



**AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
January 9, 2025**

PRESENT: Mapfumo Chidzonga, Chair
Renée Babin, Vice Chair
Andrew Howe
Chioma Ogbanufe
Missy Searl
Taylah Carvery

REGRETS: Darryl Johnson
Jerry Taylor

STAFF: Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion
Russel Brooks, Anti-Black Racism Program Lead
Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants
Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by African Descent Advisory Committee at a future meeting.

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at halifax.ca.

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**African Descent Advisory Committee
Draft Minutes
January 9, 2025**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

1.1 Annual Election of Chair

Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

Maponga responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOVED by Renée Babin, seconded by Missy Searl

THAT Mapfumo Chidzonga be nominated Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

Mapfumo Chidzonga was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Missy Searl, seconded by Renée Babin

THAT Mapfumo Chidzonga be appointed Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mapfumo Chidzonga was declared the Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

Mapfumo Chidzonga assumed the Chair.

1.2 Annual Election of Vice Chair

Mapfumo Chidzonga called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Missy Searl, seconded by Renée Babin

THAT Andrew Howe be nominated Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Mapfumo Chidzonga, seconded by Chioma Ogbanufe

THAT Renée Babin be nominated Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

A vote was taken by secret ballot to elect one member for the position of Chair. Renée Babin was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Mapfumo Chidzonga, seconded by Andrew Howe

THAT Renée Babin be appointed Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Renée Babin was declared the Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

1.3 African Nova Scotian Affirmation

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Russel Brooks, Anti-Black Racism Program Lead led the Committee in the African Nova Scotian Affirmation.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 20, 2024

MOVED by Renée Babin, seconded by Andrew Howe

THAT the minutes of November 20, 2024 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions:

- Item 10.1 – Andrew Howe - Committee Priorities

Deletions: None

MOVED by Andrew Howe, seconded by Missy Searl

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee requested that the Committees' terms of reference be reviewed at the next meeting.

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence – None

7.2 Petitions – None

7.3 Presentation – None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 ANSAIO Monthly Update

Russel Brooks, Anti-Black Racism Program Lead provided the Committee with an update on upcoming African Heritage Month events.

Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

9.1.2 Proposed 2025 Meeting Schedule

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff memorandum dated January 9, 2025

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MOVED Missy Searl, seconded by Mapfumo Chidzonga

THAT African Descent Advisory Committee approve the proposed 2025 African Descent Advisory Committee meeting schedule as outlined in the staff memorandum.

Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES – NONE

10. ADDED ITEMS

10.1 Andrew Howe – Committee Priorities

The Committee discussed their 2025 priorities which include understanding the Municipality's and Halifax Regional Police's engagement and outreach with black communities, providing support for the new Councillors joining the Committee and following up on the status of previously passed motions. The Committee further highlighted their interest in exploring the Committees community engagement opportunities.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 13, 2025

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Dorothy Maponga
Legislative Assistant