



MINUTES – INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT COMMITTEE

January 20, 2026, 5:06 P.M.

XWSEPSUM NATION ROOM, CITY HALL, 1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE

The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Xwsepsum Nations

PRESENT: L. Bean in the Chair, B. Hudlin, A. Okot Ochen, N. Justin, J. Douhaibi

PRESENT

ELECTRONICALLY: B. Gad Ojuando Amuti, W. Goldiet

ABSENT: C. Issac, M. Thompson

STAFF PRESENT: A. Galiev – Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Lead, S. Alene - Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator, M. Moore - Lived Experience Consultant, Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, M. Haden - Legislative Coordinator

GUESTS: Councillor Kim, Z. Chaudry, K. Craig, C. James, Dr. D. Mucina, T. Moyo

A. Welcoming and Land Acknowledgement – Liz Bean

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. and acknowledged that the Committee is indebted to Indigenous people, the Songhees and Xwsepsum Nations who have stewarded this land for generations.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved and Seconded:

That the agenda be approved.

Carried by unanimous consent.

C. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

C.1 Minutes from the meeting held December 16, 2025

Moved and Seconded:

That the minutes from the International Decade for People of African Descent Committee meeting held December 16th, 2025 be approved.

Carried by unanimous consent.

D. New Business

D.1 2025/2026 IDPAD Grant Recipients Presentations

Black Presence Through Mural (Kemi Craig, BC Black History Awareness Society)

Committee and the presenter discussed the following:

- *How mural art can positively impact Black youth through community and experience*
- *Placemaking and art for Black people in Victoria*
- *Timeline for the mural*

Swimming While Black (Dr. Devi Dee Mucina)

Committee and the presenter discussed the following:

- *The origins of the project*
- *The experience of racism in swimming spaces*
- *A two-part project of both introduction to water and swimming skills*
- *Opportunities for collaboration between IDPAD grant recipients and City's Recreation Services department*

Voices On Stage (Thembelihle Moyo)

Committee and the presenter discussed the following:

- *The need to provide opportunities to Black actors in Victoria, particularly for young people*
- *Need for black voices and actors*
- *Collaboration with the Belfry Theater and Arts and Culture programmers at the City*

Building an Afrocentric School from the Ground Up (Crystal James)

Committee and the presenter discussed the following:

- *Desire to help protect kids who are facing anti-Black racism, and the school as a protective factor*
- *Constraints on the structure of the school system*
- *Desire to integrate IDPAD grant recipients' elements into the programming (arts and culture, recreation, etc.)*

E. Closing Remarks

The Committee, by unanimous consent, adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.