



THE TOWN OF GEORGINA
EQUITY & DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Tuesday, September 24, 2019
4:30 PM
Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

“We would like to begin today’s meeting by acknowledging that the Town of Georgina is located over lands originally used and occupied by the First Peoples of the Williams Treaties First Nations and other Indigenous Peoples and thank them for sharing this land. We would also like to acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our close neighbour and friend, one with which we strive to build a cooperative and respectful relationship.”

2. ROLL CALL

3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEMS

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Pages 1 to 3

- (1) Meeting minutes from Tuesday May 28, 2019

7. DELEGATIONS/SPEAKERS

8. PRESENTATIONS

9. REPORTS

- (1) Respectful Engagement Strategies for Engaging Equity-Seeking Populations – Verbal Report by Committee member Bernice Ruhl

10. COMMUNICATIONS

Page 4

- (1) Investing In Cultural Tourism Across Ontario

- Page 5
(2) Richmond Hill launches Indigenous awareness training for city staff

- Pages 6 to 7
(3) Statement by Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues on World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

- Pages 8 to 9
(4) Ontario Investing in Shelter Expansion in Toronto to Protect Vulnerable Women and Children

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- Page 10 to 11
(1) GEDAC one fold update
(2) Discussion - Community Response to Hate Slogan, request for comments from HR.
(2) Education and empowerment event (prelude to diversity dinner – ongoing item).

- Page 12
(3) 2020 Proposed Schedule
(4) Music in the Streets
a. 2019 debriefing
b. 2020 participation
(3) Motion to form Working Group, to work on:
 - Bursary/Education Award
 - Communication Strategy
 - Diversity Dinner

12. CLOSED SESSION, IF REQUIRED

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN

THE TOWN OF GEORGINA
EQUITY & DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 28, 2019
4:30 PM
Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM.

“We would like to begin today’s meeting by acknowledging that the Town of Georgina is located over lands originally used and occupied by the First Peoples of the Williams Treaties First Nations and other Indigenous Peoples and thank them for sharing this land. We would also like to acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our close neighbour and friend, one with which we strive to build a cooperative and respectful relationship.”

2. ROLL CALL

The following Committee members were in attendance:

Alicia Lauzon, York Region Police
Karen McGill, Chair
Kyle Stipanic, Vice Chair
Mayor Margaret Quirk
Berenice Ruhl

The following Committee member was absent with regrets
Lily Pourzand

The following staff member was in attendance:

Sandra Dipietrantonio, Administrative Services Clerk

3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEMS - *None*

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Berenice Ruhl, Seconded by Alicia Lauzon

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2019-0016

That the May 28, 2019, Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF - *None*

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

(1) Meeting minutes from Tuesday April 23, 2019

Moved by Kyle Stipanic, Seconded by Berenice Ruhl

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2019-00

That the minutes of former Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee meeting held on April 23, 2019, be adopted.

Carried

7. DELEGATIONS/SPEAKERS - *None*

8. PRESENTATIONS

(1) Former Subcommittee Berenice Presentation

Moved by Berenice Ruhl, Seconded by Kyle Stipanic

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2019

Motion to form a sub-committee and Karen McGill, Chair will get in touch with different committees and individuals to see if they would like to sit on this committee.

Carried.

9. REPORTS - *None*

10. COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) Ms. Cheung's Class, Pink Shirt Day
(2) Rebalancing the Opportunity Equation – United Way Greater Toronto
(3) York Region police investigate anti-Semitic graffiti found in Vaughan

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- (1) Discussion – Community Response to Hate Slogan (ongoing item) – The Chair asked that the Committee Services Coordinator contact the Human Resources Department and see if they had any comments or recommendation.
- (2) Education and empowerment event (prelude to diversity dinner)
- (3) Multi-faith dates
- (4) York Region Pride Parade, June 15, 2019, Newmarket at 3:00 p.m.
- (5) Bursary/Education award (ongoing – the new sub-committee will work on this item and report back to the committee)
- (6) Communication strategy (ongoing) – the new sub-committee will work on this item and report back to the committee.
- (7) Music in the streets 2019- Saturday June 22, 2019 – was confirmed that Mayor Margret Quirk, Kyle Stipanic and Berenice Ruhl will participate in this even and will be there for 9:30 am for the opening, Phil will provide the banner and pamphlet for them to hand out.
- (8) Diversity Dinner (ongoing) – the new sub-committee will work on this item and report back to the committee.

12. CLOSED SESSION, IF REQUIRED

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Berenice Ruhl, Seconded by Kyle Stipanic

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2018-00

That the Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee May 28, 2019, meeting adjourn at 5:32 PM.

Carried.

Karen McGill, Chair

Sandra Dipietrantonio,
Administrative Services Clerk

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2019 10:27 AM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Investing In Cultural Tourism Across Ontario



News Release

Investing In Cultural Tourism Across Ontario

May 23, 2019

Province supporting local economies and creating jobs

TORONTO — Ontario's government for the people is working to drive local tourism and create jobs by investing more than \$1.7 million in cultural tourism events that will help drive tourism spending in communities across the province.

Through the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund (OCAF), the province is supporting 28 cultural tourism events that will stimulate the economy and create local jobs, help attract tourists and increase revenue.

"Cultural tourism events strengthen the social and cultural fabric of our communities," said Michael Tibollo, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport. "This support will help arts, culture and heritage organizations create new experiences that will help keep our province open for business and open for jobs by making Ontario a more attractive place to visit."

Cultural tourism events that receive support from the fund range from large exhibitions, festivals and anniversaries to smaller events that celebrate local culture and heritage and have a big impact in small communities.

"Ontario is bursting with events, festivals and major exhibitions; it is truly a feast for residents and visitors alike!" said John McKellar, Chair and President. "OCAF is thrilled to be a partner by supporting marketing campaigns that will bring tourists to large and small communities across the province. OCAF is a unique program investing in extraordinary events that create jobs and resources for Ontario communities."

Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund investments are partially repayable loans. This means that repayments replenish the Fund and allow OCAF to invest in even more projects.

Successful recipients will begin to be notified as of today.



View stories from | [Aurora \(/aurora-on-news\)](#) | [East Gwillimbury \(/eastgwillimbury-on-news\)](#) | [Georgina \(/georgina-on-news\)](#) | [King \(/king-on-news\)](#) | [Markham \(/markham-on-news\)](#) | [Newmarket \(/newmarket-on-news\)](#) | [Richmond Hill \(/richmondhill-on-news\)](#) | [Thornhill \(/thornhill-on-news\)](#) | [Vaughan \(/vaughan-on-news\)](#) | [Whitchurch-Stouffville \(/whitchurchstouffville-on-news\)](#)

Richmond Hill launches Indigenous awareness training course for city staff, council Fourteen people have participated in the \$15,000 online course purchased by the city

News 06:00 AM by [Sheila Wang \(/yorkregion-author/sheila-wang/BF5F737A-B85A-41B1-BDE0-C7CE531C0710\)](#) [✉ \(mailto:swang@metroland.com\)](mailto:swang@metroland.com) Richmond Hill Liberal

Richmond Hill city staff and council are expected to teach themselves on Indigenous culture and history through an online training course after council [decided not to open council meetings \(https://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/9241370-richmond-hill-residents-slam-decision-on-indigenous-land-acknowledgement/\)](#) with a land acknowledgement statement in March.

The city launched the online training course on Aug. 7. It offers a summary of Canada's native peoples and Indigenous culture to its more than 2,000 full-time, part-time and contract staff in Richmond Hill.

The course was introduced as a result of a [vote \(https://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/9241370-richmond-hill-residents-slam-decision-on-indigenous-land-acknowledgement/\)](#) at the March 25 council meeting to amend a motion to open council meeting with a land acknowledgement statement. The amendment essentially replaced the original motion introduced by Coun. David West.

"It's good but it's not as good as it could've been," said West, who has completed the online training course. "The staff will benefit from this, but the public will not necessary benefit from this because they don't have access to it."

The councillor was one of the 14 people who have taken the course in the first two weeks, according to the city.

The course consists of five modules which cover a wide range of Indigenous topics. Each module takes about 30 minutes to complete.

It not only offers a history of Indigenous peoples, the defining moments that have shaped the realities, but also help understand treaties and rights, their cultural values and traditions as well as conflict resolution.

There is a short five-minute quiz to test for comprehension after each module.

Head said the city spent \$15,000 purchasing this existing course from [NVision Insight Group Inc. \(https://nvisiongroup.ca/\)](#), an Indigenous consulting company, with no modification.

It was funded through Richmond Hill's operating budget.

"I found it to be well done and informative and it is a good tool that we can now offer staff to further their understanding and education for their jobs as Richmond Hill employees," West said.

However, he said the city needs to do more in order to further the community's understanding.

West reiterated that reciting an Indigenous land acknowledgment to start council meetings would represent a "first step" on the path toward truth and reconciliation.

Deputy Mayor Carmine Perrelli applauded the implementation of the training course through the city's internal education system.

"Educating staff is a crucial first step in ensuring the service offered to our Indigenous residents is provided with understanding, sensitivity and expertise," Perrelli wrote in an email, noting the online course was recommended in the [report \(http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf\)](#) by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and supported by the Indigenous community.

In the report, one of the recommended actions calls upon all levels of government to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal Peoples including the legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, treaties, rights, laws and Crown relations.

"It's a good step, but they should have initiated it long ago," said David Grey Eagle of Toronto, who is a member of the Iroquois Mohawk Confederacy Bear Clan.

"And not having the land acknowledgement is very disrespectful and dishonourable to the Indigenous people because Richmond Hill is filled with Mohawk burial grounds and village sites everywhere."

There are about 500 residents in Richmond Hill who identified as Indigenous, according to [the 2016 census data \(https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/abpopprof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=3519038&Data=Count&SearchText=Richmond%20Hill&SearchType=Beigns&B1=All&GeoLevel=PR&GeoCode=3519038&SEX_ID=1&AGE_ID=1&RESGEO_ID=1#fb2\)](#).

Positing himself as "Cultural Lands Protector," Grey Eagle led the [first private prosecution \(https://www.canlii.org/en/on/bnsc/doc/2003/2003canlii44477/2003canlii44477.html?autocompleteStr=Ontario%20Realty%20Corp.%20&autocompletePos=21\)](#) in the province against the Ontario Realty Corp. for failure to consult with Indigenous people under the Environmental Assessment Act back in 2003.

The court found the ORC in breach of the EA act for selling a piece of land on Steeles Road in Markham which included a recognized Huron village site without consulting with the Huron Nation, reported The Globe and Mail.

Grey Eagle said he has provided frequent input to Richmond Hill council in the past and repeatedly attempted to offer consultation and education about Indigenous history and culture in the city.

"Too little, too late," Grey Eagle said of the online course. "I think the land acknowledgement is the most important because it's giving honour, it's giving understanding, it's giving truth and it's given acknowledgement to those first peoples."

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2019 9:11 AM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Statement by Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues on World Day Against Trafficking in Persons



Statement

Statement by Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues on World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

July 30, 2019

Today, Jill Dunlop, Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues, issued the following statement regarding World Day Against Trafficking in Persons:

"Today, on World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, I want to draw attention to the unfortunate prevalence of human trafficking across Ontario. I also want to recognize the survivors and stakeholders who are actively working to help raise awareness and combat this unspeakable crime.

Human trafficking robs the safety, livelihood and dignity of those who are being exploited and abused. Survivors face tremendous obstacles in leaving their traffickers, healing from their trauma and establishing a healthy life.

Today, and always, we must shed light on this appalling crime by talking about it openly.

We don't often think something so terrible can happen close to our homes, but the reality is occurrences of sex trafficking are higher in Ontario than in any other province.

This is deeply concerning to me - both in my new role with responsibility for the well-being of women and children, and also to me personally, as a woman and mother of three daughters.

Our government is working to ensure those affected by violence and exploitation receive the supports they need, while cracking down on offenders.

Our focus is to listen so we can take the appropriate action to help women and girls across Ontario. That is why we have launched province-wide roundtable discussions on sex trafficking with stakeholders and survivors to help us create a more responsive and supportive system for individuals who have been trafficked and those at risk.

We must confront and eliminate the root causes of violence so future generations of women, children and everyone in the province, are safe to live their lives free from the threat of fear, exploitation and violence.”

If you are a victim/survivor of trafficking, or believe someone else might be, call the 24/7 Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-833-900-1010.

CONTACTS

Hannah Anderson
Minister's Office
Hannah.Anderson@ontario.ca

Manuel Alas-Sevillano
Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services
416-316-8553
Manuel.Alas-Sevillano@ontario.ca

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services
<https://www.ontario.ca/mccss>

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99 Wellesley Street West 4th floor, Room 4620 Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2019 11:38 AM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Ontario Investing in Shelter Expansion in Toronto to Protect Vulnerable Women and Children



Newsroom

News Release

Ontario Investing in Shelter Expansion in Toronto to Protect Vulnerable Women and Children

July 15, 2019

Nellie's New Shelter Will Better Support More Survivors of Violence

TORONTO — Ontario is helping to protect women and children from violence by investing \$12 million in Nellie's, a Toronto-based shelter for women and children fleeing violence, so it can move to a larger, more modern site.

"Women and children must live free from violence," said Jill Dunlop, Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues. "Nellie's is operating at capacity, and as a result, women and children in need of support are often referred elsewhere. This investment enables Nellie's to build a new, welcoming space to help more women and children fleeing violence."

Nellie's new location, which is expected to open in fall 2020, will be accessible and merge a 40-bed shelter with outreach and administrative offices under one roof. Currently, Nellie's operates two separate buildings: one for its shelter and another for its community support and outreach services for women living in the community at risk of becoming homeless. Ontario's investment will increase Nellie's number of shelter beds by more than 10 per cent and enable the agency to support survivors more efficiently.

"We're very pleased about the government's commitment to Nellie's and the women and children we support," said Donna Kellway, co-chair of Nellie's board of directors. "Our agency has helped thousands of survivors over the years, but the needs are growing."

Ontario's violence against women's shelters serve more than 17,000 women and children yearly across the province. Nellie's has a strong focus on supporting marginalized women who have experienced violence, including women who may have been impacted by other issues such as addiction and mental health challenges.

“Our new location will be bigger, more accessible and increase privacy for women and children staying in the shelter,” said Sherece Taffe, co-chair of Nellie’s board of directors. “Currently, we only have nine bedrooms for 40 beds. These shared spaces can be challenging. The individuals we support have had traumatic experiences and come from diverse backgrounds. Our new site will have a total of 22 bedrooms and 20 bathrooms. This will help us support survivors much better, including single women and women with children.”

“Our government is committed to combatting violence against women in all its forms and lifting individuals out of poverty,” said Dunlop.

The government is also currently consulting with community partners and agencies to hear from frontline workers how to integrate and improve services more broadly for women in Ontario who need it most.

QUICK FACTS

- One in three women will experience sexual violence in their lifetime.
- Immigrant and refugee women are more vulnerable to violence due to language barriers, isolation from their family, precarious work or uncertain legal status.
- The Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services is investing more than \$166M in supports for survivors and violence prevention initiatives this year.
- [Ontario recently boosted support for rural frontline agencies](#) to increase collaboration, strengthen service delivery, improve culturally relevant supports for Indigenous women, and reduce geographic and transportation barriers.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Learn more about Ontario’s supports for women fleeing violence](#)
- [Read about the women and children that Nellie’s supports](#)

CONTACTS

Hannah Anderson
Minister’s Office

GEDAC Objectives

To formulate and recommend to Council appropriate policies and procedures that will enhance community relations and harmony within the Town of Georgina.

To share information and initiatives with other committees at the municipal, regional, provincial and federal levels.

Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee



Contact Us

For information about GEDAC, please contact the Committee Services Coordinator.
905-476-4301 Ext. 2248

georgina.ca



Our Mission

To consult, assist and provide information to the Community and Town Council about issues related to equity, diversity and inclusivity in the Town of Georgina.

The Corporation of The Town Of Georgina in the Regional Municipality of York
Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee (GEDAC)

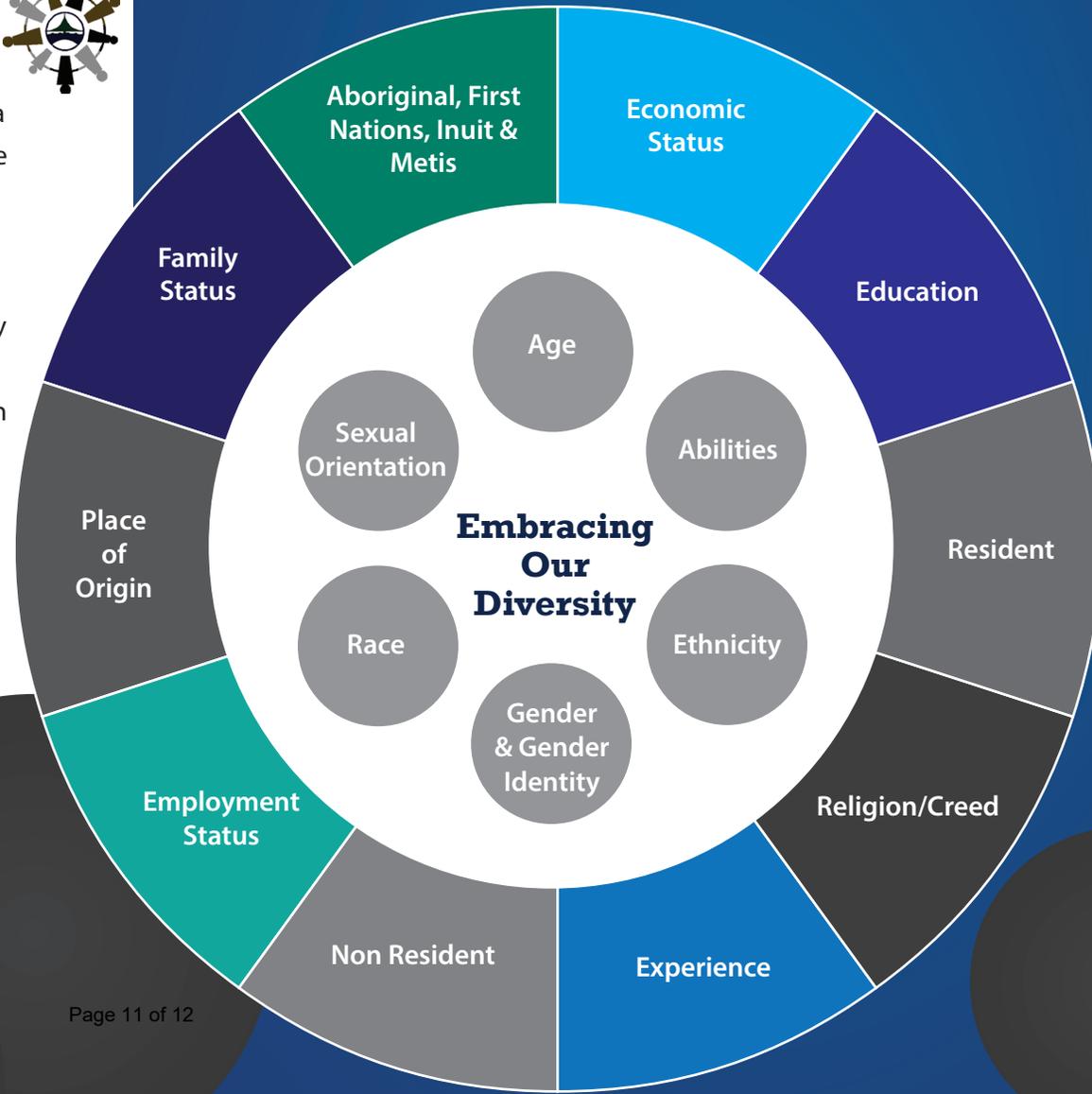
A proclamation of the principles of diversity, equity and accessibility was made between Town Council and the Chippewas of Georgina Island Band Council.

"Georgina recognizes and honours the respectful relationship we share with the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation. Georgina is particularly honoured and enriched by its co-existence with its valued neighbours and the unique status of the First Nation community."

Report Of Committee Initiatives and Programs



- 1 Created a Community Statement that the Town of Georgina is a diverse community that was endorsed by Town Council and the Chippewas of Georgina Island Band Council
- 2 Partnered with York Region and regional municipalities to implement the Immigration Settlement Strategy locally
- 3 Hosted a Let's Talk Inclusion Community Dialogue organized by York Region
- 4 Annual participation in the international Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- 5 Endorsed the Inclusion Charter that affirms Georgina's dedication to create welcoming neighbourhoods that promote the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion.



	GEDAC	
	4th Tuesday	
January	28th	
February	25th	
March	24th	
April	28th	
May	26th	
June	23rd	
July	28th	
August	25th	
September	22nd	
October	27th	
November	24th	
December	Civic	
MAX meetings		8
Eliminate		3

Suggested
dates to be
removed