



Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2021 | 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Invited Attendees
<p>Committee Members: Beth Brusselers, Trent Daley, Rehana Gilani, Harman Singh Kandola, Feisal Kirumira, Joud Nour Eddin, Ada Okeke, Faisal Salama, Sameer Singh, Shalini Sinha, Kimberly Yamada</p> <p>Guests: Al Boychuk, Helen Rusich, Gabrielle (4 Yeg)</p> <p>Council Sponsors: Councillor Mo Banga, Councillor Scott McKeen</p> <p>Administration: Mike Chow, Antoinette Davis, Samuel Juru, Carissa Lamoureux, John Simmons, Nicole Harcus</p>

1.0 Welcome	ACTION	Lead
<p>1.1 Call to Order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm. - Attendees were welcomed to the Anti-racism Advisory Committee (ARAC) meeting and the Treaty 6 Land Acknowledgement was made. - The Chair acknowledged Lunar New Year, which will be celebrated on February 12, 2021, and invited members of the Committee and Admin to share information about Black History Month, which takes place in February. Additional information about Black History Month can be found on the National Black Coalition of Canada Edmonton Chapter's webpage. 		

2.0 Review	ACTION	Lead
<p>2.1 Agenda Review</p> <p>MOTION: To adopt the February 10, 2021 meeting agenda. Moved by Feisal Kirumira Majority Vote</p>	Carried	

3.0 Minutes	ACTION	Lead
<p>3.1 Review and approval of minutes from January 13, 2021 meeting</p> <p>MOTION: To adopt the January 13, 2021 ARAC meeting minutes with amendments. Moved by Joud Nour Eddin</p>		

Majority Vote	Carried	
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4.0 Discussion Points	ACTION	Lead
<p>4.1 Community Standards presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff from the City of Edmonton's Community Standards team provided an overview of the current Community Standards bylaw review. - The need for a bylaw review using a GBA+ lens stemmed from last June's public hearings. - The bylaw review was informed by what was heard at the public hearings, and Administration used a focus group approach to delve into the bylaw/fine concerns. Seven major offenses were identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bicycles on the sidewalk - Jaywalking - Proof of payment on transit - Harassment (in transit and downtown core) - Loitering - Littering - Public urination/defecation - Some questions and comments that ARAC members had included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What were the numbers telling us? - How are the quantitative data being applied to change bylaws/fines? - What is the outline of BIPOC experiences in relation to these bylaws/fines that you have already heard? - Anecdotal experiences from the community shared that bylaws are interpreted differently depending on who is being approached and is the individual deemed low income. Anecdotally, some citizens are pulled over on bicycles and others for loitering in certain parts of the city. Why? - Some possible offenses that are missed would be racial slurs, Islamophobia and derogatory remarks (compounded with physical assaults) - Statistics that were shared by an ARAC member who sits on the Edmonton Transit Service Advisory Board's BIPOC subcommittee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In 2016, 7,000 tickets were issued through Edmonton Transit. - 5,000 of those tickets were given to Indigenous peoples. The majority of the remaining tickets were given to Black people. - In 2019, 17,000 warnings and tickets were issued. 10,000 were issued to Indigenous peoples and over 4,000 against Black people. Within the statistics there is no listing of Caucasians. - The quality and quantity of anti-racism training for Transit officers should be improved. - There needs to be more accounts from transit staff and transit customers with lived experience who have experienced bylaw infractions. - People are missing important information that is provided in an anti-racism training session. It cannot occur during one day of training (for example). - How many transit officers are Black or Indigenous? - How can we work with communities to mitigate infractions? 		

<p>What conversations can be had before individuals get ticketed for things that are avoidable? What are their needs? Is ticketing the right way to respond to these issues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transit tickets reinforce cycles of poverty, mental illness and addictions. - Some supportive housing situations have a policy where no one with a criminal history can have housing thus ensuring the circle of poverty continues. - Make connections within newcomer and refugee communities to improve communications and understanding between transit officers and the public. - Increase social supports to stem future social issues. - Is the data collected accurate? How are anecdotal records being captured? How can anecdotal data be defined by numbers? What do we need to change about how we are collecting data? - There are some pathways for citizens to work off their fines by doing community service; however, it is proven that they are not accessible due to a number of barriers, caseworker issues and the fines may not be workable. This may push people away from engaging with social supports. - Conversation regarding bylaws needs to happen in communities. - The report will be going to Council on April 6, 2021. As this is only preliminary work, no changes will be made to the bylaw. Next steps will involve more focused conversations with community before bringing forward the bylaw changes to Council. - ARAC is happy to provide an anti-racism lens. 		
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5.0 Subcommittee and Working Group updates	ACTION	Lead
<p>5.1 Funding subcommittee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The subcommittee's Terms of Reference was ratified via consent agenda. - An update was provided on the subcommittee's work, which included meeting with a Grant Coordinator from the City of Edmonton to discuss next steps in the funding program. The Grant Coordinator and Admin will now prepare the program details and application process. - The next Funding subcommittee meeting will be in late-February 2021. <p>5.2 Public Engagement and Outreach subcommittee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The subcommittee is working on a draft of its Terms of Reference (ToR) and will gather feedback from other ARAC members and create a finalized version, which will be presented for ratification at March's ARAC meeting. <p>5.3 Community Safety subcommittee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trent Daley has put his name forward to be Chair of the subcommittee. - The subcommittee will continue to look for alignment between ARAC and the Community Safety and Wellbeing Task Force, whose work will conclude in March. - A gathering between Task Force and ARAC for relationship building and support may take place in the future. <p>5.4 International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Working group</p>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The working group has met a few times and a literature review and a scan of best practices has been completed. - Next steps will involve inviting members of Edmonton's Jewish community to a working group meeting. <p>5.5 Proposals for Additional Subcommittees</p> <p>MOTION: To defer item 5.5 to the ARAC March agenda as the first piece of work to be discussed. Moved by Beth Brusselers Majority Vote</p>	Carried	
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6.0 Community Connections	ACTION	Lead
<p>6.1 Shift Lab</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sam provided a presentation on the Shift Lab's anti-racism initiatives. - There is an ongoing speakers' series and the next speaker is Irshad Manji. - Shift Lab has developed various prototypes to address racism using a Human Centred Design Process. - The Design circles created ideas of empathy for the user (where the user is at) - then define the problem, ideate solutions, create prototypes, and then test in the community. - Prototypes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subscription-based service to help meet the user where they are at in the journey to learn about racism and how to address it. There has been widespread interest in the subscription box and the Shift Lab is now looking for a funding source. - An active bystander resource. - A diversity certification program which aims to equip landlords with the skills and knowledge needed to work with a diversity of tenants using anti-racist principles. - A board game that aims to explain details of Treaty 6 from an Indigenous perspective. 		

7.0 Updates	ACTION	Lead
<p>7.1 Chair update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Chair provided an update on the 2021-2022 ARAC recruitment process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 24 applications were received for the two vacant ARAC positions, and a shortlist of nine applicants was provided to Council. - There was low Indigenous representation amongst the applicants. - With the approval of the bylaw amendments, ARAC looks forward to recruiting four additional applicants. <p>7.2 City of Edmonton updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administration will share updates with the ARAC via email later this week. 		

10.0 Adjournment		
- The meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.		

Next Meeting		
Date	Time	Location
March 10, 2021	5:00 to 7:00 pm	Google Meet