



Minutes

Brampton Women's Advisory Committee

The Corporation of the City of Brampton

Thursday, January 29, 2026

Members Present: Dominique Darmanin-Sturgeon, Co-Chair
Kathleen Douglass, (Co-Chair)
Simrat Atwal
Lindsay Branton
Kritika Chopra
Eraj Waqar
Marjorie R. Taylor
Regional Councillor N. Brar

Members Absent: Nadia Chandra
Simran Dosanjh
Regional Councillor R. Santos

Staff Present: Shanika Johnson, Manager, Equity Office, Corporate Services
Chandra Urquhart, Legislative Coordinator

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

The following motion was considered:

BWAC001-2026

That the agenda for the Brampton Women's Advisory Committee meeting of January 29, 2026, be approved, as published and circulated.

Carried

3. **Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act**

Nil

4. **Previous Minutes**

4.1 Minutes - Brampton Women's Advisory Committee - October 16, 2025

The minutes were considered by Committee of Council on November 12, 2025, and approved by Council on November 19, 2025. The minutes were provided for Committee's information.

5. **Presentations\Delegations**

Nil

6. **Reports/Updates**

Nil

7. **Upcoming Pertinent Issues**

Nil

8. **Other/New Business/Information Items**

8.1 Discussion at the request of Kathleen Douglass, Co-Chair, re: 2026 International Women's Day Plans

Kathleen Douglass, Co-Chair, referenced previous International Women's Day events and inquired what the City's plans were for 2026.

Shanika Johnson, Manager, Equity Office, advised that International Women's Day celebrations will be held at the Rose Theatre on March 7, 2026, and the activities will be similar to the last year's event, with the theme being 'Give to Gain'. Reference was made to information that was shared to the members by the Clerk's Office seeking input and support on the following topics:

- Marketplace featuring women entrepreneurs
 - maximum of eight (8) Brampton-based participants
- Community resource tables
 - maximum of six (6) organizations to be represented at display tables to share programs and services
- 'Give to Gain' engagement
 - opportunity for members to encourage and engage attendees by offering their resources and sharing knowledge

Committee discussion took place and included the following:

- Suggestions of groups/organizations to be featured at tables included
 - Zonta Club, Help a Girl Out and Embrace, Roots Community Service and Punjabi Community Health
- Suggestion to categorize tables based on the topics such as, combatting human trafficking, violence against women and gender-based violence
- Consider groups that delegated at previous meetings such as, Embrace
- Undertake a call-out to the groups in the chosen categories to determine interest and participation
- Consider entrepreneurs of female run businesses and health care providers

Shanika Johnson advised that members may submit suggestions, ideas and names of organizations by the deadline date of February 2, 2026. The information will be reviewed and shared with the events' staff who will coordinate and assist with the event.

9. Correspondence

Nil

10. Question Period

Nil

11. **Public Question Period**

Nil

12. **Adjournment**

The following motion was considered:

BWAC002-2026

That Brampton Women's Advisory Committee do now adjourn to meet again on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Carried

Kathleen Douglass, Co-Chair

Dominique Darmanin-Sturgeon, Co-Chair