

<u> African Descent Advisory Committee - ANSAIO Update</u>

April 2024

In April we continued to provide on-going educational opportunities for HRM employees in the form of our in-person speaker series. "Growing Up Black in Nova Scotia" with Percy Paris. April 03, we held a session for 30 plus employees with Design & Construction Services and April 10th will see us at Planning & Development for a second session with their business unit.

ANSAIO Speaker Series for the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (IDERD), ANSAIO hosted Professor Sylvia Hamilton. Who presented "Making A Difference". In this talk Sylvia D. Hamilton reflected on people who have made a difference in the lives of others. Given the speed at which events now move because of the ubiquity of social media, it is easy to forget people who came before us: people who made a difference, who created the paths on which we now walk. We forget we are not the first to point out injustices or to develop strategies for social change. There are change-makers we need to remember.



<u>ABR</u>

The motion was heard and passed before the Grants Committee on March 27, 2024, in support of the ABR Grants program.

ABR Coordinator currently collaborating on a communications plan to launch the ABR Grants Program in the coming weeks.

The Anti-Black Racism Grants Program initiative is aimed at empowering the African descent community to combat anti-Black racism through grassroots projects and initiatives. The program's primary purpose is to increase the capacity across the Black community to address systemic issues that have long plagued their lives. By providing grants, the program supports a range of projects that



directly target the roots of anti-Black racism. Through this program, the African descent community is provided the tools and resources needed to challenge discrimination and advocate for lasting change, ultimately contributing to a more just and equitable future for all. This is another important step in our collective and ongoing commitment to address anti-Black racism in Halifax Regional Municipality.

Corporate ABR Policy is still under development.

ABR Training was approved, and training started with assorted business units as of March 2024.

Community circles and Employment circles dates are now being booked/solidified in community. Lucasville will hold an Employment Circle on Thursday May 16th from 630pm-8:30pm at the Wallas Lucas Community Center.