

Oshawa Community Diversity Equity & Inclusion Committee

Attended: Beverly Fiddler, Donald Igbokwe, Jenna Dunn, Veronica Torres

Regrets: Daniel Crosmas, Eleanor McIntosh, Jalajah Jokarasa, Michelle Neill, Nathan Barnett, Sandra Smith, Uzma Danish (chair), Gary Wu

Staff: Julie MacIsaac, Vanessa Abban

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

- The City of Oshawa is situated on treaty land that is steeped in rich Indigenous history and is the present day home to many First Nations, Metis and Inuit people. The City acknowledges that we gather on the traditional territories of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation.

2. Approval of Agenda

- The agenda was reviewed, however not approved due to a lack of quorum.

3. Approval of December Minutes

- The December minutes will be shared and approved at the next meeting.

4. Roundtable Introductions

- Committee members provided a brief, personal introduction to the new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer.

5. Discussion Item: Update on Bagot St. Letter

- General agreement with the draft letter that was circulated ahead of the meeting.
- The Committee has had conversations in the past to recommend guiding principles for changing the street name. The letter will be edited to incorporate these suggestions.
- Uzma, Daniel, and Bev will inform the next version of the letter before it is shared with the Committee then sent to the Mayor.

6. Update on student recruitment

- Item deferred to the next meeting.

7. City Staff Update

- Vanessa provided an update on City activities related to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. See Attachment 1 of January 26, 2022 Meeting Package.

8. Review of 2021 Accomplishments

- Julie presented the Committee's Terms of References to go through the goals and objectives as outlined.
- Julie also reviewed what the committee achieved in 2021.

9. Discussion Item: Goals and Objectives for 2022

- Members raised the following comments during the discussion:
 - There are many pressing issues that affect people in Oshawa that this Committee would like to discuss more, including homelessness, death by suicide, drug overdose, harm reduction sites, systemic racism, etc.
 - The Committee is limited by the scope of what it can work on, but would like to see something about working on these pressing issues in our accomplishments next year and working towards meaningful change.
 - The Committee has achieved a lot during a pandemic year, however would appreciate more in-person meetings once they are permitted to better collaborate.
 - We've achieved a lot during a pandemic year

10. Adjournment