



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL
DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND ANTI-RACISM COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Members Present:	D. Damerla R. Deo G.S. Dhillon N. Iannicca	J. Kovac S. McFadden R. Rokerya R. Santos
Members Absent:	T. Awuni	J. Downey
Staff Present:	J. Baker, Chief Administrative Officer G. Kent, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services P. Caza, Regional Solicitor K. Dedman, Commissioner of Public Works J. Sheehy, Commissioner of Human Services J. Jackson, Director, Office of Culture and Inclusion	A. Adams, Deputy Clerk H. Gill, Committee Clerk S. Valteau, Legislative Specialist R. Khan, Legislative Technical Coordinator S. MacGregor, Legislative Technical Coordinator J. Jones, Legislative Specialist

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Santos, Committee Vice-Chair, called the Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism Committee meeting to order on February 17, 2022 at 9:31 a.m., in the Council Chambers, Regional Administrative Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive. Members of the Committee and staff participated electronically.

Committee Member Awuni was absent due to a personal matter.

Councillor Downey was absent due to a personal matter.

Other Councillors present: A. Thompson.

2. INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor Santos, Committee Vice-Chair read an Indigenous Land Acknowledgement.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION DEAR-1-2022:

That the agenda for the February 17, 2022 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee meeting, be approved.

5. DELEGATIONS

5.1 Bobby Rai, Resident of Peel

Regarding Equity Issues in the Region of Peel

Received

Bobby Rai, Resident of Peel, provided comments regarding: personal experiences related to unpaid employment leave due to non-disclosure of medical information; psychological and mental health impacts on students and their families related to mask mandates and COVID-19 pandemic information; equity and fairness with COVID-19 information sharing; community member vaccine compliance fears; and, justice in the health care system. Bobby Rai suggested that equitable and fair information could be shared through community hall meetings with various ethnic groups, a constituent online platform and vaccine rights education for businesses.

In response to a question from Councillor Kovac regarding the delegate's perspective as an educator on the lifting of pandemic restrictions, Bobby Rai stated that he is optimistic and looks forward to seeing change after March 1, 2022.

In response to a question from Committee Member Deo regarding the feasibility of a third-party review and report to assess the harm caused by COVID-19 pandemic policies, Bobby Rai expressed his opinion that there should be such a report with contributions from various groups.

6. REPORTS

6.1 Peel's Approach to Indigenous Engagement

(For information)

Received

Members of Committee discussed and raised questions regarding: vaccination hesitancy in the Indigenous community; promotion of respect and dignity for Indigenous community members who do not wish to be vaccinated; the Region of Peel employee vaccination policy; equal opportunities in the Region of Peel; development of partnerships and relationships with Indigenous communities as outlined in the report listed as item 6.1 on the February 17, 2022 committee agenda; population planning table to ensure an Indigenous-centric approach and inclusion of the Indigenous voice in planning; pandemic response and vaccination planning to meeting the needs of the Indigenous community through the indigenous planning table; other specialized community vaccination planning groups; and, community vaccination clinics in Peel.

6.2 Pride in Peel

(For information)

Received

7. COMMUNICATIONS

Nil.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil.

9. IN CAMERA MATTERS

Nil.

10. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, May 19, 2022
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Council Chamber, 5th Floor
Regional Administrative Headquarters
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A
Brampton, Ontario

Please forward regrets to Harjit Gill, Committee Clerk, at harjit.gill@peelregion.ca.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.