Anti-racism Advisory Committee

City of Edmonton

Meeting Minutes June 9, 2021 | 5:00pm - 7:00pm



Invited Attendees

Committee Members:

Beth Brusselers, Trent Daley, Rehana Gilani, Sameer Singh, Shalini Sinha, Andrew Parker, Ada Okeke, Feisal Kirumira

Regrets: Faisal Salama, Harman Singh Kandola, Joud Nour Eddin, Kimberly Yamada, Nestor Avalos, Mike Chow, Councillor Mo Banga

Guests:

Helen Rusich, Al Boychuk, Edrick Andrews

Council Sponsors:

Councillor Scott McKeen

Administration:

Antoinette Davis, Samuel Juru, Carissa Lamoureux

1.0 Welcome	ACTION	LEAD
 1.1 Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 5:09 pm and a roll call was completed by the Chair. The Treaty 6 Land Acknowledgement was made and reflection occured on the 215 Indigenous children who were found in Kamloops in a mass grave. Acknowledgment was made of the loss of a Muslim family in London, ON. Canada Pakistan Friendship Association will be holding an event on June 15 or 16, 2021. 		

2.0 Review	ACTION	LEAD
2.1 Agenda Review		
MOTION: To adopt the June 9, 2021 meeting agenda. Moved by Sam Singh Majority Vote	Carried	

3.0 Minutes	ACTION	LEAD
3.1 Review and approval of minutes from May 19, 2021 meeting		
MOTION: To adopt the May 19, 2021 ARAC meeting minutes.		

4.0 Civic Agency Members Training Session	ACTION	LEAD
 Feedback on members' experience The training provided knowledge on the City of Edmonton governance process i.e. That members do not need to second motions. Once a motion is made, the motion is in effect. Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) was also discussed. Helpful tips to solve conflict of interest discussions. Training opportunity is good for first time/new members: learn what to expect and what to do. Next steps Next steps were suggested: ARAC could organize an anti-racism orientation session for incoming members. ARAC could organize an informal social event for members this summer. 		

5.0 Discussion point	ACTION	LEAD
- Update and discussion on implementation of the Task Force report - Andre Corbould, City Manager, attended the May 19, 2021 ARAC meeting to discuss the Community Safety and Well-Being Task Force (CSWBTF) report. The City Manager's office is responding to the CSWBTF report in consultation with ARAC and community groups. - The report will be made public on June 17, 2021 ahead of the Community and Public Services meeting. The meeting is public; public will be able to register to speak. - Members discussed two questions: - Models of effective responses from the community that could be scaled up: - Hard to pinpoint one model that will work for the municipality's service lens. - Move funding to social services - Fund other community-based solutions such as the Bear Clan Patrol. - Ask the community what models they currently know about. - The University of Alberta is currently working on programs that will remove police presence from campuses. - More funding is needed for crisis intervention, infrastructure, etc. - People-first approach; need to have direct support within the community. - Create a safe spaces trained accreditation program. - Enhance the Shift Lab's Active Bystander Resource to include a safe spaces accreditation program. - City of Edmonton is looking for a raced-based data lens collection and looking to improve quantity and quality of collection.		

- Create a guided police app which will help reduce retraumatization and collect data.
- Practices that work well are within the community (keep track of each other with check-ins).
- Look to create a reporting mechanism for people who do not currently report experiences of racism.
- Possible priorities for work over the next period e.g. 5 years
 - Need to make sure the focus is on systemic issues and how they manifest.
 - Find ways to record the data that is not currently being recorded within the community.
 - People-centered Approach work with communities to strengthen and streamline population-based strategies, which include trauma and culturally-informed practices.
 - Ensure City of Edmonton police have body cameras.
 - Create anti-racism training through ongoing education and training opportunities delivered by people with lived experiences.
- Andre Corbould will attend the July 14, 2021 ARAC meeting.

6.0 Chair Updates	ACTION	LEAD
 Anti-racism Grants Program Anti-racism grants program was launched on June 4, 2021. ARAC Chair had three opportunities to discuss the grants program with the media. CBC news radio - Shalini Sinha was interviewed Articles in Edmonton Journal and CTV news 		
 Media training The City of Edmonton is putting together a media training session for the summer. If any ARAC member is interested, please contact Administration by end of day on June 9, 2021. Leadership goals ARAC is looking to increase members' leadership experiences. ARAC Chair will send an email asking members: What would you like to learn? June Events Growing Up Black! - Free event on June 22, 2021 at 4:00 pm. Shiloh Centre for Multicultural Roots showcases young Albertans reflecting on the history of ancestors coming to Canada and their personal reflections of racism. Ibram X. Kendi, How to be an Antiracist - Free event on June 23, 2021 at 6:00 pm. The Edmonton Culture Society, Shift Lab, City of Edmonton and Norquest College are hosting Ibram X. Kendi who will be speaking about his book "How to be an antiracist". The event will include a Question and Answer period and a panel discussion. ARAC Chair will be a part of the panel discussion. Information about 		

7.0 Subcommittee & Working Group Updates	ACTION	LEAD
 Public Engagement & Outreach subcommittee Subcommittee focus is on creating an anti-racism community 		

- resource guide. An environmental scan could be part of the resource guide. Subcommittee will connect with Shift Lab.
- If anyone wishes to attend a subcommittee meeting, please let Ada know. The subcommittee meets two weeks after the main ARAC meeting.
- Funding subcommittee
 - The grants program has launched.
 - ARAC members should keep sharing the grants program with their networks. The application deadline is July 16, 2021.
 - Youth Activation grants applications will be received and reviewed on an ongoing basis.
- Community Safety subcommittee
 - No update at the moment.
- Holocaust Remembrance Working Group
 - Met with Jewish Federation of Edmonton to have an initial conversation and develop relationships.
 - Next steps: Continue with the consultation process. Meet with additional members of the Jewish community. Once the consultation process is complete, the subcommittee will begin to write the report to send to City Council.
- Appointment Process Working Group
 - Next meeting is being rescheduled.
 - An update will be shared soon.

8.0 City Admin Updates	ACTION	LEAD
- No updates.		

9.0 Adjournment	
- The meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.	

Next Meeting		
Date	Time	Location
July 14, 2021	5:00 to 7:00 pm	Google Meet