



RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF MARKHAM

York Room, Markham Civic Centre
October 1, 2018

MINUTES

Attendance:	
<u>Committee</u> Andrew Yu, Chair Harmony Law Nayani Nandakumar Maggie Quirt Edward Choi Faiz Mohyuddin Cheryl McConney-Wilson, <i>Diversity Specialist</i> (Called in)	<u>Regrets</u> Arul Rajasingam Astra Josie Rose Sabat Ismail Devendra Mishra Sujane Kandasamy Surinder Razdan Regional Councillor Joe Li Rina George-Alexander
<u>Staff</u> Anna Lee, Committee Co-ordinator	

The Race Relations Committee convened at 7:05 PM with Andrew Yu presiding as Chair.

Quorum was not met.

1. Markham Human Resources Update

- Terms of Reference – Clerks have reviewed and submitted for approval, along with the suggested edits made by the committee. Due to the election this month, approval will need to wait until new Council.
- Many Faces of Markham – Need to confirm how many hours technician is required.
- Inclusion Charter – Race Relations can participate in the launching of new Charter with the new Council.
- Grants – Federal Ministries are giving grants to groups that have anti-racism/discrimination events for those events held by groups outside of this Committee
- Committee – New council will be appointed after the elections; somebody who embodies the values and behaviours of the Race Relations Committee
- Elections – This committee could participate in the next election to promote the understanding of equity and voting. Need to have more discussions around concerns of online voting.

2. Race Relations Business

A. Race Relations Committee Work Plan

- Human Rights Conference – Cancelled for this year due to logistical challenges. Circulating ideas of a small event or ceremony to celebrate the day (December 10th)
- Many Faces of Markham – Markham Theatre is not available for planned date of March 23rd. Will be held at a high school (TBC by this week). Ideas to merge the Human Rights theme into this event – include education elements and have VIP guests to attend. The Sub-committee will decide and present the theme. Andrew will send email with date, time and location via email once decided. Volunteers needed to help at the event.
- Committee – To encourage and motivate consistent attendance and participation in the committee by all members. Have discussions via email, to ensure committee is hearing everyone's voice. Facilitate more organization and participation with the new Council.
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3. New Business

- Race Relations Committee Resolution Motion presented but not carried because there was no quorum:
 - "Whereas Markham is one community with Indigenous persons, descendants of immigrants and first-generation immigrants living together; Whereas all Markham residents are equal contributors and participants in our community regardless of the means of arrival in this City; Whereas a spirit of unity is essential in building and maintaining Markham as a welcoming community; Therefore, the Markham Race Relations Committee requests that all candidates for municipal elected office reject divisive campaign tactics and emphasize their policy proposals for building a harmonious community of diversity."
- Chair Astra Josie Rose shared the following update:
 - Josie is stepping down as Chair and Andrew Yu will be Chair, going forward, until the election next year.

4. Next Meeting Date

- The next meeting of the Race Relations Committee will be held on Monday, November 5, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Ontario Room.

5. Adjournment

- The Race Relations Committee adjourned at 8:30 PM.