

Minutes of a Meeting of the Regional Advisory Committee on Inclusion, Diversity and Equity held in room 206 at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, commencing at 5:30 PM.

Present:

Jason Beck, Chair (Via MS Teams)
Mitchel Bowers, Vice-Chair (Via MS Teams)
Shaaf Babar, (Via MS Teams)
Kg Banjoko, (Via MS Teams)
Brandon Cardinal, (Via MS Teams)
Luay Eljamal, (Via MS Teams)
Hanna Fridhed, (Via MS Teams)
Nicole Spring, (Via MS Teams)
Chantelle Tatum, (Via MS Teams)

Absent:

Funky Banjoko, Councillor

Administration:

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer, Legislative Services
Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Community and Protective Services
Caitlin Downie, Manager, Community and Protective Services
Krystell O'Hara, Department Administrator, Community and Protective Services
Caitlin Sheaves, Clerk, Legislative Services

1. Call to Order

Chair Jason Beck called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be amended to include item 4.2 Municipal Permitting Concerns and;

THAT the Agenda be adopted as amended.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Hanna Fridhed
SECONDER:	Nicole Spring
FOR:	Babar, Beck, Bowers, Cardinal, Eljamal, Fridhed, Spring, Tatum
ABSENT:	K. Banjoko

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

3.1. Regional Advisory Committee on Inclusion, Diversity and Equity (RACIDE) Meeting - June 15, 2022

THAT the Minutes of the Regional Advisory Committee on Inclusion, Diversity and Equity meeting held on June 15, 2022, be accepted as presented.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brandon Cardinal
SECONDER:	Shaaf Babar
FOR:	Babar, Beck, Bowers, Cardinal, Eljamal, Fridhed, Spring, Tatum
ABSENT:	K. Banjoko

4. New and Unfinished Business

4.1. Administrative Update

Entrance:

Kg Banjoko connected to the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

Krystell O'Hara, Department Administrator, Community and Protective Services provided updates on various projects and initiatives including Anti-racism Training, the Equity and Inclusion Policy, and the Wood Buffalo for All Awareness Campaign. It was noted that each project is on track for completion. A further update was provided on the Workplace Inclusion Charter, it was noted that inclusion coaching opportunities will be released in October and applications will be accepted from members of the public.

Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Community and Protective Services, provided an update on the Accessibility Audit noting that the scope of work has been finalized and the Request for Proposal will be released for issuing soon.

4.2 Municipal Permitting Concerns

Vice-Chair Mitchel Bowers advised that various local businesses have brought forward concerns with municipal permitting and the allowance for gender neutral washrooms, and they are being advised that neutral washrooms are not permitted.

Caitlin Downie, Manager, Community and Protective Services, advised that municipal safety code inspectors follow and relay a national code (code), and that there may simply be a misinterpretation of the code. It was further noted that if businesses have concerns with their permits, or the advice they are given, they should follow up with permitting directly for clarity.

The Committee discussed options to reduce the misinterpretation of the code and how to improve the communication of the code.

Action Item:

Administration to bring forward an update on the mechanisms that are in place to support and improve permitting concerns.

5. Roundtable

Committee Member Chantelle Tatum noted that September 30th is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and encouraged members to wear orange shirts to show their support.

Committee Member Nicole Spring advised that October is Canadian Autism Acceptance Month.

Caitlin Downie, Manager, Community and Protective Services, noted that the week of September 19, 2022, is Bi-Sexual Awareness Week, and September 23, 2022, is Bi-Sexual Awareness Day.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Chair