



City of Barrie

70 Collier Street
P.O. Box 400
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

Final Youth Council

Monday, May 5, 2025

5:30 PM

Sir Robert Barrie Room

YOUTH COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT For Consideration by the Infrastructure and Community Investment Committee on May 14, 2025.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Councillor J. Harris at 5:31 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 11 - Chair – Councillor J. Harris
Councillor, S. Morales
A. Onukwuba
M. Bentley
H. Burak
K. Maloney-Aegerter
M. Fisher
F. Jonathan
T. Ogunnaike
T. Olukoya
Y. Kamara

Absent: 5 - Councillor, A. Courser
N. Donnelly
K. Gallant
A. Johnson
LR. Sudsbury

STAFF:

Director of Recreation and Culture Services, K. Datema
Legislative Coordinator, D. Glenn
Recreation Programmer, H. Huften

The Youth Council Advisory Committee met and reports as follows:

#CHANGETHENOW PRESENTATION

Joanne Foxton, manager of the #ChangetheNow program from Georgian College provided a presentation to the committee regarding the #ChangetheNow program.

Ms. Foxton discussed slides concerning the following topics:

- Background information on the program and the mission statement;
- Overview of the different schools and teams signed up for the program;
- Review of sustainable goals and solutions to solve social isolation;
- Goals for the 2025-2026 school year;
- Overview of the seven innovative mindsets; and
- A timeline of events for the project.

Members of committee asked a number of questions and received responses.

INTRODUCTIONS AND VICE-CHAIR SELECTION

Chair, Councillor J. Harris welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked committee members and staff to introduce themselves as there are three new members joining the committee.

Chair, Councillor J. Harris advised the members that a Vice-Chair needed to be selected and the members voted that Tola Olukoya would be the Vice-Chair.

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE AND TIME

The committee discussed that the current date and time being the first Monday of every other month at 5:30 pm works best for all. Members advised that they are available on June 4, 2025, for a special Youth Advisory meeting to hear presentations from the Recreation and Culture Services Department.

RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Kevin Datema, Director of Recreation and Culture Services Department and Heidi Huften, Recreation Programmer, provided a brief overview of what the department does. Ms. Huften advised that May 1 to May 7 is National Youth Week, and provided a youth drop-in schedule for the recreation centres. Ms. Huften also advised about the city's Licence2Ride program that allows youth aged 12 to 17 a free bus and rec pass for the summer months.

WORK PLAN DISCUSSION

Chair, Councillor J. Harris discussed with the committee the need to create a work plan to outline the goals the committee wants to achieve. Committee members suggested the following topics that they would like to focus on:

- Recreation Access;
- Transit Access;
- Food and Housing Security;
- School Safety and Bullying;
- Create a youth event, such as Barrie Youth Council Day;
- Internet and Technology;
- Finances and budgeting; and
- Resource page for youth with information relating to budgeting, careers, City information geared to youth

COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (Q/A) BRIEF DISCUSSION

Members of committee asked Chair, Councillor J. Harris and Councillor S. Morales questioned relating to their educational journey and career path.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN