

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
SHINING WATERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a meeting of the  
Intercultural Diversity Commission  
Tuesday, January 26, 2021**

The Intercultural Diversity Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council met on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 by video conference. The meeting began at 4:00 p.m. Until the commission members have been established through the Nominations Committee of the region, the Intercultural Diversity Circle will continue to meet.

**Members Present**

Jingle Ayupan; Tina Conlon; In Hack Jung; Isaac Kamta; Lark Hoon Kim; Victor Kitagawa; Amy Lee (Co-Chair); Andrew Lee; John Joseph Mastandrea; Eric Asamoah Nyarko; Francis Nyarko (Co-Chair); Charles Olango; Moon-Ja Park; Dong Chun Seo; Kim Uyede-Kai (staff).

**Regrets:** Yoon Ok Shin

**Welcome, Acknowledging the Territory, constituting the meeting, and prayer**

The co-chairperson, Amy Lee, welcomed everyone, gave an acknowledgement of the land and commitment to healing broken relationships and opened with lighting a candle. Charles Olango led in scripture in Luo, reflection, and prayer. The co-chairperson constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Agenda**

**MOTION** by John Joseph Mastandrea / Isaac Kamta  
that the agenda be approved as circulated.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**Minutes**

Two corrections were requested in the draft minutes:

p. 6 “Dong Chun will finish his ministry at the end of December 2020. Julia Yun Jung Kim will start her ministry with Downsview UC on January 1, 2021. She is in the process of admissions to become a United Church of Canada minister.”

p. 6 “In Hack Jung shared that Willowdale Emmanuel worship is streamed and those who don’t have access to online worship are emailed the liturgy. Bible study is held online every Wednesday.”

**MOTION** by Dong Chun Seo / Moon-Ja Park  
that the minutes of the December 22, 2020 meeting of the commission be approved as amended.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

### **Business Arising**

#### **Intercultural Diversity Commission (IDC) Policy Draft**

The IDC policy draft was presented to the January Executive meeting. As a member of the Executive, Moon-Ja Park reported back on the questions and concerns raised about IDC’s relationship to the Equity committee’s work. Race equity has always been part of IDC’s work. The Equity Committee was formed to relate to the Executive before the Intercultural Diversity Commission (IDC) was established. It was agreed that both groups need to work together. More Executive discussion will follow. IDC’s draft policy has not yet been approved.

Dong Chun Seo suggested that the Equity committee and IDC continue their work for a few years and then evaluate.

Jingle Ayupan heard the executive say that equity work overlaps with IDC. She feels that IDC needs to stay as is for a while to serve the people.

John Joseph Mastandrea is now chair of the grants committee so is on the Executive.

#### **Intercultural Diversity Commission Nominations**

Until a policy is approved, IDC members were reminded that Nominations has not yet called for applications for IDC members. Each one present was asked to discern if they would like to apply to be commission members.

#### **Intercultural Diversity Commission Priorities**

Francis Nyarko highlighted the need for teachings, to educate ourselves. God has blessed us to be here.

Tina Conlon added that intercultural diversity is more than eating our food. In covid, it is mostly the intercultural community affected, doing the support work.

InHack Jung shared her experience of the challenges of language barriers.

Isaac Kamta said IDC communities need to get to know each other.

### **New Business**

Amy and Francis will represent IDC at a meeting on Regional Priorities and Relationships Gathering of commission chairpersons on February 10 regarding grants and funding for ministry. Kim will send Amy and Francis the regional council vision and mission priorities which include “honouring and living into intercultural mission and ministry” as well as the 43rd General Council’s decision to declare that the denomination become an anti-racist church.

### **Correspondence**

Kim shared the Equity monitor survey request by Adele Halliday. IDC members have never been asked to serve as equity monitors or intercultural observers.

### **Community of Faith Updates**

There were no updates.

### **Adjournment and Closing Prayer**

**MOTION** by Moon Ja Park / Victor Kitagawa  
That the meeting be adjourned.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

The meeting closed with each praying the Lord’s Prayer in their own language. The meeting ended at 5:35 p.m.

### **Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Intercultural Diversity Commission will be held by Zoom video conference on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

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Amy Lee, Co-Chair  
Francis Nyarko, Co-Chair

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Kim Uyede-Kai, notetaker