



# Hamilton

## MINUTES

**Aboriginal Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday October 4, 2012 – 5:30 P.M.**  
**City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Room 264**

---

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

**Chairperson:** Yvonne Maracle

**1. Opening.**

- Yvonne Maracle opened the meeting at 5:53 p.m., with a prayer

**2. Welcome and Introductions.**

- Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

**3. Declaration of Interest.**

- None declared.

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

- The agenda was reviewed.

**MOTION #1**

**C. Bellamy/D. Elmes**

To accept the agenda, as presented.

**CARRIED.**

**5. Presentation: John Roberts, Ontario Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (OCAP).**

- J. Roberts is an Anishnabe Métis and the Director of Education for OCAP
- J. Roberts distributed a draft article that he wrote for the Spectator that is to be published in the paper during the weekend of October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

- J. Roberts has sent this article to most of the chairpersons of the HEDAC organizations to inform them that he has been asked to write an article for the Spectator and to get their feedback and comments.
  - He noted that, in 2011 Stats Canada Census reported that the Aboriginal population in Hamilton was 8,000 (up from 4,000 reported in 2006), while the Aboriginal community agencies reported that the number is closer to 15,000
  - Stacey Hill and Lisa King (John's daughter) work at Queen Mary School
  - J. Roberts presently works with the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, at Queen Mary School and with various other schools, on matters relating to Aboriginal educational issues
  - J. Roberts has expressed a desire to see some form of co-ordination with all the Aboriginal groups, regarding educational services,
  - He also noted that Aboriginal youth services on reserve are of a lower standard than youth services in the mainstream/off reserve and in regards to the school system, there is less dollars allocated to Aboriginal students on reserve,
  - J. Roberts is helping with the development of a private charter secondary school focused on education and Lacrosse training. The curriculum will be delivered from an Aboriginal perspective.
  - The goal is to see Aboriginal students graduate with high honours when they are given the same resources as high performing mainstream off reserve schools.
  - Many Aboriginal youth go off reserve to attend secondary school but are at a disadvantage since English is not their native tongue. They also go off reserve to find employment which creates a brain drain for the reserve.
  - J. Roberts would like to see the Aboriginal Advisory Committee act as a coordinating body for Aboriginal education in Hamilton.
  - Committee was asked to invite Jenny Dupuis, of the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board to explain what is happening at the school board regarding Aboriginal Programming.
- 6. Approval of minutes, July 5, 2012.**
- Committee reviewed the minutes of July 5, 2012
  - Maxine explained that the recruitment process closed for accepting new members on a number of Council Advisory Committees and there were no applications submitted for the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

**MOTION #2**

**C. Bellamy/D. Elmes**

To accept the minutes of the July 5, 2012 meeting, as presented.

**CARRIED.**

**7. Business Arising from the minutes.**

**MOTION #3**

**C. Bellamy/D. Elmes**

To invite Jennie Dupuis, the Aboriginal Liaison Officer for the HWDSB to attend and make a presentation regarding the Aboriginal Programming at the school board to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, at the January 3, 2013 meeting.

**CARRIED.**

**8. Workshop Update:**

(a) Terms of Reference – this document is not ready for review at this time.

- The draft document will be prepared in approximately two weeks.
- The Nov. meeting will be a working meeting to finalize the (if possible) draft terms of reference.

(b) Work Plan – Deferred until the terms of reference are completed and approved.

**9. New Business.**

(a) David Bentley's request for leave of absence.

- E-mail request received Oct. 2/12, to take a leave of absence until December

**MOTION #4**

**D. Elmes/M. Wright**

To accept David Bentley's request for a leave of absence, until December 31, 2012.

**CARRIED.**

Break – 6:45 – 6:55

(b) Budget 2013.

- Presentation of budget, in the amount of \$3,500

**MOTION #5**

**C. Bellamy/M. Wright**

To approve the Aboriginal Advisory Committee 2013 Budget, in the amount of \$3,500.00, as presented and signed by Yvonne Maracle, Chair.

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION #6****C. Bellamy/M. Wright**

To approve the release of funds in the committee's reserve fund to cover the cost of the community work plan initiatives for 2013.

**CARRIED.**

**(c) Turtle Island News, War of 1812 Commemorative Keepsake.**

- The committee was asked if they wish to purchase an ad in the Turtle Island War of 1812 Commemorative Keepsake Edition. The committee agreed that a message would be appropriate to place in this issue.
- A draft message was crafted: "Recognizing our past, Celebrating our present and our commitment to strength and unity, as our future". Staff will work with this to develop the final message.
- M. Carter will request an email address for the committee.
- Staff will keep the committee updated.

**MOTION #7****D. Elmes/C. Bellamy**

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee submit a message to the Turtle Island's War of 1812 Commemorative Keepsake issue, at the cost of approximately \$100.

**CARRIED.**

**10. Information Sharing.**

- (a) Hopes in Homes.
  - National Housing day event, Thurs. Nov. 22, Waterfront Banquet Ctr., 555 Bay St. N., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Issues re: housing for women, newcomers, street-involved and Aboriginal youth
- (b) SOADI Annual Conference.
  - Southern Ontario Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative, Annual Conference, From Seed to Sap, Learning from our Past, to Prepare for our Future. Oct. 11 & 12/12 at the Crowne Plaza, Niagara Falls
- (c) NPAAMB Dream Walkers Gathering.
  - Motivating Aboriginal students to graduate high school
  - Oct. 16-18, 2012 at Tim Horton Onondaga Farms, St. George
- (d) Urban Native Homes' Bowl-a-thon
  - 6<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Bowl-a-thon

- Proceeds will go to the Koo gaa da win Manitou Housing Complex for Seniors
- Fri. Dec. 7, at the Sherwood Centre, 1095 Fennell Ave. E., 6-9 pm

**11. Next Meeting.**

- Thursday November 1, 2012, room 264

**12. Adjournment.**

- Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.