

**McMaster University Libraries Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion Committee**

**Monday May 7, 2018, 9:00 - 10:30 AM
Mills Community Room**

1. **Review of the minutes from the April meeting.** Any alterations for how these minutes are kept? (Reminder: We have deferred a decision on what gets posted and where until a bit later in the summer.)
 - Should minutes include meeting attendance (present/absent)
 - Add committee to public site – include mandate statement (Mary)

2. **Community Sharing: What have members read, seen or learned about since our last meeting? (Standing agenda item)**
 - a) Vivian will report on her participation at a KAIROS Blanket Exercise and a meeting on decolonizing libraries in Saskatchewan.
 - Blanket Exercise delivered by KAIROS set foundation and framework around Metis culture. Supports cultural sensitivity regarding Indigenous issues, and focusses on increasing knowledge and understanding. With each Indigenous group uniquely identified in exercise, each step compels and retells Canadian history through the eyes of Indigenous people.
 - 'Talking Circle' where Elder presented challenging message followed by an opportunity for participants to communicate what they learned through the exercise.
 - Office of Equity and Inclusion - providing 1-hour session on 'What is Smudging' - interest in training library staff on practice and University policy.
 - Blanket Exercise - sessions to be scheduled on campus for interested staff and Committee members - Anne will update on schedules once available.
 - Sweat Lodges – current fire regulations do not allow on campus

 - b) Survey on City of Hamilton's Urban Indigenous Strategy development. (Myron)
<https://www.hamilton.ca/city-initiatives/strategies-actions/urban-indigenous-strategy>

- City councillor behind movement to foster initiatives; community consultations done. Recognition of Hamilton's proximity to country's largest indigenous reserve.
 - 2015 report assessed state of local population and issues facing the community; based on 2011 census, 16,000 indigenous individuals living in Hamilton
 - Survey looking for input from residents of Hamilton (Indigenous and non); questions arranged around people, land, and spirit; asks participants to rank priorities
 - City hire to administer strategy process – steps for implementation still unknown/unclear.
- c) Other: Mention to recent carding incident involving Matt Green (Hamilton City Councillor) and racial profiling. Recent appeal ruled in favour of Officer involved.

3. Getting Started Part II: Quick exercise to map proposed ideas from last meeting to our stated mandate (**Document 1**). Can we add new ideas? Where would the group like to focus attention during the next several months? Can we frame out any strategic initiatives for 2018/19?

- Committee divided into smaller groups to discuss assigned mandate; larger group discussion on findings

4. Setting meetings for rest of 2018/19

- Next meeting - June 7th, 10:30am – 12:00pm
- Mary to schedule July meeting date