

Memo



TO: Chair, Committee of the Whole
FROM: Chief Administrative Officer
DATE: January 6, 2023
SUBJECT: Select Committee - Ohtaki Twinning Committee

Council under the Community Charter and its Procedure Bylaw No. 1062-2021 is authorized to appoint select committees to advise the Mayor and Council on such steps and recommendations to implement or advance the Town's priorities on its twinning relationship with Ohtaki.

I have previously commented on the terms of reference that is attached but it may be useful to put pen to paper, this time. The composition of the committee that is proposed does not meet legislative guidelines. To have all of council be members sit on the committee simply means the appointed members may have next to no decision-making opinions or findings to relay to council. This may explain why in the past residents may have been reluctant to put their names forward to sit on the committee.

The length of term of a formal select committee is usually finite as is the case here.

The relevant section of the Community Charter is referenced below:

Select committees of council

- 142.(1) A council may establish and appoint a select committee to consider or inquire into any matter and to report its findings and opinion to the council.
- (2) At least one member of a select committee must be a council member.
- (3) Subject to subsection (2), persons who are not council members may be appointed to a select committee.

Council can establish such terms of reference as it considers essential to accomplish its goals and the select committee must report to council periodically. As the previous meetings on Twinning have been relatively short, it may be wise to consider virtual meetings. Alternate appointments also should not be considered.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph A. Fernandez'.

Joseph A. Fernandez