



**AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
September 11, 2025**

PRESENT: Mapfumo Chidzonga, Chair
Taylah Carvery, Vice Chair
Councillor Virginia Hinch
Councillor John Young
Amber Brown
Howard Brown
Jayreece Whiley
Jerry Taylor

REGRETS: Carlotta Weymouth
Renée Babin – Leave of Absence

STAFF: Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion
(ANSAIO)
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.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01 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.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 14, 2025

MOVED by Jayreece Whiley, seconded by Councillor Hinch

THAT the minutes of August 14, 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 Jerry Taylor, seconded by Taylah Carvery

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

7.3.1 Tamar Pryor-Brown – Update on the African Nova Scotian Road to Economic Prosperity

The following was before the Committee:

- Request to present dated July 16, 2025
- Handout dated September 11, 2025
- Presentation dated July 1, 2025

Carolann Wright, Chelsie Skeete and Tamar Pryor-Brown, African Nova Scotian Road to Economic Prosperity gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

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9.1.1 ANSAIO Monthly Update

No discussion was held on this matter.

9.1.2 Overview of HRM's Anti-Black Racism Training

Russel Brooks, Advisor, Anti-Black Racism and Devon Parris, African Nova Scotian Action Planning Lead provided the Committee with an overview on HRM's Anti-Black Racism (ABR) training and spoke on the positive feedback from staff on the training. Brooks, Parris and Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion (ANSAIO) responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

9.2.1 Mapfumo Chidzonga – Community RoundTable

Members noted special community announcements and upcoming events including the Canadian Race Relations Foundations' Civic Youth Fellowship and Delmore Buddy Daye Learning Institutes' Black Mental Health Story Telling.

Devon Parris, African Nova Scotian Action Planning Lead and Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion (ANSAIO) responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – October 9, 2025

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Dorothy Maponga
Legislative Assistant