



**AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
DRAFT MINUTES  
March 20, 2025**

**PRESENT:** Mapfumo Chidzonga, Chair  
Renée Babin, Vice Chair  
Councillor Virginia Hinch  
Amber Grosse  
Andrew Howe  
Chioma Ogbanufe  
Darryl Johnson  
Jayreece Whiley  
Jerry Taylor  
Taylah Carvery

**REGRETS:** Councillor John Young  
Amber Grosse  
Carlotta Weymouth  
Missy Searl

**STAFF:** Russel Brooks, Advisor, Anti-Black Racism  
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](http://halifax.ca).*

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

**African Descent Advisory Committee  
Draft Minutes  
March 20, 2025**

## **1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 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 African Nova Scotian Affirmation**

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

### **1.2 Introduction of New Committee Members**

Jayreece Whiley introduced themselves to the Committee.

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 13, 2025**

MOVED by Councillor Hinch, seconded by Renée Babin

**THAT the minutes of February 13, 2025 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Andrew Howe, seconded by Renée Babin

**THAT the agenda be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

## **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**

The following was before the Committee:

- Handout dated March 20, 2025

Russel Brooks, Advisor, Anti-Black Racism responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

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## **9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES**

### **9.2.1 Renée Babin – 2024/25 Workplan Discussion**

The following was before the Committee:

- Handout dated March 20, 2025

Renée Babin led the Committee in the 2025/26 Workplan Discussion.

Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant and Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee spoke on including the following in the 2024/25 Workplan:

- Hosting the annual town hall meeting within community; and
- Formulating framework that defined the duty of care and/or transparency on how the Halifax Regional Municipality's connected with black communities and issues concerning black communities.

### **9.2.2 Mapfumo Chidzonga – Community RoundTable**

Mapfumo Chidzonga led the Committee in the community roundtable discussion. Members noted special community announcements and upcoming events.

The Committee requested a presentation and engagement with Community Safety on Halifax Regional Municipality's public safety strategies impact in black communities. They further requested the engagement of the Elections Office to provide a presentation on the district boundary changes and future opportunities to engage black communities in the political process.

## **10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

## **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 10, 2025**

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Dorothy Maponga  
Legislative Assistant