



**AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
August 14, 2025**

PRESENT: Mapfumo Chidzonga, Chair
Taylah Carvery, Vice Chair
Councillor Virginia Hinch
Councillor John Young
Amber Brown
Andrew Howe
Howard Brown
Jerry Taylor

REGRETS: Carlotta Weymouth
Darryl Johnson
Jayreece Whiley
Renée Babin

STAFF: Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion
(ANSAIO)
Russel Brooks, Advisor, Anti-Black Racism
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](https://www.halifax.ca).

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:04 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 Members

Howard Brown introduced themselves to the Committee.

1.3 Election of Vice Chair

Mapfumo Chidzonga called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOVED by Amber Brown, seconded by Councillor Hinch

THAT Taylah Carvery be nominated Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

Taylah Carvery was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Councillor Hinch, seconded by Andrew Howe

THAT Taylah Carvery be appointed Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Taylah Carvery was declared the Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 12, 2025

MOVED by Taylah Carvery, seconded by Amber Brown

THAT the minutes of June 12, 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 Councillor Hinch, seconded by Amber Brown

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 – June 12, 2025

8.1 ADAC - History of Africville

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff report dated March 27, 2025
- Handout dated August 14, 2025

With the agreement of the Committee, Bobby Taylor, East Preston and Irvine Carvery, former Africville resident were invited to speak on the history of Africville and the ongoing efforts within the Africville community. Carvery responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 ANSAIO Monthly Update

The following was before the Committee:

- Handout dated August 14, 2025

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

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

9.2.1 Mapfumo Chidzonga – Community RoundTable

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

The Committee requested a presentation from Halifax Water, Emergency Management and Environment and Climate Change on the following:

- ground water billing;
- acquisition of land;
- access to Lake Major for North Preston residents;
- storm water service expansion; and
- emergency preparedness and climate change in the black communities.

Members noted special community announcements and upcoming events, including the International Day of People of African Descent on August 31, 2025.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 11, 2025

12. ADJOURNMENT

**African Descent Advisory Committee
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The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Dorothy Maponga
Legislative Assistant