7TH REPORT OF THE

LONDON DIVERSITY & RACE RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting held on June 21, 2007, commencing at 11:56 a.m.

PRESENT: P. Shanahan (Chair), K. Hendricks, J. Olawuyi, U. Shabazz, M. Singeris, M. Young and H. Lysynski (Secretary).


I YOUR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chair's Update

1. That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) was advised by P. Shanahan that he attended the Community and Protective Services Committee (CPSC) meeting on June 18, 2007 to support the recommendations of the LDRRAC and the LDRRAC recommendations will be forwarded to the Municipal Council on Monday, June 25, 2007 for its consideration.

Community Updates

2. That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) heard the following community updates:
   (a) the RBC Scholarship Awards are awarded to a Canadian citizen who is born outside of Canada and has achieved at least a 70% average in the previous year of school;
   (b) the Cross Cultural Learner Centre will be holding a “Sharing Culture Through Dance” workshop; and
   (c) June 29, 2007 is the National Day of Action and the focus will be on aboriginal issues.

Communications & Public Relations Sub-Committee

3. (A) That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) was advised by M. Young that the Communications & Public Relations Sub-Committee is working on updating the LDRRAC website.

Community Events & Education Sub-Committee

4. (B) That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) was advised by M. Singeris that she will follow up with R. Lutman, Intake Administrator, Human Rights Office, with respect to confirming the guest speaker for the LDRRAC Open House.
5. (C,5) That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) was advised by K. Husain that the Policy & Planning Sub-Committee recommends against having a Councillor as a Voting Representative on the LDRRAC. The LDRRAC asked the Sub-Committee to review this matter further and to report back at a future meeting.

6. (C,13,14) That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) was advised by P. Shanahan that he and K. Hendricks met with V. McAlea-Major, Director, Human Resources, and S. Bahm, Manager, Occupational Health & Safety & Corporate Training, with respect to the staff survey, the Ivey survey, and the potential for the LDRRAC to assist with a module on helping people approach people from a different background. The LDRRAC also received communications from K. Husain with respect to the Policy & Planning Sub-Committee minutes from its meeting held on June 12, 2007 and the existing and proposed LDRRAC mandate. The LDRRAC postponed consideration of the communications to its next meeting.

7. (D,2) That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) was advised by P. Shanahan that the LDRRAC has $2,901.00 remaining in its 2007 budget.

8. (3) That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) received a communication dated May 18, 2007 from the City Clerk with respect to its 2008 budget request. The LDRRAC asked that its 2008 budget be increased from $3,340.00 to $5,200.00 to allow the LDRRAC to continue to support the LDRRAC Open House, seniors transportation for the Multicultural Picnic, the purchase of an easel for display and to purchase promotional material.

9. That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) watched the Hate Crime Extremism and Investigative Teams' "What is Hate Crime?" Video as provided by M. Williamson.

10. (7) That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) heard a verbal update from J. Tansley, Municipal Policy Specialist, with respect to the Conference Board of Canada's Government Policy Roundtable on Immigration. The LDRRAC was advised that there have been three roundtables for government, business leaders and experts and practitioners; it being noted that G. T. Hopcroft, Director, Intergovernmental & Community Liaison will provide an update on this matter at a future LDRRAC meeting.
11. That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) heard verbal presentations from M. Markiton and K. Duever, Noke Kwee, with respect to their “I Love My City” t-shirt campaign; it being noted that 83% of the profit goes to London non-profit organizations.

12. That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) noted and filed the following:

(a) (1) the 6th Report of the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) from its meeting held on May 17, 2007; it being noted that the LDRRAC amended line two of clause 8 by deleting therefrom “J. Mitchell” and substituting therefore “B. Howse”;

(b) (4) communications dated May 16, 2007 and May 31, 2007, from Mayor A. M. DeCicco-Best and M. Spencer-Golovchenko, Executive Assistant to the Mayor, with respect to the invitation to Her Excellency, The Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada as the guest speaker for the LDRRAC Open House;

(c) (6) a communication dated June 4, 2007 from B. Hall, Chief Commissioner, Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC), with respect to the OHRC Housing Consultation Session being held in Kitchener-Waterloo on Friday, June 27, 2007;

(d) (8) a report from J. A. Fielding, Chief Administrative Officer, with respect to the quarterly report on the Corporate Human Rights Program, the Code of Conduct Program and the Corporate Training Initiatives as of March 31, 2007;

(e) (9) a report from J. A. Fielding, Chief Administrative Officer, with respect to the 2006 Year End Report on the Corporate Human Rights Program, the Code of Conduct Program and the Corporate Training Initiatives as at December 31, 2006;

(f) (10) a report from J. A. Fielding, Chief Administrative Officer, with respect to an update on the initiatives aimed at building a more supportive workplace;

(g) (11) a report from J. A. Fielding, Chief Administrative Officer, with respect to an update on the London-Middlesex Immigrant Employment Task Force;
(h) (12) a communication dated June 12, 2007, from Councillor H. Usher with respect to his support for the LDRRAC recommendation relating to the City of London joining the membership of the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination;

(i) (15) a communication from I. Mathyssen, Member of Provincial Parliament for London-Fanshawe with respect to a workshop being held on June 24 and June 27, 2007 at the Islamic Centre of Southwest Ontario and I. Mathyssen's Constituency Office, for permanent resident card holders; and

(j) (16) a report from R. L. Fair, General Manager of Community Services, with respect to welcoming cultural diversity and area recreation services activities.

13. That the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) postponed consideration of the Chief Administrative Officer's update to a future meeting.

14. That the next meeting of the London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee (LDRRAC) will be held on Thursday, August 16, 2007 at 11:45 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.