

The Anti-Racism Advisory Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Electronic Participation at 7:00pm

Attendance:

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

Absent:

Melissa MacMillan

Staff Liaison:

Anika Forde, Manager, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

1. **Call meeting to order (Chair)**
S. Waziruddin called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. **Recognition of Traditional Territories**
S. Waziruddin acknowledged that the land on which the Anti-Racism 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**
S. Waziruddin moved an amendment to Business Arising from the Minutes –
Transportation Equity update
4. **Motion to approve the agenda**
Moved by F. Sheikh

THAT the Agenda of the October 18, 2022, meeting of the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee be approved as amended.

Carried

5. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the September 20th meeting**

Moved by F. Sheikh

THAT the minutes of the September 20, Anti-Racism Advisory Committee meeting be approved as amended.

Carried

6. **Declarations of Interest**

There are none.

7. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Item 2: Meridian Centre Performance (Resolution endorsing motions from LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee – September 20 ARAC Meeting)

- Discussion on LGBTQ2+ Motion - Motion to stop St. Catharines profiting from racial mockery and to create “an environment of respect” for others.
 - Committee members expressed appreciation for the support and solidarity shown by the LGBTQ2+ Committee
- Transportation Committee & Transportation Equity – S. Marei
 - S. Marei provided an update indicating that a meeting to discuss Transportation Equity with the Transportation Advisory Committee for the week of October 17

8. **Business**

a) Draft Annual Report

- S. Waziruddin provided an overview of the draft annual report for feedback from committee members

b) Discussion on diversifying committee recruitment

- S. Waziruddin provided an overview on a proposed “recommendation on improving diversity of applicants and appointees for agencies, boards and committees” by the Anti-Racism Committee
- Committee members expressed support for the recommendation and made suggested additions
- Moved by S. Waziruddin
THAT the Anti-Racism Committee supports the recommendation as amended on improving diversity of applicants and appointees for agencies, boards and committees

Carried

c) Discussion - Recognition of Significant Dates

- Nativity Scene discussion by the committee; committee members shared their opinions on re-installing a Nativity Scene at City Hall.

- Committee members discussed the complexities of access as well as issues of eligibility for faiths to request displays at City Hall
- Moved by S. Waziruddin
 - THAT the Anti-Racism Committee supports the “Resolution against nativity scene at City Hall”

Carried

d) Community Outreach

- Committee members discussed potentially reaching out to the Anglican Diocese of Niagara Anti-Racism Working Group which has been operating for approximately 1 year

9. **Date of next meeting** – November 22 7 p.m.

10. **Motion to Adjourn**

Moved by F. Sheikh

THAT there being no further items of business, this meeting be adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Carried