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Date: March 4, 2025
To: Mayor Davis and Members of Council
From: Councillor Van Tilborg
Re: Town and Gown Advisory Committee

1.0 Resolution

WHEREAS the term “Town and Gown” is a term which conveys the relationship between post-secondary institutions and the communities that host them; and

WHEREAS the relationship and collaboration between the City, post-secondary institutions and community partners is vital for the mutual benefit and growth of all parties in addressing shared concerns and opportunities; and

WHEREAS the establishment of a Town and Gown Advisory Committee will provide a structured forum for dialogue and cooperation; and

WHEREAS the City of Brantford previously had a Town and Gown Committee that was disbanded in 2018 which played a crucial role in fostering communication and collaboration between the city and local educational institution; and

WHEREAS there is support from Wilfrid Laurier and Conestoga Student Unions and the Downtown BIA to reinstate the Advisory Committee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT a Town and Gown Advisory Committee BE CREATED; and
- B. THAT the Advisory Committee be comprised of the following members:
 - i. One member of City Council;
 - ii. One member of the Downtown Brantford Business Improvement Area;
 - iii. One member from each post-secondary institution in the City;
 - iv. One member from each student association for each of the post-secondary institutions in the City;

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- v. One member of the Brantford-Brant Chamber of Commerce;
 - vi. One member of the Brantford Public Library.
- C. THAT staff BE DIRECTED to submit a report to the Advisory Committee outlining best practices for Town and Gown Committees, including draft terms of reference based on successful models from other communities; and
- D. THAT staff BE DIRECTED to provide liaison support to the Committee; and
- E. THAT staff in the Clerk’s department BE DIRECTED to provide Clerking duties for the Committee; and
- F. THAT the Advisory Committee will report through Committee of the Whole – Planning and Administration.

2.0 Corporate Policy Context

2023-2026 Council Priorities Strategic Theme 2: Focus on productive and collaborative partnerships.

3.0 Resources

This will require the resources of two staff members to provide administrative and liaison support.

In adopting this report, is a by-law or agreement required? If so, it should be referenced in the resolution section.

By-law required yes no

Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk yes no

Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council? yes no