

Oshawa Community Diversity Equity & Inclusion Committee

Meeting Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023
Meeting Time: 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Location: **Green Room, Arts Resource Centre**
(45 Queen St, Oshawa, ON L1H 3Z3)

Members: Shakonikhri:yosta Daniel Crosmas (chair), Lincoln Edwards, Davaun Francis, Sadie Goddard-Durant, Christine Goodwin, Mariia Pitolai, Pam Reines, Donald Shields

Regrets: Mary Baddam, Uzma Danish, Beverly Fiddler, Donald Igbokwe,

Staff: Katie Namek, Vanessa Abban, Amanda Banning

Agenda:

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

- The City of Oshawa's land acknowledgment was delivered by Katie Namek, CDEIC Chair, Shakonikhri:yosta Daniel, welcomed members and opened the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Members approved the agenda by consensus.

3. Approval of March Meeting Notes

- Members approved the Meeting Notes by consensus.

4. Group Norms Review & Approval

- Members reached consensus on the norms for the meeting structure and meeting decorum.
- Members reached consensus on norms related to relationship with city staff, however voiced concerns about being silence and not being able to be critical of structure, policy and staff/Council.

5. Special Council Meeting

- Members were advised about the upcoming Special Council Meeting on May 31st about Accessibility, Diversity and Inclusion. The CDEIC will have an opportunity to make a presentation. Any members who want to present a delegation or speak during the meeting as individual residents of Oshawa are also able to do so.

5.1. Special Council Meeting Agenda

- The draft agenda for the Special Council Meeting was shared with Members.

5.2. Recommendations Review

- Members reviewed the recommendations outlined in CDEIC's presentation to Council at the Special Council Meeting.

- Members discussed the need to make the point about belonging in Oshawa clearer throughout the presentation, including what it means to belong and how people feel connected to their community.
- The presentation will be reframed around the framework of belonging and include the categories of meaningful consultation, accountability and reclaiming public spaces.
- The recommendation on improving meaningful communication should include consulting directly with communities, specifically vulnerable populations such as unsheltered people, people living with addictions, racialized communities, and 2SLGBTQ+ community.
- The presentation will include some examples, short anecdotes, about the experiences of vulnerable populations in Oshawa.
- Members also talked about how the Committee can continue to learn and grow. Some potential learning opportunities included hosting meetings at other organizations to learn about what they do, engaging in educational opportunities, reviewing community resources (e.g., documentary by Backdoor Mission), etc.

5.3. 2022 Highlights

- Members talked about CDEIC achievements throughout 2022 to be highlighted in the presentation to Special Council. Including:
 - Consulting with various organizations and groups.
 - Improving Indigenous visibility by recognizing Indigenous History Month, raising the Medicine Wheel Flag, and supporting the City's planting of an orange garden.

6. City Update

- City staff presented an update on the CDEIC recruitment process. The process will go live in June and be open until the end of July.
- Members with expiring terms were advised that reapplication through the recruitment process is required to extend their term.
- Donald Igbokwe advised that he will not be seeking to extend his term.
- The current Chair term does not align with members' terms. Consideration will be needed to better align the two terms for consistency.
- Lincoln, Christine (as the Vice-Chair) and Pam identified their interest in participating on the Selection Sub-committee for the current recruitment process.

7. Adjournment