

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

**Minutes of a meeting of the
Intercultural Diversity Commission
Tuesday, April 27, 2021**

The Intercultural Diversity Commission (IDC) of Shining Waters Regional Council met on Tuesday, April 27, 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

Joel Aguirre; Jingle Ayupan; Tina Conlon; In Hack Jung; Isaac Kamta; Victor Kitagawa Amy Lee (Co-Chair); 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

Guest: Lawrence Nyarko (Nominations Committee)

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

The co-chairperson, Amy Lee, welcomed everyone, gave an acknowledgement of the land that was stolen and commitment to healing broken relationships. Moon-Ja Park lit a candle. The co-chairperson constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ.

Kim Uyede-Kai introduced Lawrence Nyarko as a guest from the Nominations Committee

Dong Chun Seo led in scripture reading in Korean and screen shared the English version. He gave a reflection on Philip and the eunuch. Do you understand where you are and what the good news is about? To go beyond ordinary boundaries. He led in prayer.

Agenda

MOTION by Jingle Ayupan / Eric Nyarko
that the agenda be approved as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

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Minutes

MOTION by Moon-Ja Park /Jingle Ayupan
that the minutes of the March 30, 2021 meeting of the commission be approved
'as amended' with the addition of Eric Nyarko and Tina Conlon.

MOTION

CARRIED

Business Arising

Regional Council Nominations Process

The regional council email was sent out on April 26, which IDC members received.

Shining Waters Nomination Committee – Lawrence Nyarko

Lawrence Nyarko, member of the Nominations Committee, was welcomed. He thanked the IDC members for pushing the region to accept the intercultural diversity commission.

He gave a summary of the purpose of IDC in the region and the intentional diversity of who can be a member of the commission. Nominations Committee will receive all applications and appoint members; the terms of office; number of meetings; need for members to use electronic communications; and that English will be the primary language.

Lawrence shared the nominations form questions. Congregations can choose someone to lift up from their community, with their consent.

There will be a townhall meeting on May 19 for General Council 44 commissioner nominations and will also include information about IDC nominations. Before GC44 nominations are received information about the role and responsibilities will be shared.

Lawrence and Kim addressed questions. Charles commented that it took years to be a commission and the need to work with the national office to make it advance quickly so end result work continues.

The Future Steps of the Intercultural Diversity Commission

Current circle members are invited to discern and apply.

A circle or network could be created and open to anyone in the regional council. There could also be an Asian women's circle.

National Zoom Gatherings for Asian UCC Women May 2 and 5

Moon-Ja, Amy, and Kim are planning these two national events as safe space to build

community and share Asian women's concerns.

New Business

Webinars from TUCC "The Church Has Left the Building", 3 part series May 25, June 1, June 8 is available to all for a small fee.

Shining Waters Grants Committee. John Joseph urged IDC members to apply for available grants but congregations are not applying. He is willing to assist in applications.

Community of Faith Updates

Willowdale Emmanuel – had a covenanting service with YoonOk Shin and the regional council. Dong Chun preached and Amy represented SWRC.

Ministère protestant francophone de Toronto (MPFT) – Downsview and MPFT have started to have joint conversations.

Thornhill – searching for FTE Christian Development minister to team with coordinating minister

Ghana Calvary – maintenance and repairs are continuing. TUCC has been a big help. 25th anniversary will be celebrated on July 25,

Adjournment and Closing Prayer

MOTION by Jingle Ayupan /Francis Nyarko
There being no further business, the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION

CARRIED

The meeting closed with prayer by Eric Nyarko. The meeting ended at 5:30 p.m.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Intercultural Diversity Commission will be held by Zoom video conference on **Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.**

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

Kim Uyede-Kai, notetaker