



**AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
November 13, 2025**

**PRESENT:** Mapfumo Chidzonga, Chair  
Councillor Virginia Hinch  
Carlotta Weymouth  
Howard Brown  
Jerry Taylor  
Kehinde Akintola  
Taylah Carvery

**REGRETS:** Councillor John Young, Vice Chair  
Amber Brown  
Jayreece Whiley  
Renée Babin – Leave of Absence

**STAFF:** Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion  
(ANSAIO)  
Russel Brooks, Advisor, Anti-Black Racism  
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](http://halifax.ca).*

## **1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 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.

### **1.2 Annual Election of Chair**

Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Carlotta Weymouth, seconded by Councillor Hinch

**THAT Mapfumo Chidzonga be nominated Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.**

Mapfumo Chidzonga was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Councillor Hinch, seconded by Carlotta Weymouth

**THAT Mapfumo Chidzonga be appointed Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mapfumo Chidzonga was declared the Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

Mapfumo Chidzonga assumed the Chair.

### **1.3 Annual Election of Vice Chair**

Mapfumo Chidzonga called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Hinch, seconded by Carlotta Weymouth

**THAT Councillor Young be nominated Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.**

Councillor Young was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Councillor Hinch, seconded by Kehinde Akintola

**THAT Councillor Young be appointed Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Young was declared the Vice Chair of the African Descent Advisory Committee.

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 9, 2025**

Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOVED by Carlotta Weymouth, seconded by Kehinde Akintola

**THAT the minutes of October 9, 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 Councillor Hinch, seconded by Carlotta Weymouth

**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 Board's and Committee Recruitment**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated November 13, 2025

Annie Sherry, Public Appointments Coordinator gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

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

**9.1.2 ANSAIO Monthly Update**

Russel Brooks, Advisor, Anti-Black Racism (ABR) provided an update on the ABR Grants program, the ABR employee conference and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion (ANSAIO) spoke on HRM Event Grants program and encouraged applicants from relevant community organizations.

**9.1.3 Proposed 2026 Meeting Schedule**

The following was before the Committee:

- Handout dated November 13, 2025

Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Hinch, seconded by Carlotta Weymouth

**THAT the African Descent Advisory Committee approve the proposed 2026 African Descent Advisory Committee meeting schedule as outlined in the staff memorandum.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES**

### **9.2.1 Mapfumo Chidzonga – Community RoundTable**

Members noted special community announcements and upcoming events including the Agricola Street Holiday Market, Canadian Race Relations Foundation's Civic Youth Fellowship Program and Human Rights Commission Modernization engagement.

## **10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

## **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – January 22, 2026**

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Dorothy Maponga  
Legislative Assistant