



Hamilton

MINUTES

Aboriginal Advisory Committee Thursday, February 1, 2018 – 5:30 P.M. City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Room 264

Present: Marilyn Wright, Connie Bellamy, Allan Loft, Deborah Elmes, Khitanya Petgrave, Sheryl Green
Regrets: Patty Lawlor, Scott Cruickshank
Also Present: Betsy Pocop – Human Rights, Diversity & Inclusion (staff)
Shylo Elmayan -Urban Indigenous Strategy; Community and Emergency Services

Chairperson: Marilyn Wright

Opening

- A. Loft did an opening

Welcome and Introductions

- All were welcomed

1. Changes to the Agenda

- No changes to the agenda

2. Declaration of Interest

- There were no declarations of interest

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

MOTION #1

C. Bellamy/D. Elmes

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee's minutes of December 7, 2017 be approved.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

- There were no presentations

5. Discussion Items

5.1 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action

- Presentation of Calls to Action(CTA) by S. Elmayan and discussion amongst committee members to provide recommendations for implementation of Calls to Action by City of Hamilton
- Feedback received from conversations with Indigenous community members at December 13 event and with youth at December 14 event
- Calls to Action (related to Municipalities) grouped into three themes: People, Land and Spirit
- Committee discussed the CTA group under theme of People; from research, S. Elmayan indicated responses included looking at interactions between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people; more education with non-Indigenous people about Indigenous history and cultural practices;
- CTA 17- reclaiming names changed by residential school system; treatment in customer service settings; knowledge and awareness of the history of name changes; this is important for families and family history when thinking about adoption
- CTA 22 – related to healthcare; valuing healing practices and including them in health treatment of individuals
- Committee discussed institutionalized treatment in healthcare of Indigenous people; Committee discussed access to healing practices and traditional medicines in hospitals and having a dialogue about access; access to Indigenous advocate for patients
- CTA 23- active recruitment of more Indigenous health professionals
- Increase education about healing practices in healthcare settings in the City of Hamilton
- Consideration for how emotional/mental/physical/spiritual aspects have to work together
- CTA 57- increased education for government employees
- Intercultural competency training online, i.e. potentially have mandatory modules to complete; ongoing learning implemented with staff from onset of employment

5.2 Urban Indigenous Strategy Update

- S. Elmayan provided an update
- Senior leadership at the City met with S. Elmayan and spoke of the implementation for CTA 57
- Traditional Medicines policy on track for approval
- S. Elmayan to present the policy to Council in March

5.3 Point in Time Connection

- S. Green provided an update to the Committee
- Event will take place on April 22 and 23, 2018
- There is a 24 hour time frame for volunteers to go out into the community and conduct a survey with people experiencing homelessness
- Looking to recruit Indigenous volunteers to support teams going out on April 22/23 and help facilitate participation of survey

- When the survey was last completed 28% of participants identified as Indigenous and experiencing homelessness
- Intent is to host an Indigenous count event on April 23; S. Green looking for a space to host event
- B. Pocop to provide S. Green with information for potential booking space suggested by M. Wright
- There will be a flyer for volunteer recruitment and there will be volunteer training in person and online
- Committee agreed to have S. Green present formal Point in Time Connection presentation at the March Committee meeting

6. Other Business

7.1 Correspondence from Native Women's Centre

- B. Pocop shared correspondence from Native Women's Centre thanking the Committee for its support

7.2 Next Meeting

- Next meeting scheduled for March 1, 2018

Closing

- A. Loft did a closing

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.