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**To:** [Mailbox, Clerks; CRM, Service Burlington](#)  
**Cc:** [Mailbox, Office of the Mayor](#)  
**Subject:** Recommendation for Inclusion of a Black Advisor Role in the 2026 Budget  
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I hope you are doing well. I've been reviewing the 2026 budget materials, particularly the proposed key investment in an Indigenous Advisor to the City. I appreciate the City's commitment to reconciliation, trust-building, and improving engagement with Indigenous residents.

I would like to recommend that the City also consider establishing a **Black Advisor** role as part of the 2026 budget. Black residents make up a significant portion of Burlington's population, yet there is currently no dedicated position to support engagement, equity, or relationship-building with the Black community.

Given my extensive experience in community engagement, equity initiatives, and local media, as well as my deep connections to Burlington's Black community through volunteering, advocacy, and programming, I would be honored to serve as the City's Black Advisor. In this role, I could:

- Strengthen cultural understanding and anti-racism efforts across City departments
- Build trust and improve engagement with Black residents
- Provide consistent guidance on policies, programs, and services to ensure they equitably reflect Burlington's diverse population
- Support initiatives that foster inclusion, representation, and community collaboration

I believe this investment would complement the Indigenous Advisor role and demonstrate the City's commitment to equity and meaningful engagement across all racialized communities.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal further and share how my experience and community knowledge could benefit Burlington in this role.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

Kezia Royer-Burkett