



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Audit, Finance and Administration Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	March 26, 2018
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Anti-Racism Resource Centre Update (HUR18010) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
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SIGNATURE:	

Council Direction:

In November 2015, City Council approved funding in the amount of \$300,000 to support a joint project with McMaster University and Hamilton Centre of Civic Inclusion (HCCI) to create an Anti-Racism Resource Centre in order to:

- (a) Address issues of racism, discrimination and oppression within the City of Hamilton;
- (b) Provide resources for community involvement towards making Hamilton a more inclusive city;
- (c) Conduct research and data analysis of complaints of racism; and
- (d) Demonstrate leadership to promote a sense of belonging for racialized people in Hamilton where individuals impacted by racism and other forms of race-related oppression can access information, support and resources.

Information:

The proposal for an Anti-Racism Resource Centre came from the work conducted by the City of Hamilton's Committee Against Racism (CAR). The idea first came during a symposium hosted by CAR in 2003. Subsequent symposiums held in 2006 and 2010 further reinforced the belief that a resource centre would be beneficial for the City of Hamilton. In 2012, City Council approved a feasibility study regarding the establishment of such a resource centre. These findings were then presented by CAR to City Council in February 2014. It was at this time that Council requested staff to investigate the possibility to liaise with the Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion (HCCI) and to examine scope and funding of work between CAR and HCCI.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

The feasibility study resulted in a proposal to City Council in November 2015 which included a three party joint venture as follows:

1. City of Hamilton to provide \$100,000 annually for three years
2. McMaster University to provide \$70,000 annually for three years comprised of \$30,000 in cash and \$40,000 in kind contribution
3. Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion to provide \$30,000 in kind contribution annually for three years

In order to carry out the project, the parties agreed to form an Oversight Committee comprised of equal representation from the City of Hamilton, McMaster University and HCCI. The Oversight Committee is responsible for providing support and advice to the Anti-Racism Resource Centre Project and will act as a forum to resolve any potential issues and concerns. The Oversight Committee is also responsible for monitoring the achievement of milestones as outlined in the Funding Agreement.

The Anti-Racism Centre also has a Project Steering Committee which exists to provide direction and implementation advice to the Oversight Committee and staff.

The Anti-Racism Centre will be staffed by one individual reporting to McMaster University, Director of Human Rights and Dispute Resolution, Equity and Inclusion Office. The successful applicant for the position is Princewill Ogban who has joined the Human Rights & Dispute Resolution Program as the Anti-Racism Officer effective February 26, 2018. He will be based out of an office located at HCCI. Princewill holds a Masters of Social Work and was most recently employed as a Health Care Social Worker and Wellness Navigator for the Nova Scotia Health Authority. Throughout his career, he has worked with members of marginalized communities within the corporate, education and health and social services sectors.

Reporting:

The Anti-Racism Resource Centre Officer will be responsible for delivering reports to the Oversight Committee, City Council, CAR and other agencies. Staff will also be responsible for an annual report to the City of Hamilton and an annual discussion forum between relevant stakeholders.

The City of Hamilton Human Rights, Diversity and Inclusion Office will be responsible for submitting quarterly and annual reports to CAR and to make regular presentations to Council, as requested, on the status of the project or any other matter relating to the funding or agreement.

Launch:

The Hamilton Anti-Racism Resource Centre will hold its official launch on the evening of Wednesday, April 4, 2018. The launch will be open to the public and all members of Council are cordially invited to attend.