



**WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
January 11, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Jacquie Gahagan, Chair  
Hannah Jackson, Vice Chair  
Councillor Pam Lovelace  
Councillor Becky Kent  
Sonia Ikheloa

**REGRETS:** Maggie Hua  
Jane McKay-Nesbitt  
Elizabeth Fraser

**STAFF:** Tracey Jones-Grant, Manager, Diversity & Inclusion  
Amy Brierley, Social Policy Strategist, Community Safety  
Baylee Brown, Advisor, Coordinator 2SLGBTQ+/Gender Equity Community  
Engagement and Research  
Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m., the Committee adjourned at 5:52 p.m.*

## **1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

### **1.1 Annual Election of Chair**

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Kent

**THAT Jacquie Gahagan be nominated Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee.**

Jacquie Gahagan was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Kent

**THAT Jacquie Gahagan be appointed Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Jacquie Gahagan was declared the Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee.

Jacquie Gahagan assumed the Chair.

### **1.2 Annual Election of Vice Chair**

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Sonia Ikheloa

**THAT Hannah Jackson be nominated Vice Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee.**

Hannah Jackson was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Sonia Ikheloa

**THAT Hannah Jackson be appointed Vice Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Hannah Jackson was declared the Vice Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee.

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 5, 2023 and December 4, 2023**

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Hannah Jackson

**THAT the minutes of October 5, 2023 and December 4, 2023 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### 3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions: None

Deletions: None

As provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Hannah Jackson requested that Item 9.1.3 Gender Based Analysis Plus practices at Halifax Regional Municipality be considered prior to item 9.1.1.

MOVED by Sonia Ikheloa, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### 4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

### 5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

### 6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

### 7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence - None

7.2 Petitions – None

7.3 Presentation - None

### 8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

### 9. REPORTS

#### 9.1 STAFF

##### 9.1.1 2024 Work Plan

The following was before the Committee:

- Draft Women's Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan

The Committee discussed the Draft Women's Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan. Members requested the Work Plan be revised to include Sex and Gender Based Analysis Plus considerations, a goal to look ahead to upcoming policies and initiatives to advise upon during the agenda review process, and a note that priorities be approached through an intersectional lens.

Councillor Lovelace requested Priority 2 be revised to include "Council" so the priority would now read: "Priority 2: **Women's involvement in non-traditional roles (including employment and involvement in municipal Council boards and committees) and in the economic growth of the HRM**, with a focus on Indigenous women".

Tracey Jones-Grant, Manager, Diversity & Inclusion responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding outreach initiatives for the upcoming 2024 Municipal Election.

##### 9.1.2 Gender Based Analysis re: 2024/2025 Municipal Budget

MOVED by Hannah Jackson, seconded by Sonia Ikheloa

**THAT the Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee write a letter on the Committee's behalf to Mayor Savage and Halifax Regional Council regarding the importance of Gender Based Analysis Plus in the 2024/25 Budget Process.**

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.3 Gender Based Analysis Plus practices at Halifax Regional Municipality**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated January 11, 2024
- Handout dated January 11, 2024

Caroline Hemstock, Immigrant Services Advisor, Diversity & Inclusion and Tracey Jones-Grant, Manager, Diversity & Inclusion gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

**9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES**

**9.2.1 Regional Council Update**

Councillor Lovelace provided an overview of Regional Council's activities since December 2023 including the 2024/25 Municipal Budget and action being taken to support those experiencing homelessness, including new shelters opening in Halifax Regional Municipality.

**10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 1, 2024**

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald  
Legislative Assistant