



## RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

### Agenda

### Zoom Meeting

October 3, 2022

6:00 p.m.

<b><i>Attendance:</i></b>	
<u>Committee</u>	<u>Regrets</u>
Nayani Nandakumar, Vice Chair Satya Arora Jas Atwal Edward Choi Sujane Kandasamy Suat Kenar Madge Logan Faiz Mohyuddin Mohamad Mtairek Danielle Russell Claudette Rutherford	Darius Sookram, Chair Hamza Sivanathan Councillor Isa Lee
<u>Staff</u>	
Joanne Kinya Baker, Staff Liaison (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Specialist) Chasidy Palmer, Intern, CAO's Office Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Clerk	

**1. Chair's Opening Remarks**

The Race Relations Committee meeting convened at 6:10 PM with Nayani Nandakumar presiding as Chair. The Chair began the meeting with a reading of the Land Acknowledgement. She advised that she will send resources relating to Truth and Reconciliation to Committee members.

**2. Adoption of the October 3, 2022, agenda.**

**Moved by: Suat Kenar**

**Seconded by: Edward Choi**

That the October 3, 2022 Race Relations Committee Meeting Agenda be adopted.

**CARRIED3. Approval of the Minutes from September 12, 2022.**

**Moved by: Satya Arora**  
**Seconded by: Suat Kenar**

That the September 12, 2022, Race Relations Committee Minutes be adopted with the friendly amendment to revise “The Committee observed a Moment of Silence for Her Majesty, The Queen.” to read “The Committee observed a Moment of Silence for Her late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.”

CARRIED

**4. Business Related to Previous Minutes**

None was identified.

**5. Committee and Sub-Committee Updates**

Joanne Kinya Baker reported that, on September 30, the Every Child Matters flag was raised at Markham Civic Centre as part of a powerful ceremony in recognition of the second National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day. Mayor Frank Scarpitti, City councillors, delegates of three levels of government and City staff attended the ceremony. Senior Fellow Robert (Bob) Watts, the former interim executive director of Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, led the blessing and spoke about how people can address the issues of the past while seeking to heal.

Ms. Kinya Baker reported that the Sisters in Spirit is recognized on October 4, 2022, this day provides an opportunity for community members to reflect on the high rates of violence against Aboriginal women and girls in Canada and to take action. Different communities were holding different events on this day.

Ms. Kinya Baker advised that there was a Leading for Change conference on October 1, 2022, led by the South Asian Tamil Women’s Collective and other racialized leaders and sponsored by the FCM. The conference aims to initiate conversations for leadership and for engaging in the electoral process among underrepresented communities.

Ms. Kinya Baker reported that the Eliminating Anti-Black Racism Plan, which was introduced in summer 2022, is anchored in a set of overarching pillars that mirror Building Markham’s Future Together strategy themes, and include a set of goals and actions which will help support Markham’s Black community.

Many Faces of Markham Sub Committee

No update was available. Committee members were advised that the City has yet to give direction as to whether the event will take place virtually or in person.

Policy Sub-Committee

No update was available at this time.

Communications Sub-Committee

Nayani Nandakumar will soon coordinate a meeting for the subcommittee.

Jas Atwal expressed interest to join a sub-committee; Nayani Nandakumar will forward her request to the Sub-Committee Chairs.

**7. New Business/Other**

None was identified.

**8. Next Official Meeting Date: Monday, November 7, 2022, at 6:00 PM**

**9. Adjournment**

**Moved By: Edward Choi**

**Seconded By: Madge Logan**

That the Race Relations meeting adjourn at 6:45 PM.