



RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF MARKHAM
Ontario Room, Markham Civic Centre
December 2, 2019

MINUTES

Attendance: <u>Committee</u> Andrew Yu, Chair Arul Rajasingam Edward Choi Hamza Sivanathan Harmony Law Nayani Nandakumar Suat Kenar <u>Staff</u> Cheryl McConney-Wilson, <i>Diversity Specialist</i> Anna Lee, <i>Committee Co-ordinator</i>	<u>Regrets</u> Darius Sookrum Devendra Mishra Faiz Mohyuddin Herleen Sayal Mohamad Mtairek Sabat Ismail Sujane Kandasamy Surinder Razdan Councillor Isa Lee
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The Race Relations Committee convened at 7:00PM without quorum with Andrew Yu presiding as Chair.

1. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Andrew Yu began the meeting.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

No quorum.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting of the Markham Race Relations Committee held on November 4, 2019.

As there was no quorum, adoption of the minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

4. Markham Human Resources Update

- **Terms of Reference**
- Councillors have requested the Terms of Reference with the tracked changes to compare the current Terms of Reference with the new proposed Terms of Reference. Adoption of the new Terms of Reference will be deferred until at least January when City Staff and the RRC can speak to the Councillors about the new Terms of Reference to address any questions or concerns.

5. Race Relations Business

- Discussion of ideas on what the RRC would like to do going forward – events, presentations, etc., to promote race relations. The RRC needs to secure more lead time to prepare materials and promote events and other activities.
- Flag raising protocol – the Council has not moved on this, yet.
- **Many Faces of Markham**
 - The committee must decide if the Markham Theatre will be the venue this year as this need to be booked in advance.
 - City of Markham Corporate Communications will be invited to a Race Relations Committee meeting to discuss strategies on how to promote the Many Faces of Markham event as well as other RRC activities and events.
 - Ideally, would like to get packages to schools before Winter Holidays and rethink how we are reaching out to school boards and councils.
 - The event is being held on Saturday, March 8th, 2020 with morning half day reserved for the younger students and the afternoon for the older students to address each demographic's needs.
 - Planning updates on this event prior to the next RRC meeting will be communicated to committee members by email for discussion.
- **Human Rights Day**
 - There wasn't enough lead time to coordinate with the City of Markham Corporate Communications team to promote and publicize the day and the event. Event had to be promoted with word of mouth.
 - Will have to create a model to repeat year after year for consistency and to promote and publicize as an event. Would like this to be a community educational event with a framework confirmed for the June RRC meeting. Reach out to school boards in September if we would like high school student participation.

6. New Business

None.

7. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Race Relations Committee will be held on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 7:00 PM in the Ontario Room.

8. Adjournment

The Race Relations Committee adjourned at 9:00 PM.