



RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Agenda
Zoom Meeting
April 12, 2021
6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

<i>Attendance:</i>	
<u>Committee</u>	<u>Regrets</u>
Andrew Yu, Chair Darius Sookrum Edward Choi Nayani Nandakumar Mohamad Mtairek Madge Logan Danielle Russell Claudette Rutherford Tamarie Warner Suat Kenar Faiz Mohyuddin Sujane Kandasamy Councillor Isa Lee (arrived at 7:45 PM)	Hamza Sivanathan
<u>Guests</u>	
Alicia Lauzon, York Regional Police (YRP) Zabi Aryaie, Detective, YRP Dinnesh Kulasekaran, Detective Constable, YRP Kolin Alexander, Staff Sergeant, YRP Ricky Veerappan, Superintendent, YRP	
<u>Staff</u>	
Mona Nazif, Staff Liaison (Senior Manager, Human Resources) Hristina Giantsopoulos, Election and Committee Coordinator	

1. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Andrew Yu called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and read the City of Markham Indigenous Land Acknowledgement. He welcomed Committee Members and special guests from YRP. Alicia Lauzon, YRP, introduced the following YRP members who were in attendance to make a presentation on Hate Crimes & Incidents:

- Superintendent Ricky Veerappan;
- Staff Sergeant Kolin Alexander;
- Detective Dinesh Kulasekaran; and,
- Detective Zabi Aryaie

Special guests were asked to turn their cameras off while the Committee conducted the election.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Madge Logan

Seconded by Sujane Kandasamy

That the April 12, 2021 Race Relations Meeting Agenda be adopted.

Carried

3. Approval of Minutes from March 1, 2021 Meeting

Moved by Danielle Russell

Seconded by Nayani Nandakumar

That the March 1, 2021 Race Relations Meeting Minutes be adopted.

Carried

4. Elections for Chair and Vice Chair

The Chair proceeded to conduct the elections for the Chair and Vice Chair positions.

Moved By Darius Sookram

Seconded By Councillor Isa Lee

That the nominations for Vice Chair be closed and include the following member:

Nayani Nandakumar.

Moved By Edward Choi

Seconded By Darius Sookram

That the as the acclaimed candidate, Nayani Nandakumar, be appointed as Vice Chair of the Race Relations Committee.

Carried

Moved By Edward Choi

Seconded By Madge Logan

That the nominations for Chair be closed and include the following members:

- Danielle Russell
- Darius Sookram

Carried

Moved By Claudette Rutherford
Seconded By Mohamad Mtairek

That with a majority vote, Darius Sookram be appointed as Chair of the Race Relations Committee.

Carried

The Committee congratulated the nominees and successful candidates on their appointments.

5. Presentation by York Regional Police – Hate Crimes & Incidents

Detective Zabi Aryaie addressed the Committee to make a presentation entitled, Hate Crimes & Incidents.

After the presentation, there was a Q&A and discussion period that addressed the following:

- YRP initiatives to address racism and hate crimes;
- Participation in various community events;
- Perception of incidents and similarities between them to assess appropriate approach to address and act on them;
- The pause of school resource officer programs;
- Scholarship Awards and other initiatives focusing on racialized youth;
- The upcoming YRP Hate Crime Report and 51 recommendations from community consultations will be made public after the meeting on Wednesday April 14, 2021;
- Training requirements of YRP staff;
- Inclusive policing and strategy with respect to recruitment and training of sworn and civilian members.
- Rights and responsibilities in understanding roles in the community;
- The process to file a complaint against policing service – www.OIPRD.ON.CA;
- Current trends with respect to race relations – preventing crimes and hate crimes,

Alicia Lauzon provided a brief update with respect to data collection and that a working group has been established in this regard.

The Committee requested that additional information be provided on diversity in the workforce in YRP and what training the officers complete to prevent race incidents at a future Race Relations Committee meeting.

6. Business Related to Previous Minutes (March 1, 2021)

a. Follow ups from the last meeting

There was no business related to the previous minutes.

7. Anti-Asian Racism

There was brief discussion on the review of the Anti-Asian Racism Motion and will be brought back to the next meeting for further consideration.

Staff will confirm the resources available to support anti-racism.

8. City Updates

Due to a shortage of time, there will be an update at the next meeting.

- a. Many Faces of Markham**
- b. RFP for Diversity Action Plan Update**
- c. Other**

9. New Business

There was an item of new business raised by a member in the form of a request to support and sign a resolution supporting youth mental health and to set aside funding in the City for youth access to mental health support on behalf of the Youth Coalition.

9. Round Table Talk

There was no Round Table Talk discussion.

10. Next official meeting date: May 3, 2021

11. Adjournment

Moved By Councillor Isa Lee

Seconded By Sujane Kandasamy

That the Race Relations meeting adjourn at 8:07 PM.