applicants will be contacted to notify them of whether or not they were appointed. Required additional information will be sent to new members. Proceed with the goals established by the committee and mandates set forth by the province, Human Rights Commission, and the UNESCO Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Resident/Community members appointed to a Committee of Council will receive remuneration in accordance with the Council Remuneration Policy, which is identified in the annual Operating Budget.

There will be financial impacts as the committee identifies needs for education, an action plan, consulting services, etc. These impacts have yet to be identified and will be identified to Council for consideration in a request for funding approval.

ALTERNATIVES

- Council can choose not to accept the recommendation and proceed as currently established.
- Council can direct staff to explore other options by giving a different direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

None

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW

I support the recommendation.

Report Prepared by: _____
Deanna Snair, Clerk

Report Reviewed by: _____
Deanna Snair, Clerk

Report Approved by:  _____
Mark Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer