

ANTI-RACISM DATA COMMITTEE MEETING

VANCOUVER ABORIGINAL FRIENDSHIP CENTRE SOCIETY

June 7, 2023 9:00AM – 4:30PM

1611 East Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC
Theater Room

Purpose: Discuss what needs to be in place for safe use of the BC Demographic survey data to advance research priorities

REGROUPING

Welcome and Opening
Icebreaker



UPDATES

Collaboration Report, Introductions and Farewells
Anti-Racism Legislation



EMBEDDING ANTIRACISM INTO HOW WE UNDERTAKE RESEARCH PRIORITIES

Presentation
Gaps and Recommendations Activity



Attendees:

June, Don, Shirley, Daljit, Ellen, Zareen, Jacqueline, Marion
and Sukhi

Hayden, Haiqa, Beth, Roland, Karla, Jenny, and Kaitlin

Regrets:

Smith, Jessica (t'łisala)

Guests: Elder Cecilia Point of x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam)
Nation

Catering provided by: Cedar Feast House Catering

June is National Indigenous History Month



Anti-Racism Data Committee
Meeting Report
Seventh Meeting
June 7, 2023 • 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
Vancouver, BC

Attendees:

Chair	Dr. June Francis
Members	Donald Corrigan, Shirley Chau, Marion Erickson, Daljit Gill-Badesha, Ellen Kim, Zareen Naqvi, 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
Secretariat	Jenny Romero, Kaitlin Schell
Resources	Karla Helgason, Director of Indigenous Data Governance, BC Stats
Guests	Elder Cecelia Point of xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam) Nation Mariam Okwengu, Director, Anti-racism policy, Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Branch
Regrets	Smith Oduro-Marfo, Jessica (t'isala) Guss

Meeting purpose: Discuss what needs to be in place for safe use of the BC Demographic Survey data to advance research priorities.

ARdC Opening and welcoming remarks

- Welcome remarks from Chair, Dr. June Francis.
- June provided a territorial acknowledgement and acknowledged that June is National Indigenous History Month as well as Pride Month.
- The meeting opened with prayer, drumming and song by Elder Cecilia Point of xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam) Nation

Icebreaker

- Marion led a Dakelh icebreaker called “The Introduction Song”.
- ARdC members learned how to introduce themselves in Dakelh.

Collaboration Report Back

Hayden reviewed what was raised by the ARdC at the last meeting and what actions government has taken to respond to that feedback. This included:

- On May 29, 2023, the Province released anti-racism [research priorities](#) as well as the first Anti-Racism Data Act Progress Report and a guide on using categorical race and ethnicity variables. All documents were posted on the [antiracism website](#) and a news release posted on the BC [government news web page](#).

- There was a brief discussion about the media's interest in the release of the research priorities and how members are supported by the Secretariat. June is interested in members receiving media training.
- An acknowledgment that the June 5, 2023, letter from Minister Lisa Beare, Attorney General Niki Sharma and Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives Mable Elmore responding to the ARdC questions that were not covered at the April 14 meeting.
- Related to the BC Demographic Survey, as recommended by the ARdC, government has established a community grant program to support the promotion of the BC Demographic Survey by community organizations across BC. The application process and reporting obligations have been made as easy as possible to help small organizations take advantage of the grants. Information about the grants has been shared with over 70 community organizations as well as the Resilience BC Anti-Racism Network. On July 7, government will advise organizations who will receive the grant in the first round. Applications will be received until August and the ARdC will be kept in the loop regarding the grantees. Hayden answered some of the committee questions about the grant and encouraged members to promote the grant among their networks.
- Hayden highlighted the upcoming release of the BC Demographic Survey on June 14 and extended an invitation to the members to join the media event. An email was sent by the secretariat on June 5 inviting members to participate. A member mentioned that the ARdC should have been more involved with that release and the event. Overall, many members expressed their interest in joining the media event on June 14. The Secretariat will get back to members with information about the ability to cover travel costs and more information about the logistics for the event.
- Hayden also mentioned that government is developing materials (QR code, posters, media campaign, etc.) to promote the BC Demographic Survey. Survey marketing materials will be shared with the ARdC as they become available.

Attorney General (AG) Update

Haiqa and Mariam provided an update on the policy and engagement efforts towards the upcoming anti-racism legislation. They presented the proposed objectives for the legislation and spoke about the engagement efforts, including the anti-racism questionnaire that was posted on the engage.gov.bc.ca website on June 5, 2023.

ARdC members asked questions and provided comments to AG.

Hayden and June agreed that it was valuable for the committee to hear more about the ongoing efforts on anti-racism legislation and taking advantage of the available AG staff presenting at the meeting. They agreed to shift the focus and purpose of the meeting to do this.

Similarly, June requested to shift the agenda (from data governance) and focus the meeting on a discussion on survey marketing and promotion as well as grants as this was more relevant given the impending release of survey on June 14, 2023.

BC Demographic Survey community grants and marketing materials

Members asked questions about the grant application and reporting process, eligibility of applicants and activities that can be supported. The members also made suggestions about how to promote the grant and offered to share information with their network.

Members also made suggestions about how to promote the survey. They highlighted the need for translation, various means of communication (e.g., social media, printed media, in person), collaborating with municipal governments.

Summer availability

Members confirmed their interest and availability to participate in survey promotion events over the summer.

Items carried forward

- Secretariat to explore media training for all members and report back at the next meeting.
- Secretariat to re-send the information (application guide and Survey FAQ) about the BC Demographic Survey community grants and provide the BC Demographic Survey promotion kit to the members as soon as it is available.
- Secretariat to respond to the questions related to the grant that were not addressed at the meeting.
- Secretariat to confirm government's ability to facilitate members' attendance to the June 14 launch event for the BC Demographic Survey.

Topics for next meeting – September 2023

- Data governance updates needed to use the data that will be collected through the BC Demographic Survey.