

# The Anti-Racism Advisory Committee

## Minutes

**Tuesday, September 20, 2022**

**Electronic Participation at 7:00 p.m.**

### **Attendance:**

Saleh Waziruddin, Chair  
Roxolana Chwaluk  
Aaron Grant  
Samah Marei  
Fatima Sheikh

### **Absent:**

Melissa MacMillan

### **Staff Liaison:**

Anika Forde, Manager, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

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1. **Call meeting to order (Chair)**  
S. Waziruddin called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.
2. **Recognition of Traditional Territories**  
S. Waziruddin acknowledged that the land on which the Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee meets today is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples. Acknowledging this is a reminder that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.
3. **Additions / Deletions to the Agenda**  
There are none.
4. **Motion to approve the agenda**  
Moved by F. Sheikh  
THAT the Agenda of the September 20, 2022, meeting of the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee be approved.

**Carried**

5. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the July 19<sup>th</sup> and August 16<sup>th</sup> meetings**  
Moved by A. Grant  
THAT the minutes of the July 19 and August 16 2022, Anti-Racism Advisory Committee meeting be approved.

**Carried**

6. **Declarations of Interest**  
There are none.

7. **Committee updates**

- Discussion of recent resignations
  - Committee members shared thoughts and discussed recent resignations from the Anti-Racism and LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committees.
- Resolution in support of resignees  
Moved by S. Waziruddin
  - THAT the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee passes the St. Catharines Anti- Racism Advisory Committee Resolution in Solidarity with Resignees.

**Carried**

8. **Business**

a) Advisory Committee Organization

- i. Discuss and vote on ARAC Vice Chair, whether to fill or not
  - No members volunteered to be Vice Chair
- ii. Identify and vote on ARAC member as a representative on the Equity & Inclusion Advisory Committee

Moved by S. Waziruddin

THAT the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee endorses the appointment of S. Waziruddin as the representative of ARAC on Equity & Inclusion Advisory Committee

**Carried**

b) August 2022 Council Meeting update

- Committee members shared their opinions and updates on the Council meeting that took place on August 28<sup>th</sup>.
- ii. Meridian Centre Performance

- Resolution on pre-emptive feedback to CAO on guidelines for future events

Moved by S. Waziruddin

THAT the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee supports sending the letter Re: Policy on Guidelines for future events to the CAO of St. Catharines.

**Carried**

- Resolution endorsing motions from LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee

Moved by S. Waziruddin

THAT the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee endorses the LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee Motion Re: Jeff Dunham Performance Decision (full text of motion was passed)

**Carried**

iii. Truth & Reconciliation Commission Action Plan Resolution

- Update provided by S. Waziruddin – Council referred this motion back to staff whereas ARAC's point in re-introducing it was to get it voted on by Council.

c) Proposal on communication to National Council of Canadian Muslims

- Issue may no longer be pertinent.

d) Proposed communication to St. Catharines Public Library re de-colonization project

- S. Waziruddin provided background on Welland Library which is currently undertaking de-colonization project.
- Moved by S. Waziruddin  
THAT that Anti-Racism Advisory Committee supports sending letter RE: Decolonization project to the CEO of the St. Catharines Public Library.

**Carried**

e) Resolution on adding Indigenous and Black / POC member to terms of reference for Advisory Committees

Moved by S. Waziruddin

THAT the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee passes the Resolution on Indigenous and Black / POC Membership on Advisory Committees, Boards and Commissions as amended.

**Carried**

f) Discussion on request for input from the Transportation Advisory Committee regarding transportation equity

- Background information provided by DEI Manager on connecting interested ARAC members with Staff Liaison
- S. Marei expressed interest in meeting. Agreed that S, Marei would meet with Staff Liaison for the Committee.

9. **Date of next meeting** – October 18 7 p.m.

10. **Motion to Adjourn**

Moved by F. Sheikh

THAT there being no further items of business, this meeting be adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

**Carried**