



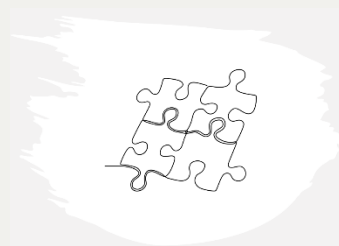
ANTI-RACISM DATA COMMITTEE MEETING
April 14, 2023: 9:00AM – 4:30PM
487 Alexander St, Vancouver
Vancouver Japanese Language School and Japanese Hall
(Japantown, Downtown Eastside)

Purpose:

- Discussion about anti-racism responsibilities with Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary
- Discussion about census survey

Welcome and Regroup

Opening and introductions



Ministers Roundtable

Mandates and expected outcomes



Census Survey

Survey overview and Rationale
Communications and outreach



Attendees:

June, Donald, Shirley, Jessica (t'hisala), Ellen, Smith,
Zareen, Jacqueline, Marion and Sukhi

Hayden, Haiqa, Roland, Kathleen, Karla, Jenny and Emily

Regrets: Daljit

Guests: Minister Lisa Beare, Minister Niki Sharma,
Parliamentary Secretary Mable Elmore, Barbara
Carmichael

Catering provided by: Potluck Café and Catering



Anti-Racism Data Committee Meeting

Report

Sixth Meeting

April 14, 2023 • 9:00am – 4:30pm

Vancouver, BC

Attendees:

Chair	Dr. June Francis
Members	Donald Corrigan, Shirley Chau, Marion Erickson, Jessica (t'łisala) Guss, Ellen Kim, Zareen Naqvi, Smith Oduro-Marfo, Jacqueline Quinless, and Sukhi Sandhu
Ex Officio	Hayden Lansdell, Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Statistics Haiqa Cheema, Assistant Deputy Minister, Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Branch Roland Best, Executive Director, Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Branch
Secretariat	Jenny Romero, Emily Bruce
Resources	Kathleen Assaf, Executive Director, BC Stats Karla Helgason, Director of Indigenous Data Governance, BC Stats
Guests	Minister Lisa Beare, Attorney General Niki Sharma, Parliamentary Secretary Mable Elmore Laura Saimoto, Landscapes of Injustice
Regrets	Daljit Gill-Badesha

Meeting goals:

- Discussion about anti-racism responsibilities for each ministry with Minister Lisa Beare, Minister Niki Sharma and Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives Mable Elmore.
- Discussion about the BC Demographic Survey.

ARdC Opening and welcoming remarks

- Welcome remarks from Dr. June Francis.
- Opening remarks and overview of the history of the [Vancouver Japanese Language School and Japanese Hall](#) by Laura Saimoto, [Landscapes of Injustice](#).
- June's and other members' acknowledgement that the [Vatican's repudiation of the "Doctrine of Discovery"](#) - a set of colonial-era theories, backed by 15th-century papal bulls, which was used to legitimize the seizure of Indigenous lands by colonial powers as well as other legal decisions in both the U.S. and Canada - brings cautious optimism to Indigenous communities.

Ministries' responsibilities and priorities

- Attorney General Sharma, Minister Beare and PS Elmore spoke about their respective mandates that related to anti-racism.
- Attorney General Sharma spoke about the upcoming anti-racism legislation and how it will accompany the Anti-Racism Data Act (ARDA). Attorney General Sharma also outlined the importance of this committee and its work in setting research priorities to identify systemic racism and drive systemic change.
- PS Elmore outlined broader anti-racism activities (e.g., Resilience BC, Anti-Racism Action Plan for K-12, etc.) and government's commitment to eliminating systemic racism.
- Minister Beare addressed implementation priorities under ARDA – the research priorities identified by the committee are a key starting point. Minister Beare will work with Attorney General Sharma and PS Elmore to ensure that the anti-racism research priorities are fully supported by all government.
- Minister Beare emphasized the importance of the demographic survey to get the information needed to complete the research priorities and deliver stronger, more accessible and more inclusive public services for everyone.
- ARdC had a round table of questions and comments for the ministers to respond to, with some questions being taken away for follow-up. Some topics included:
 - Relational accountability as a priority for this work
 - Maximizing the use of data
 - The opportunity to provide data access to communities
 - Addressing hate crime and the revictimization of racialized people
 - The need for anti-racism approaches that acknowledge the context of remote and rural environments in BC
 - Connectivity for Indigenous communities in remote areas

Icebreaker

- ARdC members shared their experiences of spring within their culture or traditions as a way of sharing culture and appreciating the different lenses that each of the committee members bring to the ARdC.

Collaboration Report Back

- Hayden Lansdell reviewed what was raised by the ARdC at the last meeting and what actions government has taken to respond to that feedback. Hayden covered topics such as:
 - ARdC research priorities have been submitted to various government committees, ensuring there is awareness that work needs to be done collaboratively and highlighting the need for funding.
 - The document that outlines research priorities, the Year One Progress Report and the Guide on Using Categorical Race and Ethnicity Variables have gone out through consent-seeking notification to Indigenous Governing Entities.

Zareen's presentation

- Zareen gave an overview of Ramadan, distributed gifts of mugs and dates, and told a story about sharing food with a neighbour of a different culture, in the spirit of Ramadan.

Presentation and Discussion: BC Demographic Survey

- Kathleen Assaf gave a presentation on the BC Demographic Survey and provided an opportunity for ARdC members to discuss the survey approach and provide feedback.
- Kathleen gave an overview of the recommendations from the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner that are guiding the work of government on antiracism. These include:
 - Support Indigenous self-determination and sovereignty.
 - Focus on structural change and addressing systemic oppression.
 - Root data collection in an understanding that race is socially constructed.
 - Ensure ongoing community involvement.
 - Implement privacy protections in line with the BC Data Innovation Program
- The presentation included information about the privacy and security controls through the [Data Innovation Program](#); survey fielding, marketing and communications approach; information about how data collected from Indigenous people will be managed; and concrete examples of how data collection and research priorities will work.
- The ARdC discussed various topics related to the survey, including:
 - Activities leading up to the survey, proposed community engagement and promotion/marketing efforts.
 - Public assumption that government holds more information than it does
 - The survey data cannot be used to racially profile people and information about individuals cannot be shared with ministries or service providers
 - Community access to data and knowledge
 - How to reach difficult-to-reach people and the opportunity to partner with community organizations to promote the survey
 - Types of identity data needed to improve access to services and improve outcomes
 - The opportunity to improve survey marketing based on survey response rates
 - The way connectivity and computer access may impact response rates and the need to provide alternatives

Items carried forward

Ministries' responsibilities and priorities session

- Secretariat to follow-up on outstanding Q&As from this session.

Topics for next meeting – June 7, 2023

- Consideration of a discussion on data governance like the parallel work on Indigenous data governance.