



Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2021 | 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Invited Attendees
<p>Committee Members: Beth Brusselers, Rehana Gilani, Harman Singh Kandola, Feisal Kirumira, Joud Nour Eddin, Ada Okeke, Faisal Salama, Sameer Singh, Shalini Sinha, Kimberly Yamada</p> <p>Regrets: Trent Daley, Councillor Scott McKeen</p> <p>Guests: Bin Lau, Helen Rusich, Al Boychuk, Shamair Turner, Becky Turmaine, Bill Howe, Heather Mark, Gurjett Gill</p> <p>Council Sponsors: Councillor Mo Banga</p> <p>Administration: Mike Chow, Antoinette Davis, Samuel Juru, Carissa Lamoureux</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 5:10 pm. - Committee members and members of the public were welcomed to the Anti-racism Advisory Committee (ARAC) meeting and the Treaty 6 Land Acknowledgement was made. - Regrets submitted by Committee member Trent Daley were acknowledged. 		

2.0 Review	ACTION	Lead
<p>2.1 Agenda Review</p> <p>MOTION: To adopt the January 13, 2021 meeting agenda. Moved by Ada Okeke Majority Vote</p>	Carried	

3.0 Minutes	ACTION	Lead
<p>3.1 Review and approval of minutes from December 9, 2020 meeting</p> <p>MOTION: To adopt the changes for the December 9, 2020 ARAC meeting minutes as discussed. Moved by Joud Nour Eddin</p>		

Majority Vote	Carried	
MOTION: To adopt the December 9, 2020 ARAC meeting minutes with amendments. Moved by Rehanna Gilani Majority Vote	Carried	

4.0 Discussion Points	ACTION	Lead
4.1 Responding to Events of Racism in Edmonton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ARAC members had a discussion on how best to respond to hate incidents and recapped their most recent approach, which involved drafting of an open letter to City Council on December 22, 2020, in response to the recent attack on two Somali women in Edmonton. - ARAC members felt these issues brought up intense feelings. - ARAC members shared additional feedback on their experience of responding to incidents of hate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - These issues are challenging to address/discuss as ARAC only meets once per month. - How effective would open letters be to the victims of hate incidents? Are there more impactful things that ARAC members could do? - Discussion ensued, and clarity was sought, about what ARAC members could and could not comment on in their capacity as committee members. - Traditionally, Advisory Committee Chairs serve as the Committee's spokesperson when interacting with the media and addressing City Council, unless the Chair delegates that duty to another committee member. - The importance of the development of an anti-racist culture was discussed. ARAC will always use an anti-racism lens within their structures and protocols to avoid the accumulation of power in the hands of very few. - Committee members brainstormed ways to respond in the future: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use a Slack channel/WhatsApp so ARAC members can use real time collaborative software to chat. - Request that the Mayor's office/Councillors reach out to ARAC for their comments on hate incidents. - Create templates with a few key items that ARAC wishes to bring to the forefront when speaking to the public or Council. - Create social media accounts. - Ratification of ARAC's open letter was discussed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appreciation was expressed for the effort and energy that members contributed in-between meetings to discuss how to respond to this issue. - ARAC agreed that while the letter is not ready to be ratified at this time, ARAC is against these hate incidents and stands with the victims, families and communities. Through its subcommittees, ARAC will continue to invite and engage with the public. 		

5.0 Chair Update	ACTION	Lead
<p>5.1 Our Developing Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ARAC Chair sent out an email to members to share ideas that prioritize ARAC's self-care. <p>5.2 Setting Priorities for 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ARAC members acknowledge that as they are a new committee and are working on their first term, some priorities will be larger and broader than what is currently achievable. Four potential themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise awareness - Equitable engagement of stakeholder groups - funding program - Research and reporting, and complementing existing structures - Potential priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a deeper understanding of the reasons behind white supremacy, with a focus on Alberta. - Municipal elections in October 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the boundaries on what ARAC can do as a committee for elections? Can ARAC liaise with candidates? - Federal election in the Spring or Summer 2021. - Focus on sharing Indigenous culture and increase knowledge and connections to the land. How to make Indigenous education inspiring and accessible in Edmonton? - How to make ARAC more accessible and safe for all Edmontonians? If someone experiences racism, know that they can approach ARAC. - Decolonize Edmonton. - Create a well organized grant funding program. - Establish communication and outreach plans. - Examine what can be done to counteract the visibility of racist symbols around the province. - Focus on the building blocks of this committee. - Increase ARAC's visibility. - Focus on anti-racist education: teachers are doing the heavy load of anti-racist education and they need support. - Examine the impact(s) of COVID-19 on racism. 		
<p>5.3 Further Subcommittees</p>	Tabled	
<p>5.4 Recruitment and Member Renewal Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruitment for two new ARAC members closes on January 17, 2021. <p>MOTION: To table agenda items 5.3, 6.3, 6.4 and 7.1. Moved by Kimberly Yamada Majority Vote</p>	Carried	

6.0 Subcommittee and Working Group updates	ACTION	Lead
<p>6.1 Funding subcommittee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Funding subcommittee presented and discussed a draft of the funding program, including the various funding streams and priorities. 		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The final funding streams will need to be approved by City Council. - It was important to the subcommittee that the program be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tied into ARAC’s mandate - Use an anti-racism lens - Provide noticeable impact in the community and spread over a wide range, but not overlook individual changemakers. - The funding streams can be modified after a few cycles. - Subcommittee members proposed holding back \$50,000 to support the activities and emerging needs of ARAC subcommittees. If this funding is not utilized, it can be fed back into the funding streams. <p>MOTION: To ratify the Funding Subcommittee straw dog. Moved by Ada Okeke Majority Vote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More discussion and feedback can be collected. A copy of the ratified draft is available in the Funding subcommittee’s Google drive folder. 	Carried			
<p>6.2 Public Engagement and Outreach subcommittee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Public Engagement and Outreach subcommittee met on December 16, 2020. - The subcommittee members discussed how to promote ARAC to the community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public engagement - How can communities/Edmontonians feel safe to step forward and share issues? - Accessibility - Survey to ask the community what would be useful to them and how to engage. - Subcommittee members have requested possible funding to support community engagement work. - There is a communication review ongoing for the Social Inclusion and Social Identity section. Subcommittee members met with the communications consultants and provided input on ARAC needs. - Input from subcommittee - survey on the work they should do - Subcommittee members will share meeting notes with ARAC members. <p>MOTION: To elect Joud Nour Eddin and Ada Okeke as co-chairs of the Public Engagement and Outreach subcommittee. Moved by Faisal Salama Majority Vote</p>			Carried	
<p>6.3 Community Safety subcommittee</p>			Tabled	
<p>6.4 International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Working group</p>			Tabled	

7.0 Updates	ACTION	Lead
7.1 City of Edmonton updates	Tabled	

8.0 New Business	ACTION	Lead

9.0 Old Business	TIME	Presenter

10.0 Adjournment		
- The meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.		

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