Minute No. 439
Report – Executive Policy Committee – May 18, 2022

Item No. 5 Awareness Series Sponsorship

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to continue the efforts of the Anti-Racism Speaker Series and the City's long-term commitment to anti-racism and equity, diversity and inclusion activities in partnership with the Human Rights Committee of Council, including representation from HRCC committee members at events where possible, and approve the following existing funds from the Human Rights Committee of Council operating budget:

    A. Up to $2,000.00 for the upcoming event: Celebration of Human Rights Mural: Gakina Gidinawemaaganidim (We Are All Related) on Friday, June 17, 2022.

    B. Up to $10,000.00 to assist with event costs for the remainder of the 2022 calendar year.

2. That the City of Winnipeg Equity Office be directed to provide to the Human Rights Committee of Council:

    A. Verbal updates on progress at all remaining committee meetings for 2022.

    B. A written report summarizing the activities of the newly formed Equity Office, including the Awareness Series, and the impact made within the City of Winnipeg, and the broader community at a Q1 meeting in 2023.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Bowman,

That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On May 18, 2022, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Human Rights Committee of Council and submitted the matter to Council.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 22, 2022, the Human Rights Committee of Council passed the following motion:

WHEREAS systemic racism and oppression continue to harm individuals and our communities;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has an integral role to play in combating systems of oppression;

AND WHEREAS the Human Rights Committee of Council (HRCC) was created to promote, build, and align Winnipeg as an international leader for human rights and an international force in helping mend some of the profound hurts and injustices of the past and present;

AND WHEREAS it is the role of the Human Right Committee of Council as stated in the Terms of Reference, to "work co-operatively with existing City Departments and community organizations to carry out community outreach initiatives through regular meetings, public forums and workshops to share city policy on human rights, equity, diversity, peace, age-friendly, access and disability-related issues";

AND WHEREAS the Equity Office and the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy and Strategy were created to anchor the City's commitment to promoting human rights, accessibility, equity, diversity and inclusion, anti-racism, anti-oppression and cultural competency within the organization, in alignment with our values of Accountability, Diversity, Respect, Trust and Transparency;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

AND WHEREAS this past March on the week that marked the United Nations' International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, the Equity Office in partnership with HRCC put on the Anti-Racism Speaker Series which delivered lunch hour sessions on various Anti-Racism topics to both City of Winnipeg employees and the general public;

AND WHEREAS 738 people tuned into the Speaker Series over the course of the week which was not only promoted by the City of Winnipeg but also by other local organizations to their employees and members, such as, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Shared Health, and Association of Regulated Nurses of Manitoba;

AND WHEREAS the Human Rights Mural: Gakina Gidinawemaaganidim (We Are All Related) was commissioned as part of the City's long-term commitment to human rights and anti-racism, which stems from the work of the Winnipeg Public Service ignited by the HRCC, will be celebrated on June 17, 2022;

AND WHEREAS with these aligned mandates and priorities, the HRCC Coordinator has been working closely with Public Service through the Equity Office on plans to collaborate and further the important work of both the Committee and Public Service to deliver important Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion initiatives;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Policy Committee be requested to:

1. Direct the Winnipeg Public Service to continue the efforts of the Anti-Racism Speaker Series and the City's long-term commitment to anti-racism and equity, diversity and inclusion activities in partnership with the Human Rights Committee of Council, including representation from HRCC committee members at events where possible, and approve the following existing funds from the Human Rights Committee of Council operating budget:

    A. Up to $2,000.00 for the upcoming event: Celebration of Human Rights Mural: Gakina Gidinawemaaganidim (We Are All Related) on Friday, June 17, 2022.

    B. Up to $10,000.00 to assist with event costs for the remainder of the 2022 calendar year.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

2. Direct the City of Winnipeg Equity Office to provide to the Human Rights Committee of Council:

   A. Verbal updates on progress at all remaining committee meetings for 2022.

   B. A written report summarizing the activities of the newly formed Equity Office, including the Awareness Series, and the impact made within the City of Winnipeg, and the broader community at a Q1 meeting in 2023.