

# A Framework for Advisory Committees of Council

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DEPARTMENT OF  
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# Names of Current ACOCs Members

Ahmri Vanderborne	David Waverman	Jagroop Mehta	Jagroop Mehta	Sara Epp
Andrew Cameron	Deborah Stienstra	Jaime Boutilier	Jaime Boutilier	Sarah Kurtz
Anuradha Saxena	Deepak Sridhar	Jaime Purves	Jaime Purves	Sean Thompson
Artem Klashtorny	Dilip Shinde	James Smith	James Smith	Shannon Cooper-Webb
Blair Lance	Donna McMurdo	Janet Goodfellow	Janet Goodfellow	Stacey Washington
Bryan Douglas McPherson	Doug Gilchrist	Janette Svehla	Janette Svehla	Steve Donnelly
Cam Fryer	Edgar Stevens	Jaoudat Edward Abou-Jaoude	Jaoudat Edward Abou-Jaoude	Susan Carey
Cameron McCarthy-Tilley	Eldrich Rebello	Jayne Osborn	Jayne Osborn	Susan Ferguson Prior
Carlie Roberts	Eleni Bakopoulos	Jena-Lee Ashley	Jena-Lee Ashley	Susan Ratcliffe
Carol Lohuis	Elizabeth Lowenger	Jennifer Popkey	Jennifer Popkey	Tara Bauer
Chelsey Edwards	Emma Bliss	John Fisher	John Fisher	Taylor Dorland
Chetna Robinson	Erin Mares	Jonah Greenberg	Jonah Greenberg	Tom Matulis
Chris Lytle	Gordon Price	Julia Grady	Julia Grady	William Hamilton
Colin Mostyn	Graham Dyer	June Baldwin	June Baldwin	Wm. Frank Holden
Colleen Harper	Grant Parkinson	Justin Luth	Justin Luth	Zehaba Jacobs
Councillor Cathy Downer	Greg Sayer	Justine Richardson	Justine Richardson	
Damien Smith	Harry Young	Karishma Rego	Karishma Rego	
Danielle Marchant	Hart Slater-Eddy	Kathleen Beitz	Kathleen Beitz	
Darren Shock	Holly Stemberger	Katie Saunders	Katie Saunders	
David Cameletti	Imad Syed	Keith Hamilton	Keith Hamilton	

“I really had no idea exactly what would be asked of me, but as things move forward, I realize that I have a greater interest in working to help improve and protect my city. I was never one with any political aspirations, but I find myself leaning that way.”

“My participation has broadened my perspective, meeting other members with different personal and professional backgrounds has made this happen.”

# ACOCs are a big experiment in democracy

- 100s of residents of Guelph; 1000s of residents across Ontario
- But...ACOCs are rarely researched or evaluated, and there are few resources to support municipalities
- The purpose of the Framework is to guide the creation, design, function, and evaluation of ACOCs in Guelph

# How did we create the framework?

- Community engaged scholarship - brings together academic and non-academic partners to identify and respond to community-identified problems
- Collaboration between City staff and researchers, supported by Guelph Lab
- Working group of 8 existing ACOC members
- 3-person community review panel

# What informs the Framework?

- Current ACOC members - 50 survey responses, 7 interviews
- City staff - 20 interviews
- Staff from other municipalities - 5 interviews
- Members of City Council - 8 interviews
- Residents – 38 individuals across 3 events
- Literature review

# Framework highlights: 7 commitments

1. ACOCs are a form of community engagement
2. ACOCs should shape the City's strategic goals
3. ACOCs should adopt deliberative practices
4. ACOCs should contribute lived and professional expertise
5. ACOCs should have diverse membership
6. There should be clear communication between ACOCs and City Council
7. ACOCs should be adequately resourced

# Framework highlights: 4 stage process

1. Is an ACOC is the best community engagement option for the problem or topic at hand?
2. If an ACOC is needed, what is the topic and purpose of the ACOC, the membership composition, the recruitment methods, and who is the appropriate staff liaison?
3. Checklist of activities and tasks for creating an ACOC
4. Evaluating the ACOC

# Framework highlights: 6 critical features

- Effective communication between ACOC members and City Council
- Staff liaisons with strategic-level responsibilities
- Clear, up to date, regularly revisited TOR
- New recruitment efforts to engage with and recruit diverse members for ACOCs
- Compensation and coverage of participation-related expenses
- Adequate resources to support the full functioning of ACOCs

# Next Steps

- Phase two – Q1 to Q4, 2024
- Review of all existing ACOCs to ensure alignment with the Framework
- Reviews will include current ACOC members, the Guelph Lab and City staff
- Phase two recommendations presented to City Council in Q4 2024