



GEORGINA

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWN OF GEORGINA**

Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025
Time: 7:00 PM

Members of

Committee Present: Margaret Quirk
Charlene Biggerstaff
Michael Oyston
Hanna Gillis
Mona Steitieh
Alice Tsang

Members of

Committee Absent: Nancy Liu

Staff Present:

Hillary Thompson, Licensing Coordinator
Samantha Naumoski, Committee Services Coordinator
Cristina Liu, Economic Development Officer
Carlie McCormick, Sponsorships and Special Events Supervisor
Patti White, Manager of Recreation Services

Others Present:

Kendra Shae-Marie Mullings

1. CALL TO ORDER

“The Town of Georgina recognizes and acknowledges that we are on lands originally used and occupied by the First Peoples of the Williams Treaties First Nations and other Indigenous Peoples, and on behalf of the Mayor and Council, we would like to 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.

We also recognize the unique relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory. They are the water protectors and environmental stewards of these lands and we join them in these responsibilities.”

2. ROLL CALL

As noted above.

3. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hillary Thompson, former Committee Services Coordinator, introduces Samantha Naumoski, who will be taking over the role of Committee Services Coordinator on a permanent basis.

4. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEM(S)

None.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0001

Moved By Mona Steitieh
Seconded By Charlene Biggerstaff

That the January 28, 2025 Agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

6. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None.

7. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the meeting held on October 29, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0002

Moved By Michael Oyston
Seconded By Alice Tsang

That the Minutes of the October 29, 2024 meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

8. **SPEAKERS**

1. Black History Month

Kendra Shae-Marie Mullings to speak to the Committee about Black History Month.

Kendra Shae-Marie Mullings advised the Committee of various events occurring around York Region for Black History Month. To represent Black History Month, there will be events taking place which involve music, history, creativity, dancehall, drum circles, and story time sessions surrounding the culture. Events taking place within Georgina will be listed on the Town's website as well as social media pages.

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0003

Moved By Charlene Biggerstaff
Seconded By Hanna Gillis

That the information pertaining to Black History Month events in York Region be received as presented.

Carried

9. **DELEGATIONS/ PETITIONS**

None.

10. **PRESENTATIONS**

1. Economic, Culture, and Community Betterment Grant Program

Cristina Liu, Economic Development Officer, provided an overview of the Economic, Culture, and Community Betterment (ECCB) Grant program, which continues to offer critical funding for events, programs, and initiatives that enhance Georgina's identity, culture, and economy.

Eligible applicants for the grant include not-for-profit organizations, registered charities, and businesses or organizations that promote overnight stays, contribute significantly to the local economy, and celebrate Georgina's heritage.

Applications must be submitted at least two months before the event date, and applicants are required to sign a waiver agreeing to the terms of the grant. This includes submitting detailed financial and impact reports within 90 days after the event. The Town's wordmark must also be included on all major promotional materials as recognition of the Town's financial support.

The first intake deadline is February 28, 2025, and the second intake deadline is June 30, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0004

Moved By Mona Steitieh
Seconded By Hanna Gillis

That the Committee receive the presentation regarding the Economic, Culture, and Community Betterment Grant Program for information.

Carried

11. REPORTS

None.

12. GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Summary of Ideas for 2025 Committee Initiatives

Hillary Thompson, Licensing Coordinator, provided a summary of what the Committee aims to accomplish in 2025 including various initiatives, speakers, and events.

The Committee continued to suggest further initiatives involving potentially partnering with the Georgina Centre for Arts and Culture for future events pertaining to equity and diversity.

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0005

Moved By Michael Oyston
Seconded By Mona Steitieh

That the Committee receive the item regarding the Summary of Ideas for 2025 Committee Initiatives and to contact the Georgina Centre for Arts and Culture for partnership purposes.

Carried

2. Updated 2025 GEDAC Meeting Schedule

Hillary Thompson, Licensing Coordinator, advised the Committee Members of an amendment made to the 2025 Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting schedule. The amended schedule

notes that the meeting for the month of June was rescheduled from June 17, 2025, to June 24, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0006

Moved By Charlene Biggerstaff

Seconded By Michael Oyston

That the Committee accept the revisions made to the 2025 GEDAC meeting schedule as amended.

Carried

3. Ramadan Event - February 27, 2025

Mona Steitieh, Committee Member, provided an update on behalf of the Al-Falah Islamic Centre regarding an upcoming event taking place at the MURC on February 27, 2025 to mark the start of Ramadan.

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0007

Moved By Charlene Biggerstaff

Seconded By Hanna Gillis

That the Committee receive the item regarding the upcoming Ramadan event for information.

Carried

4. 2025 GEDAC Budget

Patti White, Manager of Recreation Services, provided an update to the 2025 GEDAC budget, noting that \$550.00 of the budget value is going to advertising and a secondary portion of \$5,000.00 is going to miscellaneous segments in order to support various cultural events throughout the 2025 calendar year.

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0008

Moved By Hanna Gillis

Seconded By Charlene Biggerstaff

That the Committee receive the update on the 2025 GEDAC budget for information.

Carried

5. **Canada Day and Cultural Festival Updates**

Carlie McCormick, Sponsorship and Special Events Supervisor, provided an update on the upcoming Canada Day event and Cultural Festival activation, where the event will include a multicultural section to showcase food, arts, and entertainment from different cultures around Georgina. This portion of the event will serve as a promotion for the inaugural Cultural festival taking place on September 20, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0009

Moved By Charlene Biggerstaff
Seconded By Mona Steitieh

That the Committee receive the updates on the upcoming Canada Day event and Cultural Festival event for information.

Carried

13. **MOTIONS/ NOTICES OF MOTION**

None.

14. **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

15. **CLOSED SESSION**

None.

16. **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0010

Moved By Michael Oyston
Seconded By Hanna Gillis

That the Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Carried

Mayor Margaret Quirk, Chair

Samantha Naumoski, Committee Services Coordinator