

Windsor, Ontario October 5, 2016

A meeting of the **Diversity Committee** is held this day commencing at 5:00 o'clock p.m. in Room 407, 400 City Hall Square East, there being present the following members:

Dr. Sushil Jain, Chair  
Anna Adisho  
Camilla Alves  
Colm Holmes  
Sungee John (arrives at 5:13 p.m.)  
Charlotte LeFrank  
Padmini Raju

**Regrets received from:**

Councillor Bill Marra  
Yo Son Dah Nost Huff  
Manmander Matharu

**Guests in attendance:**

Peter Best, Chair, Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee  
Kaye Johnson, Director, Office of Human Rights, Equity and Accessibility,  
University of Windsor  
Rachel Olivero, Diversity Officer, Greater Essex County District School Board  
Patrick Mullin

**Also present are the following resource personnel:**

Sergeant Wren Dosant, Diversity Officer, Windsor Police Services  
Gayle Jones, Diversity/Accessibility Officer  
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:05 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" **attached** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

## **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Moved by C. Holmes, seconded by C. Alves,  
That Rule 3.3 (c) of the Procedure By-law 98-2011 be waived to add the following additions to the Agenda:

- 4.1 Peter Best, Chair, Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee
- 4.1 Camilla Alves to provide information relating to the "Diverse City onboard" initiative.

Carried.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT**

None disclosed.

## **3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Moved by C. Alves, seconded by C. LeFrank,  
That the minutes of the Diversity Committee of its meeting held June 7, 2017 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.

Carried.

## **4. BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **4.1 Introductions**

#### **Peter Best, Chair, Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee**

Peter Best, Chair of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee is present and provides an overview of an initiative relating to the blind and visually impaired as follows:

- Created an "Accessibility Resource Sharing" group that meets bi-monthly at the Main Windsor Public Library. The concept is to understand how others are coping and overcoming daily life challenges, sharing tips and techniques and acknowledging services and barriers in the community.
- Audible pedestrian traffic signals which alert the visually impaired of the traffic flow, have been improved to the Windsor standard. Rather than the traditional "chirp" sound, a voice will say for example "cross University".
- The "chirp" sound blends in with the environment and a visually impaired individual does not know if it is safe to cross the street as the sound mimics the chirp of a bird.

The Chair thanks Peter Best for his presentation.

**Kaye Johnson, Director, Office of Human Rights, Equity and Accessibility,  
University of Windsor**

Kaye Johnson, Director, Office of Human Rights, Equity and Accessibility, University is present and provides the following comments relating to diversity and inclusion:

- Diversity can be destructive by itself; need diversity and inclusion as a pairing.
- Inclusion ensures people are present as inclusion is not just a mere presence.
- There are various cultural differences as to how people relate and participate. Some cultures are loud, some quiet, eye contact is made or not, and how we listen also differs. Essentially, want meaningful contribution and participation.
- Experience as an African Canadian individual and an Asian individual is very different as people often have stereotypes of a particular culture.
- Asks "who is an immigrant and at what point do you stop being an immigrant?"

The Chair thanks Kaye Johnson for her presentation.

C. Alves advises the Multicultural Council along with the local United Way have partnered with the DiverseCity OnBoard (a Ryerson University's initiative) to bring this concept to Windsor. She notes an application has been submitted to the Provincial Government and is awaiting approval at this time. If funding is approved for this project, she is requesting the support of the Diversity Committee.

**Rachel Olivero, Diversity Officer, Greater Essex County District School Board**

Rachel Olivero, Diversity Officer, Greater Essex County District School Board is present and provides a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Diversity Matters: City of Windsor October 2016", is **attached** as Appendix "A". Highlights of the PowerPoint presentation are as follows:

- Three Core Goals of the Ontario Ministry of Education are:
  - Shared and committed leadership
  - Equity and inclusive education policies and practices
  - Accountability and transparency
- Local statistics include:
  - 1 in 4 people in Windsor are immigrants
  - 1 in 5 is the national average
  - 27% of the total population of Windsor are newcomers
  - 2006-2011: 10,140 newcomers settled in Windsor

- There are guidelines for the accommodation of Religious requirements, practices and observances and a calendar is created that identifies the Religious Holidays for that given year.
- A key message is that every student, staff member, parent/guardian and Community member needs to feel safe, accepted and respected.
- Since February 2016, 340 Syrian students have commenced their education with the Greater Essex County District School Board.

C. Alves leaves the meeting at 6:24 o'clock p.m.

In response to a question asked by the Chair regarding if Arabic speaking teachers were hired to teach the Syrian students, R. Olivero responds English as a Second Language teachers were hired.

S. John leaves the meeting at 6:30 o'clock p.m. There is no longer a sufficient number of members present to constitute a quorum.

C. Holmes leaves the meeting at 6:31 o'clock p.m.

#### **4.2 Financial Summary Variance Report**

The Financial Summary Variance Report for the period ending August 31, 2016 is received for information.

#### **4.3 CRRF National Conference - "Realizing an Inclusive Canada: 2017 and Beyond"**

The CRRF National Conference to be held on October 26 & 27, 2016 at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, City of Toronto is received for information.

#### **4.4 Anti-Racism Directorate to Hold Nine Community Meetings**

The News Release from Ontario News regarding the Anti-Racism Directorate to hold Nine Community Meetings is received for information.

#### **4.5 Diversity Committee 2017 Operating Budget**

The 2017 Diversity Committee Operating Budget submission to City Council is received for information.

#### **4.6 Subcommittee Update**

No report.

#### **4.7 Chair's Report**

The Chair reiterates the need to hold an event to provide public awareness of the Diversity Committee.

The Chair provides documents entitled "CBC-Angus Reid Institute poll: Canadians want minorities to do more to 'fit in'" and Cultural Competency and Diversity Training Offered by South Essex Community Council", are distributed and **attached** respectively as Appendix "B" and Appendix "C".

C. LeFrank states it is important to establish the goals of the Diversity Committee. G. Jones suggests a roundtable discussion be held to determine the goals of the committee.

C. LeFrank indicates a meeting of the Subcommittee can be convened to determine interest in holding an event.

#### **4.8 Diversity Plan**

The discussion relating to the Diversity Plan is deferred to the next meeting.

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

#### **6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held at the call of the Chair.

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 6:55 o'clock p.m.

CHAIR

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

## **Kadour, Karen**

**From:** Camila Alves (calves@themcc.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** Kadour, Karen  
**Subject:** Information regarding the Anti-Racism Directorate Meeting

As requested, please find below the information about the session I have attended in November:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/anti-racism-directorate>

### **Province Continues Anti-Racism Dialogue**

Ontario is holding nine community meetings across the province over the coming months to engage with the public on addressing systemic racism and eliminating barriers for Indigenous and racialized communities.

The community meetings, hosted by Michael Coteau, Minister Responsible for Anti-Racism, will help further the public dialogue and identify priority areas for the province's Anti-Racism Directorate as it applies an anti-racism perspective to government policies, programs and services.

The meetings will focus on anti-Black racism, as well as islamophobia, anti-Indigenous racism and racism experienced by other communities.

The transcript of the meeting is in the link below (I don't copy the whole transcript), but maybe the link in case someone is interested.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-windsor-public-meeting>

Thanks,

**Camila Alves** Manager of Community Engagement and Training  
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Number: 2267881897

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