



**MAYOR'S INDIGENOUS ADVISORY CIRCLE
NOTES – March 10, 2016**

Meeting called to order at 1:05 p.m. and adjourned at 3:21 p.m.

In Attendance:

Wab Kinew (Chair)
Mayor Brian Bowman
Jessica Dumas
Councillor Jenny Gerbasi
Councillor Cindy Gilroy
Damon Johnston
EJ Fontaine
Commissioner Jamie Wilson
Justice Murray Sinclair
Kerri Tattuinee
Dee Thomas - Hart

Regrets:

Elder Harry Bone
Elder Mae Louise Campbell
Dr. Marcia Anderson-Decoteau
Alan Greyeyes
Chief Robert Louie
Sean McCormick
Kimberley Puhach
Dr. Cindy Blackstock

Via Videoconference:

Manley A. Begay Jr.

**Winnipeg Public
Service:**

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

Next Regular Meeting:

Thursday, June 16, 2016, 1 p.m.

Item	Notes
<p><i>Call to Order</i></p> <p><i>Welcome to Attendees</i></p> <p><i>Review and Acceptance of Notes of December 10, 2015 Meeting</i></p>	
<p>1. Mayor's Update</p>	<p>Mayor Bowman introduced Brianna Jonnie who recently wrote a public letter to Winnipeg's Chief of Police urging him to make Missing and Murdered Indigenous Girls and Women a priority.</p> <p>Brianna Jonnie shared with MIAC as follows:</p> <p>“Thank you for the invitation to join you today. The letter to the Chief of Police is a call and request to all leaders in our community to do better. There is a perception that lives of Indigenous girls and women – especially those that are involved with Child and Family Services – don't matter as much as non-Indigenous lives. Indigenous women and girls have become targets. Indigenous women and girls are often on the run due to abuse, drugs or a lack of problem solving skills. My mother taught me that I can change the world. We need to teach the community to value these girls and women. As well, Indigenous girls and women must learn to value themselves. Hurt people hurt people. The path to healing begins with us.”</p> <p>Mayor Bowman and Chair Wab Kinew presented and wrapped Brianna Jonnie in a blanket. Brianna Jonnie was honoured with an eagle feather, gifts and expressions of affirmation and value.</p> <p>Mayor Bowman advised that Elder Esther Ducharme has resigned due to personal reasons.</p> <p>It was noted that Chair Wab Kinew is running in the April 19, 2016 provincial election. The Writ is anticipated on March 16, 2016 and the Chair will recuse himself from MIAC participation as of that date.</p> <p>Mayor Bowman recalled the Embracing Diversity event held at City Hall on January 22, 2015. It was announced, in follow up to MIAC's recommendation, that 2016 be declared as the Year of Reconciliation. As a result, an ambitious agenda lies ahead, including the development of an Urban Aboriginal Accord, learning from the legacy and impact of the Indian Residential School System including residential school commemoration, and mandatory education of all civic employees. On February 24, 2016, City Council unanimously gave direction to the Winnipeg Public Service to begin implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation's Calls to Action.</p>

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	<p>Mayor Bowman recently accepted the challenge of chairing the Truth and Reconciliation implementation committee with Big City Mayors' Caucus of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Rhonda Forgues and the Indigenous Relations Division were acknowledged and thanked for their civic leadership role in implementing Year of Reconciliation initiatives.</p> <p>All MIAC members were requested to provide pictures and short bios to the clerk so that members can be acknowledged for their work and participation via profiles on social media.</p> <p>The Mayor's Office is working with Stephen Huddart, CEO and President of the McConnell Foundation, to implement a plan that profiles and connects the Canada Learning Bonds program with Aboriginal families and young people. Historically, there has been low uptake in Aboriginal community to access post-secondary education opportunities. Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak can assist with distributing information as they have an established network of over 800 subscribers, including youth.</p>
<p>2. Chair's Update</p>	<p>Chair Wab Kinew acknowledged Justice Sinclair for his courage and leadership shown on behalf of our entire country.</p> <p>Justice Sinclair shared with MIAC as follows:</p> <p>"Thank you Brianna Jonnie. Your letter was well said and courageous. I thank and commend you. I immediately wanted to say, "Don't read the comments or articles in response". In the words of former President Theodore Roosevelt, "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena." We are all in your corner. If you need someone to stand beside you if you do this again, let me know and I will be there."</p> <p>Chair Wab Kinew addressed the recent personal controversy as reported in the media. He accepted responsibility and acknowledged that it is vulnerable members within the community, not himself, who are the victims. While statements made in the past are not acceptable, the publicity is an opportunity to face and resolve important issues.</p> <p>Following the January 22, 2016 event, the Chair reached out to Grand Chief Sheila North Wilson and sees an opportunity to build a better relationship between Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak First Nations and the Winnipeg Police Service.</p> <p>Congratulations to Treaty Commissioner Jamie Wilson for the amazing job he has done in bringing Treaty</p>

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	Education into schools and universities and for forging relationships in the community. Your service has been distinguished.
<p>3. The Winnipeg Arts Council Indigenous Arts Initiative, presented by Carol Phillips, Executive Director and Tricia Wasney, Manager of Public Art</p>	<p>The Winnipeg Arts Council introduced the Indigenous Arts Initiative consisting of two parts, the Indigenous Arts Management Fellowship and the Indigenous Public Art Project. The purpose of this presentation was to invite feedback and advice from the Mayor’s Indigenous Advisory Circle. The Fellowship program is still in the most formative stages while dialogue is now underway for the Public Art Project.</p> <p>Indigenous Arts Management Fellowship: In 2016 the Winnipeg Arts Council hopes to introduce the Indigenous Arts Management Fellowship. This program will provide First Nations, Métis, or Inuit arts administration professionals with opportunity to become immersed in the community of contemporary arts creation and presentation in Winnipeg. The program’s aim is to contribute to the development of Indigenous arts communities which are vibrant, supported, and connected to the broader arts and civic community. Candidates selected through an application process will undertake placement with the Winnipeg Arts Council where they will develop tangible skills and meaningful experience working in an arts environment, mentorship in partner arts organizations, professional development within a short-term executive training program, as well as undertake a research project of their own design. Consultations on the shape of this prospective program are about to begin.</p> <p>Indigenous Public Art Project: The Winnipeg Arts Council (WAC) will create a major contemporary public artwork to celebrate Indigenous culture as an integral part of Winnipeg and Canadian identity. Located on Treaty One land and home to Canada’s largest urban Indigenous population (primarily First Nations and Métis), and with an active and acclaimed contemporary Indigenous community, Winnipeg is well positioned to embark on this project. The context of this place on Treaty One land and the birthplace of the Métis nation is central to the formulation of the project. WAC wishes to consult in order to help define themes that best reflect the Indigenous community. The goal is to create a Call-to-Artists for an Indigenous-led public art opportunity based on consultations which would be released in the spring/summer of 2016</p> <p>For this project, WAC will create an opportunity for Indigenous artist-led teams to collaborate with non-Indigenous Canadians to create a permanent public artwork in a high profile location in downtown Winnipeg. The location is a City of Winnipeg public park, Air Canada Window Park, next door to the Aboriginal People’s Television Network (APTN). It is a highly visible and accessible meeting place on historic Portage Avenue, one of Winnipeg’s busiest thoroughfares for both automobile and pedestrian traffic. The park is already a meeting place for the local Indigenous community.</p>

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	<p>In order to best execute this project, WAC has engaged an Indigenous art consultant to lead an extensive community engagement strategy, help define themes for the artwork that best reflect the needs of the Indigenous community, and assist in project management. WAC has already begun a consultation process with the Indigenous arts community around this topic. As with every public art project, WAC will provide extensive information in a Call-to-Artists brief, outlining site opportunities and parameters, technical details, as well as historical, geographical and cultural considerations.</p> <p>The Public Art Program, managed by WAC on behalf of the City of Winnipeg, is a nationally recognized program that produces meaningful artwork in public places, serving Winnipeg's diverse communities through commissioning artworks that vary in expression, scale, medium, and location. Public art reflects the identity of a city, gives voice to community, and builds relationships between diverse groups.</p> <p>This major public art project will build on these efforts to educate and create awareness of the rich Indigenous culture, people and heritage that are at the roots of our city and nation. This project has been designed to bring people together. The opportunity will be open exclusively to Indigenous artist-led teams, so that the broader community of artists and design and construction professionals may collaborate on the development of the new work and develop a deeper understanding of the contribution of Canada's First Peoples. In order to build capacity among less experienced artists, mentorship opportunities will also be provided for local emerging Indigenous artists to work alongside the commissioned team.</p> <p>Following the presentation MIAC members provided Winnipeg Arts Council representatives with feedback. Suggestions included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The public art project could include a monument to Residential School Survivors or the entire park could be dedicated in commemoration. • The project should be rooted not only in community consultation, but consideration should also be given to how it can be community led. • Discussion as to what is included in public art. WAC does not preclude what an artist may do. Examples are wide-ranging from sculptural to functional as well as various media expressions. • There should be a focus on the message as well as who the message is being communicated to. Consider the people who live here in the context of the Indigenous culture and identity of our city. • As 2017 is the 150th Anniversary of Confederation, consider a temporary and permanent aspect to

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	this initiative. The use of art is important in portraying the City we want to grow to.
<p>4. City of Winnipeg Recognition Protocol and Signage</p>	<p>MIAC made the following two recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the City of Winnipeg implement a corporate policy that recognizes the traditional territory of Treaty One land and the Metis Homeland for all public meetings, appearances, and documents; and 2. That the City of Winnipeg perimeter welcome road signage be updated to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of Treaty One land and the Metis Homeland.
<p>5. Indigenous Relations Division</p> <p>Rhonda Forgues</p>	<p>The civic system, through the <i>OurWinnipeg</i> plan, recognizes the importance of the original peoples, First Nations, Metis & Inuit to the founding of our city. Each contributed cultures, values and vision – contributions that will continue to be important to our shared future.</p> <p>The mandate of the Indigenous Relations Division (IRD) is to support the City of Winnipeg by providing leadership and experience from an Indigenous perspective on programs, services, and initiatives that support and address the needs of Winnipeg’s Indigenous community, now and into the future.</p> <p>Internally, IRD works in partnership with departments to create and enhance civic practices and processes to increase access and opportunities for Winnipeg’s Indigenous citizens.</p> <p>Externally, IRD fosters and enhances mutually beneficial relationships with Winnipeg’s Indigenous community to strengthen our city.</p> <p>Corporately, IRD is assisting the City of Winnipeg to develop an urban plan to become a municipal leader in Indigenous community relationships. OurWinnipeg has several Indigenous specific Directions and Strategies that guide and support the work of the IRD.</p> <p>See attached PowerPoint for complete Indigenous Relations Division presentation</p>
<p>6. Employee Training Review Update</p> <p>Rhonda Forgues</p>	<p>IRD is working with the Mayor’s Office regarding the announcement of mandatory training for all civic employees. In response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report, a half-day training session is being developed for all members of the public service.</p> <p>In addition, City of Winnipeg leadership will be required to take the two day Indigenous Cultural Awareness training.</p>

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	See attached PowerPoint presentation for the two day course Syllabus and Objectives.
<p>7. Vision Statement Working Group Update</p> <p>Councillor Cindy Gilroy</p>	<p>Since the December 10, 2015 meeting, Working Group members Alan Greyeyes, Dr. Cindy Blackstock, Dr. Marcia Anderson-Decoteau, EJ Fontaine and Councillor Cindy Gilroy have met on two occasions.</p> <p>Charlene Bearhead, Educational Lead with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, will be assisting with convening Vision Statement Youth Focus Groups on April 12, 2016 in the Carol Shields Auditorium from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m..</p> <p>All members of MIAC are invited and encouraged to participate as guest observers.</p>
<p>8. Winnipeg Urban Aboriginal Accord – Next Steps</p>	<p>Following development of the Vision Statement, the Indigenous Relations Division will be providing a draft of a Winnipeg Urban Aboriginal Accord for MIAC’s next meeting.</p>
<p>9. Secretary of Urban Aboriginal Affairs Update</p> <p>Councillor Jenny Gerbasi</p>	<p>Councillor Gerbasi provided an overview of upcoming events and initiatives within the City of Winnipeg.</p> <p>Elder Joseph Meconse will be honoured with a Pipe Ceremony at Portage Place Mall at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 11, 2016 and all members are invited to attend.</p> <p>A group of municipal leaders at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities has started a working group to advocate for renewal of the Urban Aboriginal Strategy with the federal government.</p>
<p>10. Winnipeg Police Board Indigenous Council on Crime Prevention and Policing</p> <p>Damon Johnston</p>	<p>Members EJ Fontaine and Damon Johnston met with Indigenous Council Co-chairs, Shauna Fontaine and Lenard Monkman earlier today.</p> <p>Protocols will be developed to keep track of work and progress. The Council will share their Terms of Reference with MIAC. There may be some situations where work will overlap. For example, the issue of missing and murdered women and girls is important to both groups.</p>

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11.	<p>New Business</p> <p>a. Events for Information</p> <p>b. Submissions for Information</p>	<p>Pathways to Reconciliation: A gathering connecting Canadians in conversations will be held at the University of Winnipeg from June 15 – 18, 2016. The preliminary program is available at: http://www.pathwaysconference.ca/schedule</p> <p>Following a discussion about community experiences and possible confusion that exists in regard to incident reporting, Indigenous Relations Division will compile list of civic departments that handle complaints related to racism.</p>
12.	Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting	June 16, 2016