



**AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 20, 2025**

PRESENT: Mapfumo Chidzonga, Chair
Renée Babin, Vice Chair
Councillor Virginia Hinch
Andrew Howe
Chioma Ogbanufe
Darryl Johnson
Jayreece Whiley
Jerry Taylor
Taylah Carvery

REGRETS: Councillor John Young
Amber Grosse
Carlotta Weymouth
Missy Searl

STAFF: Russel Brooks, Advisor, Anti-Black Racism
Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants
Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at halifax.ca.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

1.1 African Nova Scotian Affirmation

Russel Brooks, Advisor, Anti-Black Racism led the Committee in the African Nova Scotian Affirmation.

1.2 Introduction of New Committee Members

Jayreece Whiley introduced themselves to the Committee.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 13, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Hinch, seconded by Renée Babin

THAT the minutes of February 13, 2025 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Andrew Howe, seconded by Renée Babin

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence – None

7.2 Petitions – None

7.3 Presentation – None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 ANSAIO Monthly Update

The following was before the Committee:

- Handout dated March 20, 2025

Russel Brooks, Advisor, Anti-Black Racism responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

9.2.1 Renée Babin – 2024/25 Workplan Discussion

The following was before the Committee:

- Handout dated March 20, 2025

Renée Babin led the Committee in the 2025/26 Workplan Discussion.

Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant and Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee spoke on including the following in the 2024/25 Workplan:

- Hosting the annual town hall meeting within community; and
- Formulating framework that defined the duty of care and/or transparency on how the Halifax Regional Municipality's connected with black communities and issues concerning black communities.

9.2.2 Mapfumo Chidzonga – Community RoundTable

Mapfumo Chidzonga led the Committee in the community roundtable discussion. Members noted special community announcements and upcoming events.

The Committee requested a presentation and engagement with Community Safety on Halifax Regional Municipality's public safety strategies impact in black communities. They further requested the engagement of the Elections Office to provide a presentation on the district boundary changes and future opportunities to engage black communities in the political process.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 10, 2025

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Dorothy Maponga
Legislative Assistant