



HALIFAX

# **African Nova Scotian Affairs and Integration Office**

# Why was ANSAIO created

- ANSAIO was created as a result of the February 2010 Africville Apology.
- Halifax Regional Municipality negotiated a settlement with the Africville Genealogy Society, which included the creation of the African Nova Scotian Affairs Integration Office (ANSAIO)





# ANSAIO...

- Provides leadership, strategic direction, policy advice and expertise on matters concerning the ANS community to all parts of the organization
- ANSAIO staff works with business units to improve relationships, engage, and encourage the participation of African Nova Scotian Communities in municipal affairs.



# ANSAIO Offerings...

- “Reaching out from an Afrocentric Place” training
- Engage communities and evaluate internal policy to address Anti-Black racism.
- Lead “Community Circles”, “Employment Circles” to share HRM information on specific services and opportunities with ANS communities



# Collaborations...

- ANS Road to Economic Prosperity
- Land Titles Initiative
- Hiring Panels
- Connect departments with external stakeholders in ANS communities
- African Heritage Month
- Human Rights Commission –International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

# Anti Black Racism



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- Evaluate how Anti-Black racism plays a role in the Municipality and find methods to eradicate it through the Anti-Black Racism Strategy and Action Plan.
- Steering Committee
- Draft of the ABR strategy & action plan is nearly complete

# Anti Black Racism



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## What is underway...

- Several learning opportunities have been made available to the organization ( ABR training, speakers' series, panels, conferences )
- Creation of the African Descent Advisory Committee
- Development of an Anti-Black Racism Grants Program



# Community Outreach & Research

- Employment Circles
- Community Circle
- Updating ANSAIO web pages
- Researching and collaborating with our ANS communities to provide accurate community overviews
- Attending ANS Community events and participating meetings (as invited)
- Co-facilitate Reaching Out from an Afrocentric Place Training
- Researching current trends in other Municipalities with regards to D&I and people of African Descent



# Feel free to reach out!

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