



**Town of Aurora
Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2025
Time: 10 a.m.
Location: Holland Room, Aurora Town Hall

Committee Members: Mayor Tom Mrakas (Chair)*
Diane Buchanan
Phiona Durrant*
Arif Faheem Khan*
Elaine Martini*
Jo-anne Spitzer
Patricia Wallace (Vice Chair)

Other Attendees: Adam Robb, Manager, Policy Planning and Heritage
Shelley Ware, Supervisor, Special Events
Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Coordinator

*Attended electronically

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Committee acknowledged that the meeting took place on Anishinaabe lands, the traditional and treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island, recognizing the many other Nations whose presence here continues to this day, the special relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory, and that Aurora has shared responsibility for the stewardship of these lands and waters. It was noted that Aurora is part of the treaty lands of the Mississaugas and Chippewas, recognized through Treaty #13 and the Williams Treaties of 1923.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Patricia Wallace

Seconded by Phiona Durrant

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

Carried

4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50*.

5. Receipt of the Minutes

5.1 Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2025

Moved by Jo-anne Spitzer

Seconded by Elaine Martini

1. That the Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2025, be received for information.

Carried

6. Delegations

None.

7. Matters for Consideration

7.1 Round Table Discussion; Re: Inclusion of Heritage Award

Staff provided background and an overview of the potential to add the Heritage Award as a category as suggested by the Heritage Advisory Committee. The Committee and staff discussed solidifying the eligibility criteria, timelines, and next steps for inclusion next year. There was further discussion regarding the selection process and that it adheres to the evaluation matrix.

The Committee supported the inclusion of the Heritage Award as an additional category.

Moved by Diane Buchanan

Seconded by Phiona Durrant

1. That the Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee comments regarding Inclusion of Heritage Award be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

7.2 Round Table Discussion; Re: Alternate Location for the Awards Ceremony

The Committee discussed the possibility of an alternate venue for the awards ceremony instead of the Council Chambers at Town Hall. The Committee suggested to consider another Town facility noting that the location should enhance the overall experience of the ceremony while maintaining cost and accessibility. It was suggested that the Performance Hall at Town Square should be explored as a possible alternate venue.

A further suggestion was made to gather feedback from past award recipients regarding an alternate venue, and staff agreed to follow up.

Moved by Elaine Martini

Seconded by Diane Buchanan

1. That the Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee comments regarding Alternate Location for the Awards Ceremony be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

8. Informational Items

None.

9. New Business

The Committee requested that the current Community Recognition Award evaluation matrix be included for review and discussion at the next meeting.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Elaine Martini

Seconded by Phiona Durrant

That the meeting be adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Carried