

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Advisory Committee on Inclusion, Diversity and Equality held via Electronic Communications in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, commencing at 5:30 PM.

Present:

Jason Beck, Chair
Glenda Little-Kulai, Vice-Chair
Chantelle Tatum
Tammy Jackson
Mitchel Bowers
Keith McGrath, Councillor

Administration:

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community Services
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer
Caitlin Downie, Supervisor, Neighbourhood & Community Development
Toni Elliott, Senior Manager, Community Services
Anita Hawkins, Clerk, Legislative Services

1. Call to Order

Chair Jason Beck called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be amended by adding a new Item 4.3.1 - Accessibility of Council Meetings; and

THAT the Agenda be approved as amended.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Mitchel Bowers
SECONDER:	Tammy Jackson
FOR:	Beck, Little-Kulai, McGrath, Tatum, Jackson, Bowers

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

3.1. Regional Advisory Committee on Inclusion, Diversity and Equality (RACIDE) Meeting - August 25, 2020

MOTION:

THAT the minutes of the Regional Advisory Committee on Inclusion, Diversity and Equality meeting held on August 25, 2020 be accepted as presented.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Glenda Little-Kulai
SECONDER:	Chantelle Tatum
FOR:	Beck, Little-Kulai, McGrath, Tatum, Jackson, Bowers

4. New and Unfinished Business

4.1. Administrative Updates

Benchmarking for Diversity Portfolio

Caitlin Downie, Supervisor, Neighbourhood and Community Development, spoke to the results of the benchmarking conducted regarding Diversity Portfolio.

It was noted that Administration would distribute the final document to the Committee Members for their review.

Mandate and Membership Review

Toni Elliott, Senior Manager, Community Services, indicated Community Services is conducting some benchmarking in this regard based on the Committee's resolution of July 21, 2020.

It was confirmed that subsequent to the resolution passed at the last Committee meeting, a representative of the Regional Inclusive Committee (RIC) can participate in RACIDE meetings as an ad hoc member (non-voting).

Community Services to formally send the request to the Regional Inclusive Committee.

I See You: Sawubona Art Exhibit Social Media Plan

Caitlin Downie, Supervisor, Neighbourhood and Community Development, indicated that Tinna Ezekiel, Department Administrator, is working on the Media Plan with Legal Services and Communications.

It was noted that as Tinna Ezekiel, Department Administrator is currently out of the office, any questions of the Committee members can be directed to Diversity.Woodbuffalo@rmwb.ca.

4.2. Anti-Racism Working Group Update

Mitchel Bowers, Committee member, spoke to the Conversation Café events which are now completed. It is anticipated that the final report will be available for the next Committee meeting. The cut off for the RACIDE Anti-Racism and Discrimination Survey is October 20.

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community Services, confirmed that a Briefing Note was sent in support of the letter from the Chair to Council requesting an extension of time to present their findings to Council.

4.3. Council Presentation Planning

Chair Jason Beck noted this item will be addressed at the next Committee meeting.

4.3.1 Accessibility of Council Meetings

Mitchel Bowers, Committee member, recognized September 23, 2020 as the International Day of Sign Languages and spoke to concerns raised by the deaf and hard of hearing community relative to accessibility to Council Meetings as well as to the urgency of addressing these concerns.

Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer, spoke to Administration's ongoing efforts to address this issue and committed to provide an update to the Committee once information is available.

Discussion occurred relative to the process by which agenda items are placed on the agenda by going through the Chair in order to allow Administration the opportunity to gather information on the specific topic rather than adding items at the adoption of the agenda.

Exit

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

It was suggested that community support advocacy groups encourage their clients to utilize the RACIDE group as a resource to address this type of concerns.

Consensus was reached that this topic is of importance for the Committee and, Chair Jason Beck noted this can be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting as an Administrative Update.

5. Initiative Updates

5.1. Roundtable

Mitchel Bowers, Committee member, spoke to the various Awareness Days being celebrated during the month of October.

Glenda Little-Kulai, Committee member, spoke to the language courses, both online and in person, being offered through Keyano College.

Luana Bussieres, Coalitions Creating Equity (CCE) member, spoke to the Day of Older Persons in Alberta (October 1) and the activities scheduled for that date.

Caitlin Downie, Supervisor, Neighbourhood and Community Development, spoke to the various municipal initiatives taking place during the month of October.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Chair