

**MINUTES**  
**Aboriginal Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday, December 7, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.**  
**City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Room 264**

**Present:** Marilyn Wright, Connie Bellamy, Allan Loft, Scott Cruickshank, Deborah Elmes, Khitanya Petgrave, Patty Lawlor  
**Absent:** Sheryl Green  
**Also Present:** Betsy Pocop – Human Rights, Diversity & Inclusion (staff)  
Shylo Elmayan and Nicole Jones- Urban Indigenous Strategy;  
Community and Emergency Services  
Victoria Bomberry and Alicia – Cooperative of Indigenous Studies, Students and Alumni; McMaster University

**Chairperson:** Marilyn Wright

### **Opening**

- The Committee opened with their first smudging ceremony led by S. Elmayan
- A. Loft did an opening

### **Welcome and Introductions**

- All were welcomed, round of introductions for members and guests

### **1. Changes to the Agenda**

- Addition of Item 5.4 – Aboriginal Literature Display Update
- Addition of Item 5.5 – Hamilton Spectator article
- The Committee accepted the agenda as amended

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

- There were no declarations of interest

### **3. Approval of Previous Minutes**

- A. Loft requested that his reason for opposing the motion of related to reallocation of funds from meals to special projects and events be noted – it was decided this information would be noted in the December minutes under “Other Business”

### **MOTION #1**

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

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee’s minutes of November 2, 2017 be approved.

**CARRIED**

#### **4. Presentations**

- There were no presentations

#### **6. Discussion Items**

##### **6.1 Business Arising From Previous Minutes**

###### **6.1.1 2018 Budget Request– A. Loft**

- A. Loft requested that the minutes reflect his reasons for opposing the reallocation of funds for the 2018 budget request; his opposition was in consideration of committee members as they are volunteers who attend committee meetings who may not have had supper yet and in consideration of their mental and physical wellbeing

##### **6.2 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action**

- Committee members discussed the potential to focus on calls to action for the City of Hamilton
- Intention is to look at all 94 calls to action throughout the year, however to focus on 16 identified by S. Elmayan through her work for the Urban Indigenous Strategy related to municipalities
- Intention is to have referrals to submit to Council of which calls to action the Committee supports for the City to take action on
- S. Elmayan to provide guidance and facilitate the review of Calls to Action with the Committee
- Members reflected on importance of focusing on the responsibility of the Committee as their role is to advise Council
- The suggestion was made to start with calls 43 and 57

##### **6.3 Urban Indigenous Strategy Update**

- S. Elmayan provided an update
- N. Jones has been hired to work with S. Elmayan on Urban Indigenous Strategy
- The smudging policy has not yet been approved but it is on track
- Report has been compiled reflecting a snapshot of the community; S. Elmayan will send out to the Committee
- Carving Inuit- Chedoke Collection of Art at Art Gallery of Hamilton – tours held for City staff and were well attended; an additional session was added due to the overwhelming response
- Ally = Action session was held at David Braley Centre end of November
- Members discussed an article regarding the City's land acknowledgement; community partners including the Aboriginal Advisory Committee to take part in providing feedback for land acknowledgment
- The Committee supports M. Wright in participating in a meeting with Chief Stacey Laforme and representatives from other community organizations to discuss the terminology of the City's land acknowledgement statement

##### **6.4 Feedback on Equity Lens Toolkit**

###### **6.4.1 CISSA Equity & Inclusion Communication Response**

- V. Bomberry, guest with CISSA, provided summary of suggestions and feedback provided for Equity & Inclusion Toolkit
- The feedback has been forwarded to E. Myrie for consideration
- V. Bomberry willing to speak with E. Myrie to discuss feedback for Toolkit further

#### **6.5 Aboriginal Literature Display**

- P. Lawlor, staff and HPL representative are in process of scheduling a time for taking down the display in the coming week

### **7. Other Business**

#### **7.1 Correspondence from Native Women's Centre**

- B. Pocop provided update that ticket purchase on behalf of the committee to the Native Women's Centre gala was completed

#### **7.2 Next Meeting**

- Next meeting scheduled for January 4, 2018

### **Closing**

- A. Loft did a closing

### **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.