



**Clarington Diversity Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday, September 23, 2021, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM**  
**Via Microsoft Teams**

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**Present:** Meera McDonald  
Lyndsay Riddoch  
Rachel Traore  
Sajida Kadri  
Rajeshwari Saharan  
Yasmin Shafi  
Councillor Ron Hooper

**Also Present:** Erica Mittag – Community Development Coordinator  
Guest: Sarah Taylor – Accessibility Advisory Committee

**Regrets:** Laila Shafi  
Dione Valentine

The meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

**1. Land Acknowledgement Statement**

Meera McDonald read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

**2. Declaration of Interest**

No items to declare.

**3. Review and Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Yasmin Shafi, seconded by Lyndsay Riddoch.

That the agenda for the September 23, 2021 meeting be approved.

**Carried**

**4. Introduction of members to guest Sarah Taylor**

**5. Review and approval of previous meeting minutes**

Moved by Rachel Traore, seconded by Lyndsay Riddoch.

That the minutes from the June 24, 2021 meeting be approved.

**Carried**

Moved by Councillor Hooper, seconded by Rachel Traore.

That the minutes of the September 2, 2021 meeting be approved.

### **Carried**

#### **6. Community Safety Council Update**

- Lyndsay provided an update that interviews were conducted by Municipality representative and panelists.
- Five candidates have been moved forward to Durham Regional Police Services for review. Next steps are to reach out to candidates with an update.
- Currently remain three vacancies as not all Wards were represented. Decision to be made on how to move forward with current candidates and / or consider further recruitment via social media platforms.

#### **7. Requests for Orange Crosswalk Representing Awareness of Indigenous Communities**

- Residents brought forward a concept for a [walkway](#) that recognizes Indigenous Communities. Looking for input from Committee.
- Could consider temporary decals like what is being created for Remembrance Day and installed at appropriate times throughout the year.
- Committee suggested area of Temperance and Church Streets in Bowmanville.
- Associated costs would be reviewed and approved by Council. Would go through the process and work through logistics and timelines.
- Municipality of Clarington Public Works is reviewing and provided process if we move forward.
- Consult with Indigenous communities and whether this is a positive and meaningful way of recognition.
- Councillor Hooper shared that there is an existing mural in downtown Bowmanville: [Skywoman and Turtle Island](#)

Moved by Rachel Traore, seconded by Yasmin Shafi

That Clarington's Diversity Advisory Committee supports a public recognition for our Indigenous Communities in the form of a crosswalk or other meaningful way, in advance of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation in 2022, once consultation has occurred with our local Indigenous community.

### **Carried**

#### **8. Council and Community Updates**

Councillor Hooper shared the following updates:

- Council passed a Motion to recognize National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

- Rollout of Vaccination Passport as of Sept 22, 2021. This is a new way of business with Vaccination ID requirement. There have been some concerns and people upset that it is being rolled out. Staff are trying to deal with it as best we can. Guidance to please be patient and we are trying our best.
- Congratulate and thank all the candidates who ran in the 2021 Federal Election.
- Virtual meeting being held regarding Bowmanville West End Development which includes intensification. Residents will have an opportunity to raise concerns and give feedback.

Erica Mittag shared the following updates:

- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Update:
  - Social media plan is being developed to share stories of residential school survivors, their families and communities
  - Promote the free training from Indigenous Canada in partnership with the University of Alberta
  - Staff team will be wearing Orange Shirts to work on September 28, 2021
  - Municipal Administrative Centre and several municipal recreation facilities will be illuminated in Orange on September 30, 2021. Orange Ribbons will be tied outside and residents will be welcome to add their own orange ribbons
  - Reached out to Indigenous groups and does have availability to hold an event, Flags are all at half mast and will continue to be for foreseeable future
  - Virtual Lunch and learn for meaningful ways to pause and reflect on National Day for Truth and Reconciliation for staff and SharePoint to share resources
- A Truth and Reconciliation Committee has been formed to provide recommendations for the municipality to move forward with Reconciliation. This Committee will work in consultation with Indigenous communities for consultation.
- Municipality is launching Language Line a new phone translation service for on demand translation in over 240 languages including American Sign Language.

## 9. Symbols of Hate

- Erica shared that over the last year, she has connected with colleagues in other municipalities and found that many were working to address this concern.
- Clarington, together with the cities of Oshawa, London, Hamilton, and Kingston and Region of Durham is planning a virtual Anti-Hate Symposium for Friday, December 10, 2021 (International Human Rights Day). It will be a full day event. Some speakers include [Dr. Barbara Perry](#), [Dr. Andrew Campbell](#) and [Dr. Pam Palmater](#) and many more.
- City of London is hosting the event on their Zoom platform. The target audience is diversity, equity and inclusion colleagues in municipalities, Senior Leadership, and Elected Officials from Ontario municipalities. The capacity is 500 guests.

- Erica requested that the Diversity Advisory Committee to act as sponsor of the the Anti-Hate Symposium. Further information to be shared with the Committee to make a decision at the October 28, 2021 meeting.

#### **10. Update on Anti-Black Racism Subcommittee**

- Body-worn camera project is launching soon in Clarington. A member of the Durham Regional Police Services is invited to the next Subcommittee meeting being held on October 13 to respond to questions the Subcommittee might have.
- Safe Schools presentation as possibility for the future.
- Anti-Racism Policy is now being reviewed by Clarington diversity and inclusion staff. Will be brought back to the Diversity Advisory Committee for a future meeting. Policy would be approved by Senior Leadership and then shared with Council for approval. Once approved, it would be rolled out.
- Anti-Racism Strategy presentation has been drafted, with timelines and categories for review and with approval from Diversity Committee would be brought forward with anti-racism policy. Subcommittee members have reviewed. To be shared with Committee members for input and discussion at next meeting.

#### **11. Other Business**

- Valleys 2000 Trail from Bowmanville Avenue official ribbon ceremony has been held and this is officially open. Reminder that crosswalk is also open.

Motion to Adjourn meeting moved by Meera McDonald, seconded by Lyndsay Riddoch.

That the meeting adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

**Carried**

**Next meeting: Thursday, October 28, 2021, 7:00 p.m.**

**Virtually – via Microsoft Teams**