

**June 11, 2020**  
**07:00 p.m. – Via Skype**  
**Public Email – [Covid19ReopenCity@brampton.ca](mailto:Covid19ReopenCity@brampton.ca)**

**Task Force Participants:** Regional Councillor Martin Medeiros – Wards 3 & 4 (**Chair**)  
City Councillor Charmaine Williams – Wards 7 & 8 (**Youth Support Task Force Co-Lead**)  
City Councillor Harkirat Singh – Wards 9 & 10 (**Youth Support Task Force Co-Lead**)  
Mikkel Marr, Director, Organizational Performance and Strategy, Office of the CAO (**Staff Lead – Moderator**)  
Yvonne Sinniah, Manager, Strategic Community Development and Program Partnerships (**Youth Support Task Force Staff Lead**)  
Rob Gasper, Director, Parks Maintenance & Forestry  
Anand Patel, Director, Recreation, Community Services  
Paul Morrison, Director, Enforcement & By-law Services  
Rick Bernard, Supervisor, Emergency Management  
Emily Sung, Advisor, Performance Measurement – Working Group Coordinator  
Chandra Urquhart, Legislative Coordinator

**Others Present:** Derek Boyce, Commissioner, Community Services  
Sudha Hemmad, Senior Advisor, Communications

**Notes**  
**Reopening and Recovery Working Group**

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The meeting commenced at 07:05 p.m. and adjourned at 07:57 p.m.

**Agenda**

1. Introductions – Mikkel Marr
  2. Update on the Working Group - Councillor Medeiros
  3. Update from Youth Support Task Force – Councillor Williams, Councillor Singh
  4. Questions and comments from the groups – ALL – Call for last question
  5. Closing Remarks – Councillor Medeiros
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**Introductions**

Mikkel Marr, Director, Organizational Performance and Strategy, Office of the CAO, and moderator for this meeting, welcomed staff and members of the public on the call. Mr. Marr advised that Regional Councillor Medeiros is leading the Recovery and Reopening Working Group. Councillor Charmaine Williams and Councillor Harkirat Singh are the Co-Chairs of the Youth Support Task Force and they are both also participating.

Mr. Marr advised that this is the third meeting of the City's stakeholder consultation process for the purpose of receiving feedback and suggestions from youth groups and the Youth Support Task Force. Previous meetings included input from sports groups and seniors' groups.

Mr. Marr introduced the City staff on the call and advised that they were present to respond and provide information on questions/comments.

**Update on the Working Group – Regional Councillor Medeiros**

Regional Councillor Medeiros expressed appreciation for the work being done by the Youth Support Task Force. He recognized the leadership role of Councillor Williams and Councillor Singh and the commitment and dedication by staff during this challenging time on issues that impact youth, such as, school/university closures, loss of employment.

Councillor Medeiros provided an overview of the Provincial guidelines with respect to recovery and reopening noting financial assistance is being provided by the Federal and Provincial governments to assist economy. Given that public safety is a key priority, Councillor Medeiros noted the City is taking the advice of Peel Public Health and is gradually reopened programs and services.

Councillor Medeiros noted that tennis courts and more than 500 parks in the City were reopened. As the City continues to reopen gradually input is required with respect to the continued reopening of more indoor and outdoor amenities. Feedback from participants in the specific areas is required:

- what are your most pressing needs regarding reopening?
- what supports and resources do you require from the City?

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- what kinds of programs Brampton youth would like to see especially for youth 14 years and older?
- what suggestions do you have for Brampton as we move to recovery and reopening phase?

Councillor Medeiros referenced an online survey on the City's website that provides the opportunity for youth groups and organizations to provide feedback on reopening of City facilities. He encouraged the completion of the survey in addition to submitting comments and suggestions by email at [Covid19ReopenCity@brampton.ca](mailto:Covid19ReopenCity@brampton.ca). The information gathered will be reviewed with Peel Public Health to ensure public safety in any action undertaken.

**Update from Youth Support Task Force – Councillor Williams, Councillor Singh**

Councillor Williams, Youth Support Task Force, Co-Lead, expressed appreciation for the opportunity to work with staff and youth serving organizations with various expertise such as mental health. Some of the accomplishments of the youth task force in collaboration with the organizations include resources on mental health issues, employment and various programs and activities to encourage active lifestyle. Councillor Williams referenced the City's website [www.brampton.ca](http://www.brampton.ca) where numerous resources on a variety of youth programs/services are available to support youth.

Councillor Harkirat Singh, Youth Support Task Force, Co-Lead, reiterated the comments expressed by Councillor Williams adding the task force provided the opportunity for youth to feel safe and express themselves through various social media platforms, such as Instagram. Based on conversations with youth on issues/concerns being experienced, the Youth Task Force created 'a Covid-19 policy' to respond and address those issues with various resources. In addition to the questions noted above, Councillor Singh asked for input on the following question –

- How would youth like to stay engaged with the City?

**Questions received prior to the meeting**

- With parks reopening – what is open and closed as of now, and what will open and close moving forward and when? –
  - Councillor Medeiros provided information noting that decisions on reopening are based on a number of safety factors, including observing and liaising with our neighbouring municipalities, but ultimately, following the guidelines of Peel Health Services
  - staff response – parks were opened and the adjacent parking lots, including shade shelters, golf courses, trails, tennis and pickle ball courts, washrooms, skate parks with the exception of Chinguacousy skate park which is closed along with splash pads, wading pools and water features
- Where can you find timely and accurate information?
  - staff response – Strategic Communication ensures the City's web site is updated and through social media the youth task force page is updated; information is shared with all youth serving organizations and youth groups connected to the task force, and school boards

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- With regards to gathering of 10, what are the rules?
  - staff response – provided some background information from the Province and noted that each municipality are enforcing their own rules regarding the gathering of 10 people; confirmed that the City is enforcing the by-law that requires social distancing of 6ft. if individuals are not in the same household
- How can youth keep providing their perspective to the City moving forward?  
Councillor Singh's response – information maybe provided through various social media platforms, Instagram, Twitter, Facebook; City's corporate account or 311 Service
- Are there plans for youth for summer employment at recreational centres?
  - staff response – recreation centres are closed – summer employment is being considered and a regular hiring process will be undertaken once approval is given by Peel Public Health to reopen

**Callers presented their questions/comments which included the following:**

- Boys and Girls Club – organization uses space in the City – would appreciate more information on soft projections regarding programs and getting access to the City's space by August as they are looking at offering virtual programs; regarding youth – is there a way for organizations to collaborate with the City as the City starts the soft reopening so that organizations can assist youth with employment – or by connecting with seniors or business owners to accumulate volunteer hours
  - staff acknowledged the comments adding that the City is aware of the benefits of collaboration and it is an area of interest for the City
- Climate Council – what is the status of the library reopening, is there a timeline for reopening – committee organizations would like to get together and it improves the well-being of the community
  - response from library staff and Councillor Williams – a date is not scheduled for reopening however staff is working on curbside service and progress to a phase approach for reopening at a few locations
  - recognize the urgency for this service and at the next board meeting strategies for a safe reopening will be discussed
- Just Around the Corner Jack – organization recognized the hard work of the Youth Task Force – commented on developing programming and doing some street based youth work to connect and encourage dialogue with vulnerable youth – organization is available and ready to support and help youth –
  - Councillor Williams acknowledged the comments and the valuable 'bridging' work that this organization provides for youth
- Climate Control – inquiry regarding social distancing (at a tennis game) given that 10 people may now gather in groups and a request to provide details on this on social media platforms such as Instagram
  - staff reiterated the earlier response on the issue of gatherings of 10 and socializing and added -
    - Strategic Communications has sent out correspondence to media outlets and staff have participated in radio talk shows with information

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as the Province continue to provide new information – staff will take feedback and review messaging on social distancing rules and communicate to the community on social media platforms

- Empower Her – information shared with respect to an anti-black racism protest ‘March for Justice’ on June 17 at the courts – many youth are impacted and would like to participate – event will be live on YouTube
  - Councillor Singh suggested that details of the event be forwarded to the City – noted that two motions were put forward at our Council meeting on anti-black racism and were unanimously supported
- Boys and Girls Club – youth would like to be heard given the anti-racism issues – they are looking for a platform to express themselves and share their message – reiterated comments regarding the need for collaboration with the City to provide these platforms for them
- Indus Community Services – inquired whether the City would be able to implement more mental health programming in a collaborative way that will empower youth – noted libraries and communities are good resources and concern for youth facing tension in the home

Derek Boyce, Commissioner, Community Services, provided details of some of the measures the City is taking to safely reopen the City noting that a lot of preparation are underway behind the scenes. He appreciated all the comments/feedback, information and suggestions from callers and noted it will be helpful as the City proceeds with a safe approach to reopening. Callers were encouraged to visit the City website and social media platforms for updated information and announcements on the reopening of amenities.

Councillor Williams put forward the following inquiries:

- gatherings of groups of 10 and rules around it for sporting activities such as basketball games – staff response
  - basketball games are not allowed on City or school basketball courts
  - reiterated earlier comments - provided some background information from the Province and noted that each municipality are enforcing their own rules regarding the gathering of 10 people; confirmed that the City is enforcing the by-law that requires social distancing of 6ft. if individuals are not in the same household
- reference to protests on anti-black racism taking place across the City – residents are asking where people may be tested after protests – staff response
  - testing is available at Peel Memorial
  - first pop up testing centre was at Gore Meadows
  - City is working on some drive-through testing sites – one should be ready at South Fletchers in a week or so
  - Strategic Communications will post details on City’s website as testing centres become available: [www.brampton.ca/covid19](http://www.brampton.ca/covid19)
  - Information is also available at Region of Peel website: <https://www.peelregion.ca/health/>

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**Closing Remarks**

Councillor Medeiros thanked everyone participating in the call. He expressed appreciation for the comments/questions/feedback provided noting that the City is working in the background to safely provide the services youth and the community need. He encouraged participants to highlight opportunities/innovative ideas and solutions and submit them to the City. He noted the need for community hubs and mental health resources and advised that the City will endeavor to work collaboratively with organizations and youth groups to meet the needs/suggestions as the City moves to reopening.

Mr. Marr thanked everyone and reminded them to visit [www.brampton.ca/covid19](http://www.brampton.ca/covid19) for regular updates and to submit feedback/concerns/suggestions at the email address [Covid19ReopenCity@brampton.ca](mailto:Covid19ReopenCity@brampton.ca)