Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – October 20, 2020

REPORTS

Item No. 2 Reviewing the Citizenship Requirement for Appointments to Boards and Commissions

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 25, 2020, the Human Rights Committee of Council recommended to the Executive Policy Committee:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back within 120 days with the necessary amendments to the Citizen Appointments to Boards and Commissions Policy to allow Permanent Resident participation on City Boards and Commissions, to more accurately reflect the diversity of Winnipeg's population.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 25, 2020, the Human Rights Committee of Council passed the following motion:

WHEREAS pillar number five "Active Implementation" of the City of Winnipeg's recently passed Newcomer Welcome and Inclusion Policy seeks to implement diversification on civic committees;

AND WHEREAS the Newcomer Welcome and Inclusion Policy action recommends the review, recruitment and composition of City of Winnipeg boards, commissions, and advisory committees to ensure representation of a diverse cross section of members that reflects community demographic, equity seeking groups, and intersectionality;

AND WHEREAS Permanent Residents participate fully in Winnipeg's economy, work force, and education systems while contributing to Winnipeg's cultural diversity and have valuable perspectives that will enhance City services and make them more accessible to all Winnipeggers;

AND WHEREAS a significant portion of newcomers and immigrants are Permanent Residents who enjoy many of the same rights as Canadian citizens but who are not Canadian citizens for any number of reasons including financial constraints, or citizenship requirements in their home countries;

AND WHEREAS since 2012 the Council Policy on Citizen Appointments to Boards and Commissions has required that members of Boards and Commissions be Canadian citizens;

AND WHEREAS citizenship is not necessarily required for residents of Winnipeg to provide volunteer service on civic boards and commissions and to give back to their community by sharing not only their time but also their expertise.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Policy Committee be requested to direct the Winnipeg Public Service to report back within 120 days with the necessary amendments to the Citizen Appointments to Boards and Commissions Policy to allow Permanent Resident participation on City Boards and Commissions, to more accurately reflect the diversity of Winnipeg's population.