



## **MAYOR'S INDIGENOUS ADVISORY CIRCLE**

**NOTES – SEPTEMBER 17, 2015**

**Meeting called to order at 1 p.m. and adjourned at 4 p.m.**

In Attendance:

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

Via Videoconference:

Manley A. Begay Jr.

Regrets:

Cindy Blackstock  
EJ Fontaine  
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, December 10, 2015, 1 p.m.

Item	Notes
<p><i>Tobacco Presentation by Mayor Bowman</i></p> <p><i>Opening Prayer/Remarks by Elder Bone</i></p> <p><i>“Call to Order” Hand Drum - Thunderbird Song by Chair</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable Introductory Comments</i></p>	
<p><b>1. Mayor’s Remarks</b></p>	<p>Mayor Bowman acknowledged the presence of the Elders and that we are on Treaty One land as well as the Traditional Homeland of the Metis Nation.</p> <p>This history of MIAC is that it was established in the wake of the Mayor’s discussions with the Chair and many members in attendance today as a community response to the January 22, 2015 Maclean’s publication. Since formation, there has been a greater recognition that our City has a problem and a role to play in building a more inclusive community. Everyone in our community should be proud of who they are and where they came from.</p> <p>Thank you to everyone who will be participating in the September 17-18, 2015 National Racial Inclusion Summit as we move from talk to action, ensuring our children and community has greater empathy and stops judging one another. With three years remaining in current City Council’s mandate, MIAC is invited to be bold and ambitious in challenging the City and all of us to “up our game”.</p>
<p><b>2. Chair’s Remarks</b></p>	<p>MIAC will be governed by a consensus-based approach, which does not necessarily mean unanimity.</p> <p>Anishinaabe governance is analogous to the manner in which the eagle hunts. The eagle starts low making wide circles. As it moves upward, its concentric circles gradually get smaller until the eagle reaches the top at which time it sees the target and dives towards its prey. So, too, an Indigenous approach to governance begins with a wide canvas of ideas and opposing views. These insights help to narrow the process and to move the group forward as they approach consensus - one heart and mind leading to shared direction and action.</p> <p>A Terms of Reference has been established for MIAC.</p>
<p><b>3. Truth and Reconciliation</b></p>	<p>The Truth and Reconciliation Commission includes 94 calls to action, including several which are specific</p>

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<b>Commission of Canada Final Report (TRC)</b>	<p>to municipalities. The Report is being used in many places as a roadmap to reconciliation.</p> <p>There is a need for qualitative and quantitative measurement of progress related to the calls to action. Inherent challenges include limits to the City's power and resources as well as the complexity of many systems and agencies contributing to both problems and solutions. Winnipeg can and should lead in every area of Indigenous excellence.</p> <p>MIAC may be able to utilize the Truth and Reconciliation Report in the creation of a "Winnipeg Accord" that would be a blueprint for commitment and action by everyone in the community</p>
<b>4. Education</b>	<p>TRC Call to Action number 57 states:</p> <p><i>"We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and <b>municipal</b> governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism."</i></p> <p>There is education needed around building greater compassion and empathy within our City. There is a voluntary, 2 day course currently available to all City employees. As it relates to training of civic employees, it was suggested that MIAC may be able to collaborate on ideas with the Indigenous Council on Crime Prevention and Policing which was recently created by the Winnipeg Police Board.</p> <p>As Winnipeg's population is set to grow to one million people in the next 15 years and the Aboriginal population will increase from 11% to 25%, MIAC should envision what we would like Winnipeg to look like in 15 years. A vision statement to the effect that Winnipeg aspires to be the undisputed leader globally on all fronts Indigenous; for example, culture, art, heritage, education, music, sports, business, health, etc. Discussions are not just about today, but about Winnipeg's future.</p> <p>In setting a vision and goals, similar to <i>The Thompson Accord</i>, it is important for MIAC to utilize a baseline environment and create measurements for the community to meet and report on. It is important to look at the positive statistics as well as the challenges.</p> <p>It is important to be bold, nothing is off the table, but MIAC must also be wise and know the City's reach. While the City may not have a lot of money and resources, it has a lot of influence by virtue of the power of office.</p> <p>In order to reach or share the spirit of the original people, the teaching of history and treaties must be told by the right people who have lived experience and know their history, instead of relying on others. Always consider the authenticity and source of the information.</p> <p>Education based on empathy is important in order to building understanding and relationships as opposed</p>

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	<p>to “shaming and blaming” which may serve to entrench prejudice.</p> <p>The community appears not only ready for change, they expect it.</p>
<b>5. Safety for Women and Girls</b>	<p>The January 22, 2015 Maclean’s publication that galvanized political will leading to the creation of MIAC included a number of stories related to violence against women and girls in our community.</p> <p>Discussion about how to help a person who is not asking for help and is not properly equipped for their environment. There is a need for more teaching about safety and more telling of stories about family experiences. There is opportunity to develop a services model and/or a community model.</p> <p>Need to examine “why our women and children are suffering”. There is a power in simple gestures. Need to teach traditions of respect as well as demonstrate and mentor others in use of strength to protect.</p>
<b>6. Summary of Discussion</b>	<p>Today’s discussion will result in further work and action around the following five ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Consider the creation of a Winnipeg Accord with measurable, benchmarks and a possible 15 year timeframe;</li> <li>ii. Focus on education that is tied to specific outcomes in the way people deliver services;</li> <li>iii. Develop a Vision Statement and a Brand which sees the City as a leader in every category;</li> <li>iv. Members use MIAC platform to continue and launch discussions on what the vision for Indigenous Excellence should be; and</li> <li>v. Advocate family Indigenous values, mentor young Indigenous men and women.</li> </ul>
<b>7. Thank you from Mayor to Members for contributions</b>  <b>Closing Comments from Elder Bone</b>  <b>Closing Prayer by Elder Mae Louise Campbell</b>	
<b>8. Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting</b>	December 10, 2015