



**MAYOR'S INDIGENOUS ADVISORY CIRCLE  
MEETING NOTES**

**March 8, 2021**

**Meeting called to order at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:30 a.m.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor Brian Bowman  
Kimberley Puhach, Chairperson  
Elder Lucy Guiboche  
Elder Norman Meade  
Councillor Sherri Rollins  
Councillor John Orlikow  
Ry Moran  
Alan Greyeyes

**REGRETS:**

Elder Harry Bone  
Dee Thomas-Hart  
Elder Mae Louise Campbell  
Dr. Cindy Blackstock  
Dr. Phil Fontaine  
Sean McCormick  
Jessica Dumas  
Manley A. Begay Jr.  
Damon Johnston

**WINNIPEG PUBLIC SERVICE:**

Tricia Chestnut, Senior Policy Analyst, Mayor's Office  
Tracey Cechvala, Interim Manager, Indigenous Relations Division  
Sherwood Armbruster, Special Projects Manager, City Clerk's Department

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** June 7, 2021

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## MEETING NOTES

No.	Item	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Call to Order</b></li><li>• <b>Opening Prayer by Elder Norman Meade</b></li><li>• <b>Review and Acceptance of Notes of December 14, 2020 Meeting</b></li></ul>		
1	<b>Mayor's Update</b>	<p>Mayor Bowman thanked Chairperson Puhach, welcomed all Members and acknowledged the Elders. The Mayor expressed anticipation for the Circle to have the opportunity to gather in person again.</p> <p>Today is International Women's Day. The Mayor recognized and honoured the work of all women who have served on the Circle and City Council.</p> <p>The one-year anniversary of COVID-19 is approaching. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global public health emergency, and the following day Manitoba announced its first presumptive positive COVID-19 case. Winnipeg has lost more than 600 citizens to the virus and this has been the longest activation of the City's Emergency Operations Centre in the history of the City of Winnipeg. The Mayor commended the Circle, City Council, the Public Service and the community for its tireless work in caring for the physical, mental and spiritual health of our citizens.</p> <p>City Hall recently launched the Winnipeg Wellness Fund which supports community led initiatives to reduce the physical, mental, and emotional distress caused by the pandemic.</p> <p>The City of Winnipeg is hosting Anti-Racism week from March 21 to 27, 2021 in partnership with Immigration Partnership, Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba, Elmwood Community Resource Centre, Manitoba Association of Rights and Liberties, Human Rights Hub, and Black History Month. It includes a number of initiatives in the hopes of starting a city-wide conversation exploring ways to identify and eliminate systemic racism. The theme is, "What would Winnipeg look like without racism?"</p> <p>Mayor Bowman noted that the pandemic has made unsheltered and homeless Winnipeggers more visible. The Mayor met recently with End Homelessness Winnipeg and other levels of government with outcomes as a focal point for discussions. Amidst challenges, there have been recent positive developments in the form of a number of significant local housing announcements.</p>
2	<b>Chair's Report</b>	The Chairperson welcomed members and recognized International Women's Day. It was acknowledged that we all have plenty to do in growing

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		<p>representation in all areas as we work collectively towards gender equality.</p> <p>Our work in systems change should be viewed as a marathon rather than a sprint. As we enter the sixth year since the Circle's inception, may we celebrate our successes while remembering that the job is a long way from done.</p> <p>The Chairperson expressed appreciation to the City of Winnipeg and to all members for initiating and supporting the work that is happening in our community.</p>
4	<b>Indigenous Relations Division Update</b>  - <b>Winnipeg Indigenous Accord</b>  - <b>Welcoming Winnipeg</b>  - <b>MMIWG Regional Action Plan</b>	<p>Tracey Cechvala, Indigenous Relations Division, provided an update on Winnipeg's Indigenous Accord and Welcoming Winnipeg.</p> <p>The Winnipeg Indigenous Accord now has 191, including five new, signatory partners. Under reporting requirements, the annual public report will be released and go to Council in June, 2021.</p> <p>A partner survey was sent out to partners with one or more missing annual progress reports. The survey solicited helpful feedback from partners.</p> <p>Welcoming Winnipeg launched a public invitation for requests in February, 2021. The public service is currently working with the community and departments in researching and reviewing inquiries and requests.</p> <p>IRD provided also provided an update on a developing MMIWG regional action plan.</p> <p>See attached presentation.</p>
5	<b>New Business</b>	<p>Members engaged in a general discussion about Winnipeg's Indigenous Accord and the importance of mutual accountability and staying connected despite challenges. Ongoing community support, communication and connection are important as we work together to achieve the goals of the Accord.</p> <p>Circle members discussed legislation being drafted in other jurisdictions to bring existing laws into line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Ry Moran will forward additional information to staff to circulate to members.</p>
<b>Closing Prayer by Elder Lucy Guiboche</b>		
<b>Adjournment and Dates of Next Meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 10 a.m., June 7, 2021</li></ul>	