

Staff Report



Corporate Services Department

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REPORT TO: Committee of the Whole

DATE OF MEETING: February 10, 2025

SUBMITTED BY: Dianna Saunderson, Manager, Council & Committee Services

PREPARED BY: Mariah Blake, Committee Coordinator, 519-783-8999

WARD(S) INVOLVED: All

DATE OF REPORT: February 3, 2025

REPORT NO.: COR-2025-063

SUBJECT: 2025 Appointments to Heritage Kitchener Committee

RECOMMENDATION:

That effective February 10, 2025, Preston Arens and Nic E'Silva be appointed to the Heritage Kitchener Committee for the term ending November 15, 2026, or until a successor has been appointed, as outlined in Corporate Services Department report, COR-2025-063.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS:

- The purpose of this report is to appoint two new members to the Heritage Kitchener Committee to ensure effective meetings may occur, by addressing concerns related to committee composition and quorum.
- This report supports the delivery of core services.

BACKGROUND:

On December 16, 2024, Council appointed individuals and members of Council to various advisory committees, boards and quasi-judicial tribunals for the current term. During the December 16, 2024, Special Council Meeting, 8 individuals were appointed to Heritage Kitchener for the term ending December 16, 2026. The following individuals were appointed: Magda Milosz, Rudi Schweitzer, Laura Wilson, Peter Ciuciura, Jean Haalboom, Grant Eveleigh, Natalie Pikulski, and Ali Mahmoodi Sahba. In accordance with the current Terms of Reference for Heritage Kitchener, membership is composed of a minimum of 7 members and a maximum of 11 members. The Committee also endeavors to appoint 1 representative from each of the City's designated Heritage Conservation Districts (St. Mary's, Civic Centre, Victoria Park and Upper Doon). Under-appointment poses concerns with respect to the committee's composition and quorum. As such recruitment for additional members was initiated.

REPORT:

Recruitment for the Heritage Kitchener Committee was open from January 6, 2025 to January 17, 2025 and posted to the city's website, communicated through social media, existing committee members and shared on LinkedIn. During the recruitment period, 4 eligible applications were received. The Nominating Committee considered the applications and

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recommended that two applicants, Preston Arens and Nic E’Silva be appointed. The additional appointments will assist in maintaining quorum and will contribute to committee’s composition of individuals with demonstrated knowledge or expertise related to conservation and/or restoration of built heritage resources and/or cultural heritage landscapes.

It is staff’s intention to conduct a fulsome review of the Heritage Kitchener Terms of Reference and the amended Terms are anticipated to be brought to Council in Spring 2025.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This report supports the delivery of core services.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Capital Budget – The recommendation has no impact on the Capital Budget.

Operating Budget – The recommendation has no impact on the Operating Budget.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

INFORM – This report has been posted to the City’s website with the agenda in advance of the council / committee meeting.

PREVIOUS REPORTS/AUTHORITIES:

There are no previous reports/authorities related to this matter. **OR**

- COR-2024-526 – 2024 Appointment to Advisory/Quasi-Judicial Committees and Boards (2024-2026)

APPROVED BY: Victoria Raab, General Manager, Corporate Services

ATTACHMENTS:

None at this time.