

From: [Thompson, Holly](#)
To: [Leuschen, Candice](#); [Bogad, Christine](#)
Cc: [Bryant, Shellie](#)
Subject: MHAC TOR Feedback Clarification
Date: Thursday, September 2, 2021 9:18:44 AM
Attachments: [MHAC Response to LTGS for TOR Review.docx](#)

Good day,

Please find attached MHAC's responses.

Regards,

Holly Thompson | tel 306.986.1693

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From: Hudson, Janice
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 12:15 PM
To: lswystun; [Stevie Horn](#)
Cc: Thompson, Holly
Subject: FW: MHAC TOR Feedback

Good afternoon Lenore and Stevie;

Please see the below response from Candice on behalf of the Leadership Team Governance Subcommittee that I was asked to forward for your consideration.

Thanks, have a great weekend.
Janice

The Leadership Team Governance Subcommittee is in receipt of your comments on the Terms of the Reference for the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee dated July 26, 2021. In order to ensure we have a clear understanding of your comments, we require clarification as follows:

- *Improvement of paths of communication between MHAC and the PCDS and Council.*
 - The existing Terms of Reference provide flexibility to the Committee to report on major initiatives and matters that have been referred. More importantly, both members of the Administration and City Council sit as resource members on the Committee and should therefore be accessible and available as a liaison between these groups.

- Can you please provide further details of the issues you are encountering and any suggestions for improvement. Are you suggesting that PDCS and Council are not referring items to Committee for consideration?
- *MHAC needs to be able to reach out to other organizations and experts to pursue independent research that will allow us to better inform the City on any heritage questions arising. Our committee is keen to be flexible enough to best serve the needs of Council.*
 - Is there a particular group or agency that the Committee feels could provide a benefit if included in the composition of the Committee?
- *MHAC must become involved in a heritage question early on in the process in order to have time to do quality research that will support decision makers in the city.*
 - Is there a specific concern that MHAC is not being engaged or not being engaged early in the process? Are you suggesting that items are not being referred to Committee for consideration?
- *The possible reformatting of membership so we can have solid experts providing sound information. People with a heritage interest or a planning and development interest are invaluable to our work, as are individuals interested in the intangible and documentary elements of heritage.*
 - Is there a particular group or agency that the Committee feels could provide a benefit if included in the composition of the Committee?
- *We wonder if it would be possible to draw in more youth members to the MHAC by expanding the youth age range.*
 - Currently the age range for youth members is 16 to 23. What ages are you seeking to be included in the range?
- *MHAC would like to meet with other advisory committees to see what areas of common interest there may be.*
 - We would anticipate Committee or Council to engage more than one Advisory Committee if there was a topic of overlap that required consultation with more than one group. Can you provide some clarification as to what you seek to achieve with this request.
- *Strengthening MHAC's relationship with administration. Currently, it can become quite isolating and polarizing.*
 - Can you please provide further details of the issues you are encountering and any suggestions for improvement.
- *Consistency with TRC Calls to Action.*
 - Please provide any suggestions the Committee has to how to translate this request and include it in the Terms of Reference.

Thanks for your time in answering our questions. We want to ensure that we are

accurately representing the suggestions and comments of the Committee in our report to the Governance and Priorities Committee. If a telephone call with the Committee Chair would be of assistance, a member of the Governance Subcommittee would be happy to have such a conversation.

Thank you.

Candice Leuschen | [tel 306.975.3270](tel:306.975.3270)

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MHAC TOR Response to Leadership Team Subcommittee.

- *Improvement of paths of communication between MHAC and the PCDS and Council.*
 - The existing Terms of Reference provide flexibility to the Committee to report on major initiatives and matters that have been referred. More importantly, both members of the Administration and City Council sit as resource members on the Committee and should therefore be accessible and available as a liaison between these groups.

Q: Can you please provide further details of the issues you are encountering and any suggestions for improvement. Are you suggesting that PCDS and Council are not referring items to Committee for consideration?

A: The level of formality required in our communications in the form of a written letter are often restrictive, especially in the case of delivering or receiving small or “quick” pieces of information.

- *MHAC needs to be able to reach out to other organizations and experts to pursue independent research that will allow us to better inform the City on any heritage questions arising. Our committee is keen to be flexible enough to best serve the needs of Council.*

Q: Is there a particular group or agency that the Committee feels could provide a benefit if included in the composition of the Committee?

A: This is less about the composition of the committee and more about the ease with which we can contact and consult with external groups or experts regarding specific questions arising around heritage preservation in the city.

- *MHAC must become involved in a heritage question early on in the process in order to have time to do quality research that will support decision makers in the city.*

Q: Is there a specific concern that MHAC is not being engaged or not being engaged early in the process? Are you suggesting that items are not being referred to Committee for consideration?

A: At times it has felt as though items have been brought to MHAC as an afterthought, well after planning has already begun to substantially alter a heritage or potential heritage

MHAC TOR Response to Leadership Team Subcommittee.

property. We would like it to be known that we are open to holding special meetings outside of our usual schedule to provide a recommendation on anything arising when it is in its initial planning stages.

- *The possible reformatting of membership so we can have solid experts providing sound information. People with a heritage interest or a planning and development interest are invaluable to our work, as are individuals interested in the intangible and documentary elements of heritage.*

A: Is there a particular group or agency that the Committee feels could provide a benefit if included in the composition of the Committee?

Q: What we are interested in is opening the group to more people who are passionate about heritage, regardless of what agency they are involved in, if any. Many members right now seem to have little interest in heritage, and have little to say regarding heritage initiatives.

- *We wonder if it would be possible to draw in more youth members to the MHAC by expanding the youth age range.*

Q: Currently the age range for youth members is 16 to 23. What ages are you seeking to be included in the range?

A: Perhaps up to 25 or even 29

- *MHAC would like to meet with other advisory committees to see what areas of common interest there may be.*

- We would anticipate Committee or Council to engage more than one Advisory Committee if there was a topic of overlap that required consultation with more than one group.

Q: Can you provide some clarification as to what you seek to achieve with this request.

A: We feel that some more direct lateral cooperation across Advisory Committees on these topics that overlap might allow Advisory Committees to provide a less fragmented recommendation to Council on the topic.

MHAC TOR Response to Leadership Team Subcommittee.

- *Strengthening MHAC's relationship with administration. Currently, it can become quite isolating and polarizing.*

Q: Can you please provide further details of the issues you are encountering and any suggestions for improvement.

A: Administration has a broad swath of responsibilities. We would like a clearer understanding of what Administration's priorities are, and what they need from our committee to make things run more smoothly.

- *Consistency with TRC Calls to Action.*

Q: Please provide any suggestions the Committee has to how to translate this request and include it in the Terms of Reference.

A: We would simply like our commitment to respecting the TRC Calls to Action in relation to heritage matters to be included as an important point in our Terms of Reference. This means valuing the intangible, environmental, and pre-contact elements of Saskatoon's history as it has been preserved and valued by the Indigenous people of the area.