



## **President's Advisory Committee on Building an Inclusive Community (PACBIC)**

**Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Gilmour Hall, Room 111 (Council Chambers)**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Sarah Adjekum, Erin Aspenlieder, Eulene Victoria Bomberry, Carolyn Brendon, Kayonne Christy, Clark Cipryk, Andrea Cole, Andy Crowell, Kojo Dampsey, Juliet Daniel, Alise deBie, Sarah Dickson, Judith Dworkin, Craig Foye, Megumi Harada, Kalyna Horocholyn, Rosanne Kent, Raihana Hirji-Khalfan, Kim Jones, Ameil Joseph (convener), Wanda McKenna, Pilar Michaud, Andrew Pettit, Grace Pollock, Michelle Poirier, Shelley Porteous, Anne Pottier, Khadijeh Rakie (minutes), Chris Roberts, Meaghan Ross, Vilma Rossi, Lynne Serviss, Lainey Stirling, Thau Tieu, Albina Veltman, Vanessa Watts, Alex Wilson

**Regrets:** Nancy Bouchier, Amber Dean, Jim McAndrew, Stash Nastos, Lynn Stewart, Karen Sutton

1) Welcome and Introductions. Ameil opened the meeting with a welcome to participants and by acknowledging that McMaster University sits on the traditional Territories of the Mississauga and Haudenosaunee Nations, and within the lands protected by the "Dish With One Spoon" wampum agreement. (ref: IEC May 2016). Participants were then invited into an introductory round.

### **2) Approval of Minutes, December 16th, 2016**

- The December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 minutes were approved as previously circulated.

### **3) Annual Report Update**

- Ameil drafted the PACBIC Annual Report for 2016.
- Working groups were asked to provide recommendations for inclusion in the report.
- The Annual Report will be reviewed at the PACBIC meeting on February 22, 2017 prior to being presented to President Patrick Deane at the March 2017 meeting.

#### 4) **Anti-Racism Action Initiative Report: Sarah Adjekum**

- The Ontario Anti-Racism Directorate held a community meeting in Hamilton on Monday, September 26, 2016 to engage with the public on addressing systemic racism and eliminating barriers for Indigenous and racialized communities. Attendees of this meeting had grave concerns about how it was organized and that it was not inclusive to all communities.
- As a result of the dissatisfaction with the September 26, 2016 meeting, members of the Hamilton community were invited by the McMaster Womanists to participate in a conversation about experiences of racism in Hamilton. This event was held on November 25, 2016 at the Hamilton Central Public Library. The discussions were incorporated into a report that specifically outlines demands of Hamiltonians when it comes to racism in the city.<sup>1</sup>
- What can PACBIC do?
  - Recommendations from the Anti-Racism Action Initiative Report can be included in the PACBIC Annual Report.

#### 6) **Working Group Updates & Reports:**

1. Accessibility, Disability & Ableism (ADA)
  - No update available.
2. Race, Racism and Racialization (R3)
  - R3's main project this year is to conduct a climate assessment about race/racism on campus through an undergraduate research study.
  - The research question is: *"In 1965, the Canadian sociologist, John Porter, interrupted Canadians' claim that our society consists of a multicultural mosaic by suggesting that ours is a "vertical mosaic," meaning that things like ethnicity and race determine people's status in our social and institutional hierarchies. Over fifty years later, what type of MOSAIC do you think that we have at McMaster? What stories would you tell to describe it?"*
3. Employment Equity (EE)
  - The working group will reconvene once the Human Resources-initiated Employment Equity Group communicates its next steps.
4. First Nations, Métis and Inuit Priorities (FNMI)
  - The group is currently working on an event to take place in March. The event will involve a two-spirit LGBTQ+ panel discussion in collaboration with the PACBIC LGBTQ+ Working Group.
  - The Indigenous Health Conference is taking place on January 28, 2017 from 8:00am to 4:00pm at David Bradley Athletic Centre DBAC.

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix 1

5. Inter-Faith Issues (IFIWG).

- Dietary food accommodation
  - The conversation is ongoing with Chris Roberts of Hospitality Services regarding matters pertaining to Kosher and Halal food on campus.
- Groups requesting recognition within Chaplaincy
  - Meetings are taking place with Sean Van Koughnett, Dean of Students, to discuss what protocols (if any) exist for groups seeking recognition for chaplaincy at McMaster other than Christian.
- Proposed Student Activity Centre including multi-faith prayer space
  - This proposal is subject to the MSU referendum happening this week, as it would enable an increase in student fees.
- Seasonal Celebrations
  - The goal is to not only to be more comprehensive, but also cognizant of non-Christian practices.

6. Violence Against Women/ Gender-based Violence (VAW/GBV)

- VAW/GBV, R3 and FNMI will think through a collaborative event regarding anti-racist/anti-colonialist and feminist organizing.

7. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer + (LGBTQ+)

- The working group hopes to provide input on a trans-inclusion policy that is being introduced by the City of Hamilton. Dates have not been set yet.
- An upcoming meeting of the working group will be scheduled soon.

8. Madness/Distress, Eugenics, Discrimination & Saneism (MEDS)

- The group is working to increase curriculum around critical disability studies at McMaster.
- The group is also thinking through ways to support and increase the campus understanding of critical mental health .

7) **Announcements**

- Black History Month
  - African Inventors Museum on February 7, 2017 in MUSC Atrium.
  - The University Club will be featuring African Caribbean food throughout February.
- McMaster Hillel will be hosting their annual Interfaith Shabbath Dinner on February 10, 2017 at McMaster University, Celebration Hall.
- MSU Maccess now has space that students can use for support, advocacy and community-building. The space is located in MUSC B111.

8) **Adjournment and Next Meeting: The meeting was adjourned 11:15 and the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 22, 2017 from 9:30am – 11:30am in the Council Chambers.**