

March 5, 2017

Audit, Finance & Administration Committee
City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario
L8P 4Y5

Re: (HUR17002) Protocol for Gender Identity and Gender Expression; Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Persons

Dear Chair and Members of the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee,

The McMaster University's President's Advisory Committee on Building an Inclusive Community (PACBIC) supports the City of Hamilton's Protocol for Gender Identity and Gender Expression; Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Persons (HUR17002) and calls for the Chair and members of the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee to vote in favour of this important Protocol.

A major part of the mandate of PACBIC is to: Identify and anticipate issues affecting equity-seeking communities (including but not limited to First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples, members of racialized communities, newcomers and refugees, members of diverse faith communities, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ-identified individuals, and women) both within the University and relevant to those seeking access to the University, and advise the President on such issues.

Within this mandate, we believe it is of the utmost importance to support the advancement of policy, practice and law that affirms the freedoms of equity seeking groups. The Protocol for Gender Identity and Gender Expression; Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Persons (HUR17002) is both necessary and important for building an inclusive community at McMaster University, and within the greater City of Hamilton. We believe your support for this Protocol on March 6th, 2017 will provide a leading example that will help in the prevention of discrimination, harassment and violations of human rights for transgender and gender non-conforming persons.

Sincerely,



Dr. Ameil J. Joseph
Assistant Professor,
School of Social Work
Chair: McMaster's President's Advisory Committee on Building an Inclusive Community