



# Hamilton

## Minutes

**Aboriginal Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday July 5, 2012 – 5:30 P.M.**  
**City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Room 264**

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**Present:** Connie Bellamy, Allan Loft, David Bentley, Yvonne Maracle, Debra Elmes  
**Also Present:** Maxine Carter, Jaffat Hayat - City of Hamilton  
**Regrets:** Cindy-Sue Montana-McCormack  
**Absent:** Marilyn Wright  
**Chairperson:** Yvonne Maracle

**The meeting was called to order at 5:50 p.m.**

**1. Opening.**

- Yvonne Maracle opened the meeting.

**2. Welcome and Introductions.**

- Everyone was welcomed to the meeting.

**3. Declaration of Interest.**

- None declared.

**4. Review and approval of Agenda.**

The agenda was reviewed.

- Addition of Item 11.1, City of Hamilton's Archaeology Management Plan
- Addition of Item 11.2, All Star Talent Showcase

**MOTION #1**

**C. Bellamy/D. Bentley**

To accept the agenda, as amended.

**CARRIED.**

**5. Approval of Minutes, June 7, 2012.**

- Review of the minutes.

**MOTION #2**

**D. Bentley/D. Elmes**

To accept the minutes of the June 7, 2012 meeting, as presented.  
**CARRIED.**

## **6. Business arising from minutes.**

### **6.1 National Aboriginal Day (NAD) Banner.**

- The committee was informed the cost to design, print and install the banner across Main Street in front of City Hall was beyond the committee's budget of \$2500 (allocation for all NAD activities.) The City's policy regarding the type of material to be used for banners has changed from vinyl to mesh material. The mesh material is more costly.
- A. Loft volunteered to get quotes for mesh banners for next year from his contacts in the community.

### **6.2 National Aboriginal Day Celebration.**

- The committee was informed that Mayor Bob Bratina, participated in the event, on Saturday and brought greetings on behalf of the City, attended the sunrise ceremony and visited various tables.
- In response to the request to the Mayor to make the declaration regarding National Aboriginal Month, staff informed the committee that the Mayor does not make declarations.

### **6.3 New Applicants.**

M. Carter was asked to confirm with Clerk's office regarding the number of applicants received during the recent recruitment for citizen volunteers.

## **7. Workshop Update:**

a) Finalizing of Terms of Reference.

M. Carter and Y. Maracle provided an update to the committee regarding their meeting with the facilitator (K. Smith) with respect to the upcoming workshop to work on the committee's terms of reference. Y. Maracle also noted that the session was put off until the September meeting due to the difficulties experienced trying to meet in the summer.

Staff were asked to contact John Roberts (our September guest) to reschedule his presentation to the October meeting.

b) Work Plan.

The committee also realized that they cannot develop the work plan until after they have clearly defined terms of reference.

## 8. National Aboriginal Day

Y. Maracle provided a brief overview to the committee regarding National Aboriginal Day events and presented a report on the following:

### a) Information Table.

On Friday June 15<sup>th</sup> Cindy-Sue and her volunteers managed the ACCs table and on Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup> D. Bentley and D. Elmes managed the AAC table. Some members noted that the AAC table did not attract as many visitors as they would have liked probably due to the location.

The committee also learnt that there were a couple of other events planned, in Hamilton during this period, as result of which the overall attendance rate dropped. However, it was recommended that, in future one method to attract more visitors to the AAC table, would be to provide some give aways.

### b) Survey results.

The information collected is being compiled and will be shared with the committee at the next regular meeting.

### c) Report

Y. Maracle provided a summary of the comments made by the visitors to the AAC table, during the festival. She also provided a summary of the most pressing issues being faced by the Aboriginal population in Hamilton.

Committee members discussed how they can help increase the public's understanding of the issues being faced by Aboriginal people of North America. The following suggestions were made:

- The committee needs to find ways to educate and increase awareness of public about Aboriginal history.
- Use of advocacy is a key factor.
- Review the work and accomplishments of the previous committee.
- Have a councillor who will regularly attend the meetings.
- The committee must also collaborate with other committees and groups working for the same issues.
- Upon finalization of the terms of reference and work plan, the committee will invite Mayor Bratina to a committee meeting.

**9. Six Nations Confederacy.**

- M. Carter informed committee that a letter was prepared and will be sent as per the direction of the committee. It was recommended to remove this item from the agenda.

**10. New Business.**

None

**11. Information Sharing.****11.1 City of Hamilton's Archaeology Management Plan**

Y. Maracle informed the committee that the City is developing its Archaeology Management Plan and had organised a Public Information Centre on June 28, 2012. She also informed the committee that there is a section about First Nations in the draft Archaeology Management Plan. The committee members decided to review the section and provide their input by filling out the online questionnaire and comment sheet.

**11.2 All Star Talent Showcase**

The program brochure for the "All Star Talent Showcase" being held on July 17, 2012 at the Metro Toronto Centre was distributed for information.

**12. Next Meeting.**

- The committee decided not to have a meeting in August.
- Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 6, room 264.

**13. Adjournment.**

- Meeting ended at 7:20 p.m.