



**AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
DRAFT 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

*These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by African Descent Advisory Committee at a future meeting.*

*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://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.**

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#### **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**

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The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Dorothy Maponga  
Legislative Assistant