



RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF MARKHAM

Ontario Room, Markham Civic Centre
December 3rd, 2018

MINUTES

<p>Attendance:</p> <p><u>Committee</u> Andrew Yu, Chair Arul Rajasingam Edward Choi Faiz Mohyuddin Harmony Law Maggie Quirt Nayani Nandakumar Rina George-Alexander Sabat Ismail</p> <p><u>Guest</u> Cheryl Marcus, <i>Markham Public Library, Community Outreach Librarian, Newcomers</i> Liz Myers, <i>Markham Public Library, Community Librarian</i></p> <p><u>Staff</u> Anna Lee, Committee Co-ordinator</p>	<p><u>Regrets</u> Devendra Mishra Herleen Sayal Sujane Kandasamy Surinder Razdan Regional Councillor Joe Li Cheryl McConney-Wilson, <i>Diversity Specialist</i></p>
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The Race Relations Committee convened at 7:00 PM with Andrew Yu presiding as Chair.

1. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Andrew Yu welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- Anti-racism Initiative Survey link Laura Gold sent via email will close December 9th, 2018.
- Hanukkah Menorah Lighting will be taking place on December 5th, 2018 4PM, at the Markham Civic Centre – will be honouring Pittsburgh massacre victims, as well.
- Cornell Community Centre will be holding an information session on hiring probationary firefighters on December 5th, 2018 6PM-9PM.

2. Changes or Additions to the Agenda

The agenda was accepted as distributed.

Moved by Arul Rajasingam

Seconded by Maggie Quirt

Carried

3. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Maggie Quirt
Seconded by Arul Rajasingam

That the minutes of the Markham Race Relations Committee Meetings held on November 5, 2018, be adopted.

Carried

4. Markham Human Resources Update

- **Terms of Reference**
 - Could possible be on the Agenda for the Council meeting in December 2018 or January 2019 but waiting for confirmation.
- **Terms of Reference**
 - New RRC councillors to be announced in January 2019.

5. Race Relations Business

- **Human Rights Day Proclamation and Flag-Raising, Monday 10 December, 8:30 am**
 - Flag raising will be outdoors; Mayor will likely give a short speech (indoors). Portion of the proclamation will be read.
- **Many Faces of Markham, Saturday 27 April 2019: "EVERYONE WELCOME: Empowering Markham students as emerging champions in Equity"**
 - The Chief Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission – Renu Mandhane will be present and the Keynote Speaker.
 - Judging will be on March 17th, 2019 (last Sunday of March Break) – location TBD but most likely in the Canada Room at the Markham Civic Centre.
 - Anticipating great participation from all School Boards for this event as schools are waiting for the event information packages.
 - Markham Public Library would like to partner with us for this event to support and participate in the most engaging way. The Markham Public Library will have posters posted at all the locations – the posters will be quality controlled by Corporate communications beforehand.
 - Coordinate efforts with RRC, MPL and Corporate Communications to promote this event through social media, the City of Markham website, newspapers, community partners, and networks – potentially including it in the monthly newsletter. Create and use existing hashtags for social media to further promote the event: #MFOM2019 #ManyFacesofMarkham, MarkhamRaceRelationsCommittee, MarkhamProud, etc.

- Submissions can be acted upon after the Event – have them circulated around the MPL branches, have the students expand and think more about diversity.
- **International Day for Elimination of Racism, Thursday 21 March 2019**
- **Canadian Multiculturalism Day, Thursday 27 June 2019**
- **Everyone Welcome rally @ City Hall lawn, Sunday 28 July 2019**
- **Potential bystander intervention training initiative**
 - How can we help people to be mentally prepared on how to react to possible events/happenings?

6. New Business

- **Partnership and collaboration with Markham Public Library**
 - There are 6 Community Librarians with difference areas of focus that are defined by the Community.
 - Using the MPL spaces for events, discussions, showing films etc., especially during Black History Month, International Women's Day, etc. to engage in the communities we live in.
 - A way to connect community members, organizations and groups and making networks of support and foundations.
 - Liz Myers will send MPL 2019 Programming and Events to the RRC members.
 - The Strategic Plan community consultations is coming up – will involve RRC in this stage to open conversations on how the MPL and RRC can collaborate in the upcoming years
 - We have regular schedule of things we are doing and will send that to RRC
 - Space gets booked up as a lot of people come into the library

7. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Race Relations Committee will be held on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Ontario Room.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Edward Choi

Seconded by Faiz Mohyuddin

The Race Relations Committee adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Carried