

January 10, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

At the PEC standing committee on Monday January 9<sup>th</sup> concerns were raised by ECAC Chair Sandy Levin regarding the inability for Advisory Committees to have in-person or hybrid meetings. Since new committees were constituted, they have had no opportunity to meet even once in person.

This issue was also raised the following day at the CWC standing committee as a result of the ITCAC report and the ESACAC delegation.

HOWEVER, it is neither PEC, nor CWC where direction for governance or process structure for CACs is decided. While CAC's report through various standing committees of council, it is only SPPC that can direct changes which would impact all of those CACs.

We believe all members of council can recognize the difficult to quantify but undeniable benefit to being able to meet face-to-face with those we work with. In fact, Council and council's standing committees and most of, if not all, of the external agencies, boards, and commissions on which we, as well as public appointees serve, have returned to in-person or hybrid meetings.

If we are going to continue to have advisory committees and ask members of the public to give their time to these committees, we believe it is important they are afforded an opportunity to attend meetings in person if they wish to do so.

Therefore, we are asking for your support for the following motion:

*That item 7 (5.2) of the 2<sup>nd</sup> report of CWC with respect to actions on the report from ITCAC BE REFERRED to the next regular meeting of SPPC for consideration.*

We also wish to take this opportunity to inform colleagues that it is our intention to bring forward the following motion on the same SPPC agenda;

*That Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to make necessary arrangements for hybrid meeting accommodations for all community advisory committees, allowing members to attend virtually or in-person as they individually choose, no later than the end of Q2 2023.*

Respectfully,



Shawn Lewis,  
Deputy Mayor



Corrine Rahman  
Councillor, Ward 7