



**AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
DRAFT 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

*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).*

## **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**

*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  
May 8, 2025**

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