



Meeting Minutes  
March 9, 2022 | 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Invited Attendees
<p><b>Committee Members:</b> Beth Brusselers, Trent Daley, Rehana Gilani, Harman Singh Kandola, Ada Okeke, Sameer Singh, Shalini Sinha, Kimberly Yamada</p> <p><b>Regrets:</b> Nestor Avalos, Joud Nour Eddin (leave), Andrew Parker, Faisal Salama</p> <p><b>Council Sponsors:</b> Councillor Aaron Paquette, Councillor Erin Rutherford</p> <p><b>Administration:</b> Mike Chow, Antoinette Davis, Samuel Juru, Carissa Lamoureux</p>

1.0 Welcome	ACTION	LEAD
<p><b>1.1 Call to Order</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The meeting was called to order at 5:09 pm and roll call was completed by the Chair.</li> <li>- The Treaty 6 Land Acknowledgement was made.</li> </ul>		

2.0 Review	ACTION	LEAD
<p><b>2.1 Agenda Review - <a href="#">March 9, 2022</a></b></p>	Carried	

3.0 Minutes	ACTION	LEAD
<p><b>3.1 Review and approval of January 12, 2022 <a href="#">meeting minutes</a> and February 9, 2022 <a href="#">meeting minutes</a></b></p>	Carried	

4.0 Discussion items	ACTION	LEAD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Anti-Racism Strategy (processing)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- February 14, 2022                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many ARAC and members of the public spoke within the ARAC delegation at the Community and Public Services Committee meeting. Most of the Councillors were present at the meeting and they passed the Anti-Racism Strategy unanimously.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- The Anti-Racism Strategy went to be approved by the City Council on February 22, 2022. There were some questions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

regarding the budget and how the independent anti-racism body would work within ARAC. The City Manager answered the questions and the Strategy passed unanimously.

- Edmonton is leading history in becoming an anti-racism city.
- REVIEW of the Anti-Racism Strategy:
  - The Strategy focuses on 3 main pillars
    - An independent Anti-racism body (questions on how ARAC and the independent body will work together)
    - High level Anti-racism Organization in City Administration
    - Core operational and Capacity-Building funding (create momentum)
  - The office within City Administration, has been something that the City Manager is leading. There are two high level positions (an anti-racism liaison and Indigenous liaison that recently have been appointed: Sevan Beukian and Jaimy Miller).
  - The new independent Anti-racism body will report directly to City Council (and be a partner to hold the City of Edmonton accountable). The body will be driven by the community and stand peer to peer to bring the community's voice into conversations and be part of decision making.
  - Two million dollar resources were granted by Council to bring the community together to understand how many resources are needed in what places to start mobilizing the strategy's 3 main pillars.
  - To get started on the strategy, the first steps may be
    - To mobilize the independent body to start
    - To start a community process to work through with City Administration
    - Checks in with City Council regularly
    - Determine how ARAC will be within relation to the independent body
- The independent anti-racism body came from the community, in an evolution of ARAC to provide capacity and to be done in an equitable and supportive way. It makes sense within the structure that there continues to be a citizen body that advises the independent body (i.e. ARAC) and the governing body to be independent of the anti-racism body.
- ARAC thoughts on the independent body and how it interacts with ARAC:
  - What is an interaction between all the committees? And what would it look like?
  - Independent body - would it hold stronger independence than ARAC?
  - Ensure that there are no members of police to be in a voting member position.
  - Build on the strengths that ARAC brought to CoE and create a new process bringing meaningful change through longevity.
  - Increasing the number of people working towards an anti-racism city.
  - How does this impact how subcommittees will function?
- ARAC to hold more community conversations to work through

how the independent body will look and what will happen to ARAC in the future.		
--	--	--

5.0 Subcommittee & Working Group Updates	ACTION	LEAD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Policy Committee               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Motion to ratify Chair/co-chairs</li> <li>- The police association changed their minds and lowered the thin blue line flag.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Projects Committee               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Motion to ratify Chair/co-chairs</li> <li>- Beth Brusslers was nominated as Chair. Motion to ratify Chair/co-chairs.</li> <li>- Have had some conversations on what the Projects subcommittee will be doing.</li> <li>- Looking into defining what constitutes a project.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Internal Committee               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Has had two meetings so far with low attendance.</li> <li>- Discussed chair of the committee - has not been solidified to be ratified yet - will be done at the next meeting.</li> <li>- Overarching question - what will be in the purview of the subcommittee going forward?</li> <li>- Grant program - required to make some decisions in the near future.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Tabled</p> <p>Tabled</p>	

6.0 Chair Updates	ACTION	LEAD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Membership report is moving forward this week.</li> <li>- The recruitment process will begin shortly after.</li> <li>- Shalini Sinha will be doing check-ins with the ARAC members this week.</li> </ul>		

7.0 City Admin Updates	ACTION	LEAD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Currently the CoE is doing a pilot around mental health supports with volunteer members. ARAC members are piloting this initiative.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An email was sent out today showing the two options that members can access: the City of Edmonton Employee Assistance program (LifeWorks) or a community based provider.</li> <li>- If anyone has any questions, members can reach out to the ARAC chair, CoE City Chaplain or Director of Social Identity and Social Inclusion Mike Chow.</li> <li>- The learnings from this pilot will be considered for other committees of Council.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- A survey was sent out to all committee of Council members on how they feel about returning to in-person meetings. Administration will use that data for different approaches for the rest of the year.</li> <li>- CoE staff will stay in a hybrid model from April to September.</li> <li>- Since we are nearing the end of the ARAC term, Administration will send out info on next month's Chair/Vice-chair election.</li> </ul>		

<b>8.0 Adjournment</b>		
The meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.		

<b>Next Meeting</b>		
Date	Time	Location
April 13, 2022	5:00 to 7:00 pm	Google Meet