

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Claudia Storto, City Solicitor and Director, People Services

Prepared by: Kinya Baker, Manager, Diversity Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility

Date: February 25, 2025

Re: Mayors Black Youth Liaison Committee Appointments

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the report entitled Mayor's Black Youth Liaison Committee Appointments be received; and
2. That the following Appointments of Members to the Mayor's Black Youth Liaison Committee be confirmed for the term January 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025:

APPOINTED MEMBERS:

- Aliya Arnette
- Malak Elhag
- Stephanie Ikharia
- Trinity Baxter
- Laila Rutherford
- Melia McIntosh
- Temidayo Olanipekun
- Taliel Morgan
- Aria Elaine Sampson-Browne
- Savannah Lyons
- Marshall Gondi

BACKGROUND:

The Mayor's Black Youth Liaison Committee (MBYLC) was established in 2021 as part of the City of Markham's commitment to fostering inclusivity and eliminating anti-Black racism. The Committee provides Black youth with a platform to voice their perspectives on issues and initiatives relevant to them. It aligns with the City's Eliminating Anti-Black Racism Action Plan, supporting efforts to create an equitable and inclusive community.

The Committee's mandate includes:

- Identifying and informing the Mayor on matters concerning Black youth in Markham,
- Collaborating with City staff, Council members, and community stakeholders to develop initiatives focused on empowerment, education, and community engagement,
- Organizing events that celebrate Black culture, talents, and achievements,
- Fostering increased participation of Black youth in civic and community activities, and
- Creating a safe and inclusive space for Black youth to share experiences and propose solutions.



MEMORANDUM

The MBYLC meets monthly and is supported by the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Specialist as the staff liaison.

PREPARED BY

Kinya Baker,
Manager Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility

REVIEWED BY

Claudia Storto
City Solicitor and Director of People Services