



Report to: General Committee

Date Report Authored: December 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Appointment of Members to the Mayor's Black Youth Liaison (MBYL) Committee for the period of January 1, 2024 - September 30, 2024

PREPARED BY: Jamaal Kossy - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Specialist
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That the Report Appointment of Members to the Mayor's Black Youth Liaison Committee for the period of January 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024 be received;
- 2) And that the following Appointments of Members to the Mayor's Black Youth Liaison Committee be confirmed for the term January 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024;

Name	School	Grade	Ward
Aliya Arnette	Pierre Elliot Trudeau High School	11	2
Malak Elhag	Pierre Elliot Trudeau High School	11	2
Stephanie Ikharia	Markville Secondary School	10	3
Trinity Baxter	Markham District High School	11	4
Laila Rutherford	Bill Hogarth Secondary School	11	5
Merveille Uwase	Bill Hogarth Secondary School	12	5
Noam Girma	Bill Hogarth Secondary School	12	5
Ophrah Ehiogu	St. Brother André Catholic High School	12	5

- 3) And that Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the report is to confirm appointments to the Mayor's Black Youth Liaison Committee for the term January 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024.

BACKGROUND:

The Mayor's Black Youth Liaison Committee strives to be a voice for Black youth in the City of Markham. It provides a platform for youth to convey perspectives on issues and initiatives that are of particular importance to them.

This committee, established in 2021, stands as a significant initiative of the Mayor's Office reflecting the city's commitment to fostering inclusivity and eliminating anti-Black racism.

In 2022, the City of Markham unveiled the Eliminating Anti-Black Racism Plan, outlining key areas to support the Black community. The Mayor's Black Youth Liaison Committee is committed to supporting the implementation of the City's Eliminating Anti-Black Racism Action Plan. The committee's mandate is as follows:

- Identify and inform the Mayor on matters concerning Black youth in the City of Markham
- Collaborate with key City staff, members of council, and community stakeholders to develop initiatives that address the unique challenges and create opportunities for Black youth in the City of Markham, with a focus on empowerment, education, and community engagement
- Plan and organize events that celebrate Black culture, talents, and achievements, promoting a sense of pride and belonging amongst the Black community
- Foster and encourage increased participation of Black youth within the community
- Create a safe and inclusive space for Black youth to discuss issues they face, share their experiences, and propose solutions

The Mayor's Black Youth Liaison Committee is a team of students who attend secondary school in the City of Markham. The committee will meet once a month to discuss issues facing Black youth, plan events, and develop initiatives to enhance the Black youth experience within the City of Markham. The Mayor's Black Youth Liaison Committee strives to empower and uplift youth through valuable initiatives and advocacy.

The Mayor will provide an opportunity to mentor all members of the committee and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Specialist will act as the staff liaison.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND TEMPLATE:

No Financial implications are to be considered in this report.

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

No Human Resources implications are to be considered in this report.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Eliminating Anti-Black Racism Action Plan.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

Recreation Services, Markham Public Library.

RECOMMENDED BY:

Jamaal Kossy

Jamaal Kossy
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Specialist

Andy Taylor
Chief Administrative Officer