



## Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Minutes

**Date:** August 28, 2023

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Location:** City Hall

**Present:** Brian Kon, Marilyn Tian, Marla Terreberry-Portfilio, Elizabeth Grimmond, Wayne Campbell (Councillor), Mona Patel (Councillor), Jay MacLean (Staff)

**Guests:** Yusuf Al-Harazi (Region of Niagara)

**Regrets:** Erden Ertorer, Jitto Tom Uthup, Cat Thagard, Nkiru Nwagbo, Sheila DeLuca

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### Meeting Minutes

#### 1. Welcome on behalf of Indigenous Community (Brian Kon)

#### 2. Guest Speaker (Yusuf Al-Harzi)

- The Region of Niagara's DEI Advisor presented to the committee.
- Presentation was summary of data collected from community DEI Survey.
- 1599 surveys were completed but only 183 (11%) were from Niagara Falls
- Top 5 areas of discrimination experienced included (Gender, Age, Mental Health, Ethnicity, Ability/Disability).
- Forms of discrimination included (insulting comments, barriers to participation, teasing, mocking, verbal abuse, hate speech, microaggressions)

#### 3. Approval of July 2023 Minutes

- A motion from Elizabeth Grimmond and seconded by Brian Kon to approve the July 2023 minutes.

**Motion CARRIED**

#### 4. Park Bench Donation Update

- Staff provided an update on locations for installation of the Rainbow and Orange Bench.
- An email will be sent out to the committee members with proposed locations for the benches.
- The Orange Bench will be unveiled on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 11am (more details to come). The scripture on the bench will read the following (In Honour of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Orange Shirt Day, This Bench has been donated from the City's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee, 09 / 30 / 2023, "Count on Me")

#### 5. September 30<sup>th</sup> National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

- Staff provided the following draft itinerary for events taking place on September 30<sup>th</sup>:
- 10:45 am Gathering at Rosberg Park
- 11:00 am Traditional Opening with members from Indigenous Community (Jackie Labonte)

- 11:10 am Land Acknowledgment provided by DEI Committee Member **(Marilyn Tian)**
- 11:12 am Welcome and Acknowledgments from Mayor Diodati
- 11:15 am Flag Raising / Lowering to Half Mast
- 11:17 am Moment of Silence
- 11:18 am Unveil Orange Bench with Mayor Diodati and Chair/Co-Chair
- 11:21 am Traditional Drumming (Phil)
- 11:25 am Event Concludes

**6. nTwne Update Regarding Fusion Niagara (Elizabeth Grimmond)**

- nTwyne provided a presentation at the July 2023 meeting regarding the Fusion Niagara event. They were asked to come back to the August 2023 meeting and provide a specific ask to the DEI committee members.
- The ask included the following:
  - A) Official Partner of Fusion Niagara (will be on grant applications and marketing materials print/online)
  - B) Support the Launch at the Marketplace (Fall '23) by offsetting some costs
  - C) Engage all multicultural organizations in Niagara Falls to participate in the 2023 Launch and 2024 Event
- The Fall launch is anticipated to be sometime in November 2023 with the big community event scheduled for July 2024.
- The committee review and discuss this specific ask at their September 2023 meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Brian Kon will update the committee at their September 2023 meeting on what the Region of Niagara has planned for September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

- A motion from Councillor Campbell and seconded by Marla Terreberry-Portfilio to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion CARRIED**

**NEXT MEETING**  
September 25, 2023  
6:00 pm.