

# Oshawa Community Diversity Equity & Inclusion Committee

**Meeting Date:** April 24, 2024  
**Meeting Time:** 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
**Location:** City Hall

**Members in Attendance:** Bev Fiddler, Ayesha Khan, Fleursha Milfort, Pam Reines, Sadie Goddard-Durant

**Staff in Attendance:** Vanessa Abban, Julie Maclsaac

**Regrets:** Matthew Davis, Davaun Francis, Christine Goodwin, Mariia Pitolai, Sara Romanchuk, Donald Shields

## Meeting Notes

### 1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgment

- Julie delivered the City's Land Acknowledgment
- Vanessa delivered the African Ancestral Acknowledgement. A member asked for the African Ancestral Acknowledgement to be shared. Vanessa will share with committee members.

### 2. Agenda Approved

### 3. March Meeting Notes Approved

### 4. City Updates

- Vanessa delivered the city updates.
- Peony Festival will take place on June 8 and 9. Members agreed to support a table at the festival to share information about the C.D.E.I.C.
  - Vanessa will register the C.D.E.I.C. for the festival and will develop a schedule for members to register for shifts.
- Youth Pride is taking place on June 22 at Durham Region Headquarters, with Durham Children's Aid Societies. They are looking for volunteers to

- support the event and community organizations to participate in a resource village. Members were asked to reach out if they would like to support.
- Members were asked whether they wanted to keep the May 29 meeting, the day after the Special Council Meeting, to cancel it or reschedule it for early June. Members agreed to keep the meeting on May 29. Other members of the committee will be consulted to confirm the meeting.
  - The Culture and Events team heard C.D.E.I.C.'s feedback on the lack of diversity at the city's Centennial Event. Members from Culture and Events will be coming to the next C.D.E.I.C. meeting to discuss how to better incorporate diversity into future events.
  - Julie provided an update on the new Oshawa Strategic Plan (O.S.P.). The C.D.E.I.C.'s input into the O.S.P. was well received and incorporated where appropriate. City Staff will determine if there is another opportunity for the C.D.E.I.C. to engage on the O.S.P. before it is finalized.
  - Julie provided updates on current work related to Indigenous reconciliation and relationship building:
    - Council provided funding for an Indigenous Cultural Event on June 1. More info will be shared once available.
    - Installations of red dresses will be in place at City Hall and the four recreation centres for Red Dress Day, which is on May 5. Information and pins will also be available from the Moose Hide Campaign.
    - The process for renaming Bagot St. is ongoing in collaboration with a working group of Williams Treaties First Nations. Nine names have been put forth for consideration and will be taken to Council for approval.

#### **5. C.D.E.I.C. Chair Elections**

- Pam was the only member who put their name forward to be the new Chair. Pam was named as the Chair for the remainder of the current term, which will end in Fall 2024.

#### **6. Special Council Meeting**

- Vanessa provided an overview of the events leading up to the Special Council Meeting and the format of the meeting.

- The draft presentation for the Special Council Meeting was discussed and members provided edits and feedback.
- Vanessa will send the draft presentation to all committee members for additional comments and edits, then work with Pam, as Chair, to develop speaking notes for the presentation.

## **7. CDEIC Recruitment**

- Vanessa told committee members that recruitment for new C.D.E.I.C. members will launch on May 1 and close on June 8.
- Members are encouraged to share information about the recruitment efforts with their networks to encourage applications.
- There are print materials available that members can request to receive and distribute.
- A selection sub-committee will meet in July and August to review the received applications, conduct interviews, and select the new members. Vanessa will send an email asking who wants to participate on the committee.
- Vanessa will share the current community organizations list for members to edit with information about additional organizations/businesses that should be contacted about the recruitment.

## **8. Adjournment at 9:00pm**