



**AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 8, 2025**

PRESENT: Mapfumo Chidzonga, Chair
Renée Babin, Vice Chair
Councillor John Young
Andrew Howe
Carlotta Weymouth
Jayreece Whiley
Jerry Taylor

REGRETS: Councillor Virginia Hinch
Amber Grosse – Leave of Absence
Chioma Ogbanufe
Darryl Johnson
Missy Searl
Taylah Carvery

STAFF: Russel Brooks, Advisor, Anti-Black Racism
Jasalynn Skeete, Advisor, African Nova Scotian Affairs
Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant

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.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:15 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

Jasalynn Skeete, Advisor, African Nova Scotian Affairs led the Committee in the African Nova Scotian Affirmation.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 10, 2025

MOVED by Renée Babin, seconded by Carlotta Weymouth

THAT the minutes of April 10, 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 Jayreece Whiley

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 May 8, 2025

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

9.1.2 Update on the Public Safety Strategy and the Community Mobilization Team

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff report dated January 13, 2025
- Staff presentation dated May 8, 2025

Amy Siciliano, Public Safety Advisor and Divine Gbeve-Onyenike, Community Outreach Coordinator gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

9.2.1 Mapfumo Chidzonga – Community RoundTable

No discussion was held on this matter.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

The Committee requested that Halifax Water be invited to a future meeting to present on the proposed water rate increase.

Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant and Russel Brooks, Advisor, Anti-Black Racism responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 12, 2025

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Dorothy Maponga
Legislative Assistant