# Defining & Applying Diversity: 'Gender Lens'

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Natalie Garrison to the Corporate Services Committee

#### So what?











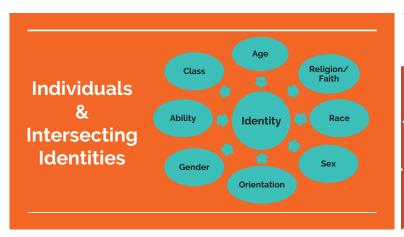
## **Clarifying Terms**

#### A gender lens is not...

- A limitation
- · Separate from diversity
- · Abandoning merit for tokens
- · Framed asymmetrically on women's issues

#### A gender lens requires

- · Inclusion of all voices in community
- Awareness of how policy has potential to normalize inequality
- Analysis of how one's gender identity affects their material reality





### **Gender Lens Toolkit**

#### **Materials**

- Scope
- Responsibilities
- Checklists

# Scope: Who Applies Diversity?

- Embedded in organizational culture to achieve London's 2015-2019 Strategic Plan
- City of London's Teamwork Approach
- Citizens, City Councillors, and City Staff

#### Responsibilities: Citizens, Councillors, and Staff

- Clear understanding of a gender lens
- Critical engagement with current events and times when it could be applied
- Understand their personal role in applying the gender lens

#### **Citizens of London**

- Awareness of problematic behaviour
- Inform their City Councillor
- Civic Participation



#### The City of London Team



#### The City of London Councillors



#### **City Councillors' Responsibilities**

- Meet citizens' concerns/experiences with openmindedness
- Connect citizens to appropriate city staff personnel
- Remind fellow Councillors about gender lens in decision-making discussions

#### The City of London Councillors



#### City Staff's Responsibilities

- Notice organizational trends of diversity and inclusivity
- Analyze embedded power dynamics and assumptions in current legal frameworks
- Include gendered analyses in the multidisciplinary review of information provided to councillors

#### **Checklists**

- 8-10 questions per role
- Format is intended to serve the fast-paced nature of decisionmaking
- First person voice to position the reader in the mindset of responsibility
- Develop the ability to form one's own questions

#### Citizens



Did I approach my city councillor to address this? (phone/email/ward meeting)

Have I, or someone I know, experienced/seen something exclusive based on identity?

#### **City Council**

How have political and social trends in the community/my ward shaped the questions that are asked and the answers that are posed?

Has someone brought assumptions I may have to my attention?



In our discussion, have I considered differences between groups?

Have I considered differences within groups?

How have political and social trends in the organization shaped the questions that are asked and the answers that are posed?

How is the behaviour/trend/pattern in question shaped by power?

#### **City Staff**



What are the consequences of the current distribution of resources, access, options?

Do some individuals have more choices than others?

Who structures which choice is available?

## **Applications**

# Unconventional Areas to

Consider a Gender Lens

Data shows women do not cycle to work due to:

- 1) Perceived risks of personal safety and security from hostile environments
- 2) Gendered expectations for work appearances
- 3) Fear of victim-blaming for potential incidents

Cycling in London as an Illustration of Relative Privilege

## City Hall Effectively Applies a Gender Lens

Gender-inclusive language shows the changing organizational culture.

- In policy, using "he/she" to include all of London's population.
- "Grandparenting" to remove implicit biases against women as mentors.

# **Considering a Gender Lens** in the Context of Diversity

Intersections of Gendered Hate Crimes:





# Now what?

# Thank you.

If you are interested in receiving any of the materials referenced in the presentation, please do not hesitate to reach out.

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