



Winnipeg
MAYOR'S INDIGENOUS ADVISORY CIRCLE
NOTES – December 10, 2015
Meeting called to order at 1:15 p.m. and adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

In Attendance:

Wab Kinew (Chair)
Mayor Brian Bowman
Elder Mae Louise Campbell
Elder Esther Ducharme
Dr. Marcia Anderson-Decoteau
Jessica Dumas
Councillor Jenny Gerbasi
Councillor Cindy Gilroy
Alan Greyeyes
Damon Johnston
Sean McCormick
Kimberley Puhach
Dr. Cindy Blackstock
EJ Fontaine
Commissioner Jamie Wilson

Regrets:

Elder Harry Bone
Manley A. Begay Jr
Chief Robert Louie
Justice Murray Sinclair
Kerri Tattuinee
Dee Thomas - Hart

**Winnipeg Public
Service:**

Tricia Chestnut, Senior Policy Analyst, Mayor's Office
Rhonda Forgues, Manager, Aboriginal Relations Division, Corporate Support Services
Sherwood Armbruster, Special Projects Manager, City Clerk's Department

Next Regular Meeting:

Thursday, March 10, 2016, 1 p.m.

Item	Notes
<p><i>Call to Order</i></p> <p><i>Welcome to New Attendees</i></p> <p><i>Review and Acceptance of Notes of April 17, 2015 Meeting</i></p> <p><i>Opening Prayer by Elder Mae Louise Campbell</i></p>	
<p>1. Mayor's Remarks</p>	<p>Mayor Bowman thanked all members for their participation and work with MIAC. Acknowledged the support and involvement of City of Winnipeg Council colleagues, Councillor Gilroy as Chair of the Citizens Equity Committee and Councillor Gerbasi as Secretary of Urban Aboriginal Opportunities.</p> <p>Since MIAC's last meeting, <i>One: The Mayor's National Summit on Racial Inclusion</i> was held. Thank you to members for presence and participation. The theme was reconciliation.</p> <p>On October 19, 2015, a new Federal Government was elected. The Mayor spoke to the Prime Minister earlier in the day regarding a number of matters on MIAC's Agenda and congratulated the Prime Minister on calling the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women.</p> <p>The Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada is anticipated on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 and will be another significant milestone for our community and Country as we move forward.</p> <p>The Mayor's Office is working with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to commemorate the Assiniboia Indian Residential School. Last month, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation opened at the University of Manitoba. Its mandate is to be the permanent home for all statements, documents and other materials gathered by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. City of Winnipeg libraries have been identified as a possible partner for the Centre.</p> <p>Friday, January 22, 2016 will mark the one year anniversary of the Macleans publication that put Winnipeg in the national spotlight and led to the creation of MIAC. MIAC members are invited to City Hall to lay out what has been accomplished in the past year as well as the work that lies ahead.</p>

Item	Notes
<p>2. Chair's Remarks</p>	<p>The Chair thanked the Mayor for his leadership and agreed that the new Federal Government is a sign of a broader political will to engage Indigenous people and move forward on important issues as a society.</p> <p>The University of Winnipeg recently mandated that every student will be required to take at least one Indigenous studies course in order to graduate. Every university student should learn about this country's history as well as the contemporary reality.</p>
<p>3. Presentation of Winnipeg Baseline Data</p> <p>Rhonda Forgues, ARD</p>	<p>Rhonda Forgues, Manager of the City of Winnipeg's Aboriginal Relations Division made a presentation on Winnipeg's Aboriginal specific initiatives in two parts:</p> <p>1. An overview of the <i>History of Aboriginal Civic Initiatives</i> (see Attachment 1) provided a timeline of significant events from the endorsement of the Maskwachees Declaration in 2000 to the establishment of the Aboriginal Relations Division in 2013.</p> <p>In the ensuing discussion, it was noted that the Winnipeg Police Service works with the Aboriginal Relations Division in a number of ways. Following the creation of the Winnipeg Police Board, an <i>Indigenous Council on Crime Prevention and Policing</i> has been established.</p> <p>Members Wab Kinew, Damon Johnston and EJ Fontaine were tasked with meeting with the Indigenous Council and reporting back to the <i>Mayor's Indigenous Advisory Circle</i>.</p> <p>2. A summary of the policies and priorities of the Aboriginal Relations Division portfolios and priorities was provided along with the vision statement and connection to <i>Our Winnipeg</i> (see Attachment 2).</p> <p>Members discussed a model for consultations. It was noted that the <i>Truth and Reconciliation Commission</i> recommended that the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples be fully adopted and implemented by municipal governments as the framework for reconciliation.</p> <p>MIAC recommends that the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples be used as the framework the City of Winnipeg should use when engaging with Indigenous people.</p> <p>Dr. Cindy Blackstock developed an Indigenous and Youth-friendly version of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Members expressed an interest in creating a similar document that is simple and easy to apply, like a checklist for civic departments.</p> <p>Members Dr. Cindy Blackstock and Dr. Marcia Anderson-Decoteau were tasked to work with Rhonda Forgues to develop a draft for MIAC's consideration and recommendation to the City of Winnipeg.</p>
<p>4. Winnipeg Urban Aboriginal Accord</p>	<p>The <i>Thompson Aboriginal Accord</i> (see Attachment 3) was circulated as a possible model for a Winnipeg Accord. The City of Thompson publishes an annual update to its Accord and, each year, new partners sign on. Each partner indicates a success and commits to a goal for the next year.</p>

Item	Notes
<p>Discussion</p> <p>a. Creation of a Vision Statement</p> <p>b. Thompson Accord sample</p>	<p>The process of creating an Accord may be as important as the Accord itself. It should not be unilaterally imposed and will require time to consult. The language is important. It should be about reconciliation.</p> <p>At the same time, it was noted that the <i>Truth and Reconciliation Commission</i>, and other previous and ongoing consultations, provide a partial foundation as we move forward. We need to balance consideration of additional consultation with the current political goodwill that exists and the urgent need for action.</p> <p>Dr. Cindy Blackstock made the suggestion that MIAC could get the original vision from a group of kids. If you want a simple, understandable vision that people can emotionally connect with and see themselves in, go to a group of children and ask, “What kind of a place do you want to grow up in?”</p> <p>Members Alan Greyeyes, Dr. Cindy Blackstock, Dr. Marcia Anderson-Decoteau, EJ Fontaine and Councillor Cindy Gilroy were tasked with forming a working group to set down a process of consultation involving children.</p>
<p>5. TRC Implementation</p> <p>Education</p> <p>a. Civic Employee Education – Edmonton Example</p> <p>b. Citizen Education</p> <p>Commemoration</p> <p>a. Assiniboia Indian Residential School</p>	<p>Indigenous education and training is essential for the City of Winnipeg to acknowledge its historical role and how the relationship matters in the day-to-day context of civic jobs.</p> <p>Leadership needs to set the tone and send the signal that this matters. It has been recommended that the 2-day Aboriginal Cultural Awareness course be added to the core Leadership Development competency courses and should be taken by all civic leaders within the next 5 years.</p> <p>The City of Edmonton was cited as an example with plans for a mandatory course for all employees. The initiative is underway as a voluntary program. Implementation is also beginning with Senior Leadership.</p> <p>MIAC recommends that Indigenous education be mandated for all civic employees. It was noted that frontline service workers and anyone dealing with the general public (examples of Winnipeg Transit and 311) are especially important.</p> <p>Members Jessica Dumas and Kimberley Puhach were tasked with reviewing current City of Winnipeg training materials (including attending the Cultural Awareness course) and reporting back to MIAC.</p> <p>Planning to commemorate the Assiniboia Indian Residential School is underway.</p>
<p>6. Economic Development</p> <p>a. Group to provide advice to City Administration</p>	<p>Tabled for discussion at a future meeting.</p>

Item		Notes
7.	<p>New Business</p> <p>a. Events for Information</p> <p>b. Submissions for Information</p>	<p>Members discussed the importance of welcoming newcomers to Canada. MIAC recommended that members follow up in supporting local efforts to welcome refugees via events and ceremonies in the community.</p> <p>Kimberley Puhach distributed an invitation to members from the Executive Director of Ka Ni Kanichihk, Leslie Spillett.</p>
8.	Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting	December 10, 2015