



GEORGINA

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWN OF GEORGINA**

Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 4, 2025
Time: 7:00 PM

Members of

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

Staff Present:

Samantha Naumoski, Committee Services Coordinator
Kelly Atkinson, Head of Human Resources
Patti White, Manager of Recreation Services

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.”

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

As noted above.

3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEM(S)

None.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0011

Moved By Hanna Gillis
Seconded By Mona Steitieh

That the March 4, 2025 Agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

5. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None.

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the meeting on January 28, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0012

Moved By Michael Oyston
Seconded By Charlene Biggerstaff

That the Minutes of the January 28, 2025 meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

7. SPEAKERS

None.

8. DELEGATIONS/ PETITIONS

None.

9. PRESENTATIONS

None.

10. REPORTS

None.

11. GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Ramadan Event Update

Mona Steitieh, Committee Member, provided a verbal update on the Ramadan Event held at the MURC on February 26, 2025. Mona shared the successful points to the event as well as learnings for future improvements. Overall, the event was very well attended.

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0013

Moved By Mona Steitieh
Seconded By Charlene Biggerstaff

That the Committee receive the verbal update regarding the Ramadan Event, for information.

Carried

2. Chinese Tea Culture Workshop Information

Nancy Liu, Committee Member, provided verbal information regarding an upcoming Chinese Tea Culture Workshop. Nancy discussed the rich history of tea in China and highlighted the mission of a nonprofit Chinese organization dedicated to fostering meaningful conversation, promoting mindfulness, and encouraging the positive benefits of tea drinking. She also shared a personal experience in which she participated in a calming exercise while enjoying tea. Nancy plans to collaborate with Patti White, Manager of Recreation Services, to explore opportunities for incorporating Chinese Tea Culture Workshops into Town facilities and future cultural events.

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0014

Moved By Michael Oyston
Seconded By Charlene Biggerstaff

That the Committee receive the item regarding the Chinese Tea Culture Workshop, for information.

Carried

3. Youth Engagement to Promote Multiculturalism Through Art

Councillor Charlene Biggerstaff presented ideas for engaging youth through various art forms to showcase cultural pride and involvement in upcoming multicultural events. She emphasized that the theme and timing of the multicultural event align well with children's programs during the summer months.

Staff are seeking 1-2 members from GEDAC to join a working group focused on participating in the inaugural cultural event in September, and suggested including a representative from the Art Centre as part of the group. Patti White, Manager of Recreation Services, will reach out to the Art Centre to explore their potential involvement in the working group.

Committee members interested in participating in the working group are to contact, Patti White, Manager of Recreation Services, or Carlie McCormick, Sponsorship and Special Events Supervisor, for further details.

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0015

Moved By Hanna Gillis

Seconded By Mona Steitieh

That the Committee receive the item regarding Youth Engagement to Promote Multiculturalism Through Art, for information.

Carried

4. "Hate Has No Place Here" Campaign Information

Councillor Charlene Biggerstaff, discussed information pertaining to the "Hate Has No Place Here" campaign, previously promoted through the Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee. The Committee discussed opportunities where this topic could be promoted through sharing the decals, logos, and hosting workshops to come together to remind people in Georgina the importance of the campaign.

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0016

Moved By Charlene Biggerstaff

Seconded By Mona Steitieh

That the Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee formally requests that the "Hate Has No Place Here" stickers be re-printed for distribution purposes, utilizing a budget of \$500.00.

Carried

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0017

Moved By Alice Tsang
Seconded By Hanna Gillis

That the Committee receive the item regarding the "Hate Has No Place Here" Campaign, for information.

Carried

12. MOTIONS/ NOTICES OF MOTION

None.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

14. CLOSED SESSION

None.

15. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. World Down Syndrome Awareness Day
World Down Syndrome Day takes place on March 21st, 2025.

2. International Womens Day
International Women's Day takes place on March 8th, 2025.

16. MOTION TO ADJOURN

RESOLUTION NO. GEDAC-2025-0018

Moved By Mona Steitieh
Seconded By Michael Oyston

That the Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee adjourned at 7:38
p.m.

Carried

Mayor Margaret Quirk, Chair

Samantha Naumoski, Committee Services Coordinator