



**RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF MARKHAM**  
**Ontario Room, Markham Civic Centre**  
**March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**MINUTES**

<b>Attendance:</b>  <u>Committee</u> Andrew Yu, Chair Edward Choi Harmony Law Joe Li, <i>Regional Councillor</i>  <u>Staff</u> Anna Lee, <i>Committee Co-ordinator</i>	<u>Regrets</u> Devendra Mishra Faiz Mohyuddin Herleen Sayal Sujane Kandasamy Arul Rajasingam Maggie Quirt Nayani Nandakumar Rina George-Alexander Sabat Ismail Surinder Razdan  <u>Staff</u> Cheryl McConney-Wilson, <i>Diversity Specialist</i>
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The Race Relations Committee convened at 7:10PM without quorum and with Andrew Yu presiding as Chair.

**1. Chair's Opening Remarks**

- **Georgina Island First Nations - Sustainable Housing Summer Camp**
- Georgina Island First Nations is holding a summer camp for youths, specifically young women, on how to build sustainable housing. Please let Andrew Yu know if you would like to receive more information about this summer camp. As well, if you or anyone you know can assist with providing building materials to this program, please contact Andrew Yu.

**2. Race Relations Business**

- **Black History Month – Discussion Panel Community Event**
- The Black History Month discussion panel community event that we were working on did not take place. We were unable to secure the appropriate speakers for the event as they were already committed. We appreciate the efforts of everyone involved to secure a space and honorarium. We hope to try again next year to hold this event.

- **Community Virtual Feedback Session: International Day for Elimination of Racism, Thursday 21 March 2019**
  - A total of five questions will be posted on City of Markham's social media (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter). One question will be posted each day for five days (March 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>). The questions will also be printed in the Markham Economist & Sun newspaper for those that do not have social media access. Corporate Communications will anonymize the submissions for privacy before they are given to the Race Relations Committee for final review. Andrew Yu and Maggie Quirt will be on the sub-committee to review the entries, focusing on recurring themes and actionable items. The Race Relations Committee would like to have a report that can be presented to City Council.
- **National Indigenous Peoples Day – Friday, June 21, 2019**
  - The Black History Month discussion panel community event that we were working on did not take place. We were unable to secure the appropriate speakers for the event as they were already committed. We appreciate the efforts of everyone involved to secure a space and honorarium. We hope to try again next year to hold this event.
- **Many Faces of Markham, Saturday 27 April 2019: "EVERYONE WELCOME: Empowering Markham students as emerging champions in Equity"**
  - Judging submissions will take place on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at 1PM. Judging performance submissions will take place on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
  - Andrew will provide the City of Markham with preferred volunteer profiles and the aim for a diverse group of volunteers for this event. The sub-committee will meet with the volunteers before the event to give direction and guidance for the actual day of the event.
  - The committee was unable to secure a pizza place for sponsoring the charity lunch at the event. Sponsorships go through headquarters for franchise restaurants and they are usually looking for more commercial opportunities than what we could provide. Yellow Brick House will still be allocated booth space at the event.
  - The all-day event may be separated with the morning oriented towards the high school aged students and the afternoon sessions to be focused more on the younger students. This would allow us to cater the topics and discussions to be more age-appropriate.
- **Deferred Business**
  - Canadian Multiculturalism Day, Thursday, June 27, 2019
  - Everyone Welcome rally @ City Hall lawn, Sunday, July 28, 2019
  - Bystander intervention/Responding to alt-right

### **3. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting of the Race Relations Committee will be held on Monday, April 1, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Ontario Room.

### **4. Adjournment**

The Race Relations Committee adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Carried