

**Unapproved Minutes  
Meeting of the Black Community Advisory Council**

**Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 7:00 p.m.**

**Via Remote Meeting**

**ATTENDEES:**

Chris Shelton	Parent/Guardian
Horace Wright	Parent/Guardian
Candace Carter	Parent/Guardian
Ebenezer Addei	Parent/Guardian
Ann Lopez	Parent/Guardian
Lyn Parker-Busby ( <i>Regrets</i> )	Parent/Guardian
Roxanne Smith	Parent/Guardian
Muna Said-Ahmed ( <i>Regrets</i> )	Parent/Guardian
Brian Chama	Parent/Guardian
Malacai Bryan	Student Member
Sope Duyile	Student Member
Alycia Williams-McSween	Student Member
Abigail Hamilton ( <i>Alternate</i> )	Agencies – ResQ Youth International
Trisha Johnson-White	Agencies – ResQ Youth International
Marcia Glasgow	Agencies – United Achievers’ Club
Marva Hemmings ( <i>Alternate</i> )	Agencies – United Achievers’ Club
Jackie Maloney	Agencies – Congress of Black Women
Silvilyn Holt ( <i>Alternate</i> )	Agencies – Congress of Black Women
Michael Marshall ( <i>Regrets</i> )	Agencies – The Black Educators Association of DPCDSB
Kevin Sylvestre ( <i>Regrets</i> )	Agencies – The Black Educators Association of DPCDSB
Crystel Campbell	Agencies – Black Youth Student Success Initiative
Duke Nicholson	OECTA Representative – Elementary
Jamie Philip	OECTA Representative – Elementary
Susan Rayman	OECTA Representative – Secondary
Thompson Adiuki	OECTA Representative – Secondary
Colin Daniel	Elementary Principal/Vice Principal Association
Sophia Maloney	Secondary Principal/Vice Principal Association
Lorian Feres ( <i>Alternate</i> )	Secondary Principal/Vice Principal Association
Sharise Sealy	Black Graduation Coach - DPCDSB
Max Vecchiarino	Staff – Director’s Designate
Michelle Coutinho	Staff – Principal, Equitable and Inclusive Education
Joanna Newton	Staff – Coordinator, Equitable and Inclusive Education

Nancy Cargioli  
Richard Smith

Staff – Consultant, Equitable and Inclusive Education  
Staff – CIO Information Technology

Marianne Mazzorato  
David Amaral (*Regrets*)

Director  
Associate Director – Instructional Services

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

It was noted that the meeting will be recorded for purposes of taking minutes. Ertha D’Anna – Recorder sends her regrets.

**2. Call to Order and Attendance**

J.Newton, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Student Representative Malacai Bryan was introduced.  
Regrets were noted.

**3. Acknowledgement of First Nations Sacred Territory**

**4. Opening Prayer**

**5. Approval of the Agenda**

Agenda was approved by council members and no amendments made.

**6. Terms of Reference Survey Results and Discussion**

BCAC Members had an opportunity to provide feedback and input through a survey on aspects of the terms of reference. Survey results and discussion was led by J. Newton.

The following areas were addressed:

- General structure
- Mandate
- Membership
- Leadership structure and
- Meeting parameters

**The Council Name**

Survey results indicated that the majority of members suggested keeping the name Black Community Advisory Council.

Discussion ensued.

Decision: It was decided that Black Community Advisory Council - BCAC will be kept as a placeholder and as we develop the mandate and move forward with the opportunity to revisit in the future

**Preferred Meeting Time**

Survey results indicated that the majority of members suggested changing the time to 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Decision: It was decided that for the remainder of the year the meeting time will be 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., with the opportunity to revisit in the future.

### **Scripture passage to guide our work**

Survey results indicated that to ensure that the work we do should reflect and speak to specific Gospel value or a Catholic social teaching. The majority of members suggested keeping a proposed scripture passage, *“let us love, not in word or speech but in truth and action 1 - John 3:18”*.

Discussion ensued.

Decision: We will keep the current scripture passage.

### **Council Mandate**

Mandate suggestions were condensed to capture point of views expressed. Additional points will be shared at the next meeting. Examples were shared.

Decision: The document will be shared through a survey to council members to provide additional feedback. A condensed draft mandate will be shared at the next meeting.

### **Key Principles**

A summary of how council members ranked the five proposed key principles was shared. Additional key principals from BCAC were shared.

Decision: The additional points and feedback will be incorporated into a draft of a new set of key principles to be shared at the next meeting.

### **Membership Composition**

Survey results indicated that the majority of Members agreed with the council membership composition.

Discussion ensued: regarding elementary student membership and voting membership for OECTA staff. Decision: BCAC members will revisit the membership composition and decide on whether or not the teaching Staff on the BCAC (Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association (OECTA) members from the elementary (2) and secondary (2)) should be voting members. Currently these 4 members of the BCAC council are not voting members.

### **Leadership of the Council**

Survey results indicated that the majority of Members agreed that the Council should have co-chairs for leadership.

Discussion: None

Decision: The BCAC will have co-chairs

### **Roles of Order**

Survey results indicated that the majority of Members agreed that a simplified Robert’s Rules of Order should be used by the Council.

Discussion: Suggestion was to use an alternate to Robert’s Rules of Order, but to look at something else to manage meetings.

Decision: Open to exploring Afrocentric approaches that would support the diversity of this council. We will use simplified Robert’s Rules of Order for now to manage meetings unless an alternative is suggested and agreed upon by BCAC members.

### **Minimum number of members required to hold a meeting**

Survey results indicated that the majority of Members agreed that a minimum of 9 voting members need to be present to hold a meeting. That would be 50% plus one, must be present to hold the meeting.

Discussion: Question of clarification. If the number falls below the 9-voting membership, there will be no meeting that night.

Decision: Quorum – 50% plus 1. Nine voting members.

Conclusion to Terms of Reference Review: A portion of each meeting will be dedicated to the development of the terms of reference. A draft document will be comprised and shared with the BCAC for final approval once Terms of Reference consultation is completed.

## **7. Overview of Equity and Inclusion Initiatives to Addressing Anti-Black Racism**

J. Newtons, M. Coutinho, and S. Sealy shared an overview of initiatives undertaken in the department. The overview shared:

- Professional Development
- Student Programming
- Data Collection
- System Structures and Advocacy

Discussion Ensued: regarding census content and authorship, contextualization of work, accountability for effectiveness of initiatives, communication of initiatives, trustee representation and the centering student voices.

## **8. Creation of a Strategic Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism - Overview-Discussion-Next Steps**

J. Newton provided an overview of the draft plan. The plan will be shared with the BCAC in a survey format to provide feedback and suggestions. This allows time to provide feedback. Results will be presented and discussed at the next meeting.

## **9. Additional Business**

Closing remarks by Marianne Mazzorato

Marianne Mazzorato expressed sincere gratitude to Council members for sharing their time and experience with some emotional comments. As a board we fully acknowledge that anti-Black racism and white supremacy continue to operate in our educational spaces. We are committed to addressing the barriers and disproportionate outcomes that impact our students, families, and our staff. We can only do this work with your support, understanding and guidance.

## **10. Future Meetings**

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 23, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.

## **11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.