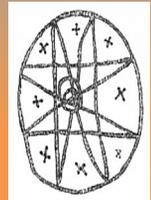


HALIFAX

**Youth Advisory Committee
ANSAIO/ABR Presentation**

Land Acknowledgment

- We acknowledge that we are in **Mi'kma'ki**, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. We acknowledge the Peace & Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognize that we are all Treaty People.



AFFIRMATION

ANS Affirmation

We acknowledge that African teachings, strength and perseverance continue to challenge and inspire our community.

“If we stand tall it is because we stand on the shoulders of many ancestors.”

- African Proverb



Introductions

Who's in the room?????

- Your name and preferred pronouns (if comfortable)
- Something about yourself



Quick History of ANSAIO

- ANSAIO was created in September of 2012 out of the Africville apology and settlement
- The community requested to have a function created that will help HRM better engage with the Black community
- The office is currently staffed by three individuals (*small but mighty team*) Under D&I CAO's Business Unit

What does ANSAIO do?



Provides leadership, strategic direction, policy advice and expertise on matters concerning the ANS community to all parts of the organization



Strengthens the delivery of municipal services to ANS Communities



Guides HRM's engagement with the ANS community



How can you get involved?

- Volunteer Opportunities
- Attend Workshops, Conferences and Youth Events
- Attend Community Engagement Sessions

Have You Seen This Bus?





Anti-Black Racism

Policies and **practices** embedded in Canadian institutions that **reflect** and **reinforce beliefs, attitudes, prejudice, stereotyping** and/or **discrimination** directed at people of African ancestry and is rooted in their unique history and experience of enslavement and colonization.



ABR in CANADA

- It is not a thing of the past and it is a **Canadian** problem
- Race remains a predictor of socio-economic well-being in our society
- Racial inequities are created by **systems, institutions, policies** and **laws**



The Black Experience

- Biases & Stereotypes
- Race
- *Stigma* of being black
- Misrepresented in the media
- Blackness is seen as a threat
Violent, aggressive, angry, criminal,



Remember, Black people did not
create anti-Black racism, thus,
we should not expect them to
solve it.



What can you do?

- Interrupt offensive jokes or stories and say you don't want to hear them.
- Speak up when you witness discrimination against others.
- Offer support to the victim. Listen carefully and respect confidentiality.
- Speak up or seek help when you experience discrimination. Recognize that some situations are best addressed publicly and others privately.
- Become involved and work with others. Anti-racism work is everyone's responsibility.



What can you do continued...

- Encourage Work & Play Environments
- Discuss issues of inclusion & diversity with Children, youth & Adults
- Educate yourself on Human Rights
- Be Aware of how your actions affect others
- Think critically about language that you use
- Be sensitive to other's feelings
- Question the validity of GENERALIZED statements



ABR Initiatives/Update

- Strategy and Action plan
- ABR Corporate Training
- ABR Education Series, Speakers Series
- ABR Grants Program

What is Afrocentricity?





Afrocentricity is

- A way of Knowing: Centering the history, culture, heritage, perceptions, interests and lived experiences of people of African descent in anything involving them
- About Agency: Centering Black people, they become agents, actors, and participants rather than as marginals on the periphery of political, social and economic experience
- Anti-Oppression: Rejecting dominant Eurocentric perspectives which, through the course of history, continue to undermine the experiences and cultural reality of African people



Engagement

- ❖ In matters affecting African Nova Scotians, they must be moved from the margins to the centre
- ❖ In decision-making processes, pertaining to African Nova Scotians, they must be the **SUBJECTS** and not OBJECTS



Community Circles

ANSAIO hosts community circles to help bridge a connection to municipal government and community.

Our Community circles work to provide updates, opportunities and to help residents better understand how municipal government works.

Community Circles are guided by the Afrocentric Principle of Ujima which is about building and maintaining our community together



5 Strategies to Remember

- ❖ Build and sustain respectful relationships
- ❖ Leverage the support and expertise
- ❖ Commit to continuous learning
- ❖ Provide equitable access
- ❖ Recognize and utilize strengths and talents



HALIFAX

Questions?



Contact Information

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