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**Date:** March 20, 2025

**To:** Mayor Davis and Members of Council

**From:** Michael Bradley  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Re:** Response to Inquiry Regarding Town and Gown Committee

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At the March 18, 2025 meeting of the Committee of the Whole – Planning and Administration, staff were asked for details regarding the discontinuation of the former Town and Gown Advisory Committee.

The Town and Gown Advisory Committee was first established in 2004 to support the inter-relationship of post-secondary institutions, the City, and community stakeholders.

In January 2018, the status of the Town and Gown Committee was changed from an Advisory Committee of Council to a community-led committee (Report No. CD2018-005, Proposed Restructuring of Downtown Committee.)

This decision was a response to Members of the Town and Gown Committee requesting to be 'arm's length' from the City, allowing greater flexibility for meeting administration, and no longer be subject to the procedural rules of the Municipal Act.

At that time, the Town and Gown transitioned to a community-led model, however staff do not have exact details regarding the frequency of meetings, agendas and minutes of the committee. The last known reference to the community-led Town and Gown Committee is found within the January 2021 Community of the Whole meeting, indicating the Town and Gown Committee was "on hiatus."

Since 2018, the City has continued to actively collaborate with local post-secondary institutions through joint leadership meetings, research partnerships and a number of key initiatives to support and revitalize the downtown.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Bradley", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Michael Bradley  
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments (if applicable)