

COUNCIL COMPOSITION 2023 O. Reg 293/16

Finance & Administrative Committee:

Requesting expansion re two Regional Councillor Representatives

INTRODUCTION/LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I currently sit on Treaty 19 here in Peel Region, and it is shared between the Mississaugas, Mohawk, and tribes with Otter Clans. Niciwaswkem, a Cree word meaning, cousins; you are currently located on land, which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange among the Mississauga Peoples and is the traditional and treaty territory to Chief Jacob Crane and the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and all the territories covered under the Williams Treaties. Durham Region is now home to many First Nations, Inuit, Métis and possibly Taino peoples

BACKGROUND

- Congratulations Durham Region, you're growing up!
- Current population 699,460 however Planning and Development forecasts slightly above 713,000 residents according to completed development projects
- Immigration rates are rising in Durham Region
- Ethnicity and visible minorities shift the demographic and socioeconomical landscape in Durham Region
- Indigenous Communities increase from approximately 8,000 in 2011 to approx. 12,500 in 2016

Statistical Challenges

- Employment Act (Visible Minority Update)
- First Nations Community missing from the Infographic summary
- Inaccuracies made with the African Descendant Communities (Black labeling)



[Infographic Summary](#)



[Law & Income Journal- Employment Act](#)

Statistical Calculations

DURHAM REGION ETHNO-DEMOGRAPHICS & POPULATION STATS

| ETHNICITY | AJAX | BROCK | CLARINGTON | OSHAWA | PICKERING | SCUGOG | UXBRIDGE | WHITBY | DURHAM |
|------------------------|---------|--------|------------|---------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|--------|
| Indigenous Total | | | | | | | | | |
| First Nations | 1275 | 465 | 2640 | 5325 | 1065 | 500 | 345 | 2085 | 2.00% |
| Visible Minorities | | | | | | | | | |
| South Asian | 33,056 | 170 | 4970 | 16240 | 20,890 | 300 | 335 | 16,365 | 13.20% |
| Chinese | 3766 | 46 | 895 | 3120 | 2935 | 215 | 390 | 4910 | 2.30% |
| African note: | 21,240 | 100 | 5255 | 15425 | 11,275 | 155 | 215 | 12395 | 9.60% |
| Filipino | 6675 | 20 | 1165 | 4325 | 4,085 | 40 | 190 | 3575 | 2.88% |
| Arab | 2505 | 10 | 570 | 1250 | 1,640 | 55 | 25 | 1350 | 1% |
| Latin American | 1696 | 80 | 740 | 2280 | 1,500 | 85 | 75 | 1655 | 1% |
| Southeast Asian | 825 | 25 | 380 | 770 | 570 | 40 | 30 | 660 | 0.47% |
| Western Asian | 3745 | 55 | 690 | 2125 | 2,060 | 40 | 85 | 2155 | 1% |
| Korean | 0 | 25 | 140 | 400 | 420 | 40 | 50 | 520 | 0.22% |
| Japanese | 245 | 0 | 180 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 110 | 320 | 0.12% |
| Visible Minorities | 3570 | 0 | 800 | 1395 | 2,580 | 40 | 60 | 1870 | 1.40% |
| Multiple Minorities | 4045 | 40 | 825 | 2275 | 2,825 | 50 | 150 | 2550 | 1.80% |
| Total | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 126,666 | 12,567 | 101,427 | 175,383 | 99,186 | 21,581 | 21,566 | 138,501 | |
| Non - Canadian Citizen | | | | | | | | | |

Non - Canadian Citizen 40,910

Next Steps ...

CALL TO ACTION:

UNDRIP #50 Equity for Aboriginal People in the legal systems

In keeping with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, we call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal organizations, to fund the establishment of Indigenous law institutes for the development, use, and understanding of Indigenous laws and access to justice in accordance with the unique cultures of Aboriginal peoples in Canada.

CALL TO ACTION:

UNDRIP #57 Professional Development & Training

We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations. This will require skills- based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

UNDPAD Recommendation: Routinely implement diversity awareness, Anti-Black Racism - Hate training (all service sectors , & boards)

CALL TO ACTION:

UNDRIP #79 Commemoration

Amending historical sites and monuments act to include First Peoples



UNDPAD Recommendation:

Concrete steps to preserve history of enslavement by establishing monuments in their honour

CALL TO ACTION:

UNDRIP #92 Business and Reconciliation

Commit to meaningful consultation building respectful relationships (Regionally)& obtaining the free prior informed consent of individual of Indigenous peoples before proceeding with economic development



UNDPAD Recommendation:

Undertake impact-orientated activities (Regionally)in the framework of the UNDPAD to bridge the existing gaps between policies, procedure and practice, etc..

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CALL TO ACTION:

UNDRIP #93 Newcomers to Canada

We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with the national Aboriginal organizations, to revise the information kit for newcomers to Canada and its citizenship test to reflect a more inclusive history of the diverse Aboriginal peoples of Canada, including call upon the officials and host countries of information about the Treaties and the history of residential schools.

CALL TO ACTION:

UNDPAD Recommendation:

Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of Rights of All Migrants workers and Members of their Families;



REGIONAL COUNCILLOR PROPOSAL

- Requesting the existing council, including the Mayor to elect two seats for representatives that are visibly and disproportionately represented at council. Secondly, two seats at executive levels for BIPOC eligible nominees:
- A designated seat for the Indigenous representative at Regional Council Level
- A designated seat for the African Descendants (including Maroons) as representatives at Regional Council Level
- Two designated seats for nominated officials, post the election; to be considered as eligible candidates in executive positions. In order to reflect the greater population in Durham Region

Resources

[Census Canada](#)

[Durham.ca](#)



[Employment Act 1986:Cardillo, Brenda. Council Composition O.Reg 293/16. PPT](#)



[Infographic Summary Durham Region Profile: Demographic & Socioeconomic Data](#)



[United Nation Declaration of Rights for Indigenous Peoples](#)



[United Nations International Decade of Rights for People from African Descent](#)

Keba Tamara Thomas

Former Regional Councillor Candidate/Brampton Peel Region

January 16th, 2023