



**CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
**CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM 2B, 420 N. POKEGAMA AVE.**  
**DATE: OCTOBER 26, 2016**  
**TIME: 4:00 P.M.**

4:00 CALL TO ORDER:

CALL OF ROLL:

	Present	Absent
Commissioner Becky LaPlant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Jackie Dowell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Mary Jo Wimmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Frieda Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Doug Learmont	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Melissa Weidendorf, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Karen Noyce, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Alice Moren	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner John Schirber	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MEETING PROTOCOL POLICY:

*Please be aware that the Council has adopted a Meeting Protocol Policy which informs attendees of the Council's desire to conduct meetings in an orderly manner which welcomes all civil input from citizens and interested parties. If you are unaware of the policy, copies (orange color) are available in the wall file by the Council entrance.*

SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA:

This is an opportunity to approve the regular agenda as presented or add/delete an Agenda item by a majority vote of the Commission members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 28, 2016 Regular Meeting

FINANCIALS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CIRCLE OF HEALING UPDATE:

ITASCA DIVERSITY ALLIANCE:

BIG VIEW UPDATE:

OLD BUSINESS: Human Rights Brochure  
Indigenous People's Day Debrief  
Everyone Welcome Signs  
Meeting With Different Boards

NEW BUSINESS: Allison Ahcan – Blandin Foundation/Rural Pulse Perception Survey  
Acting for Grand Rapids  
Accessibility – Myrna Peterson

REPORTS ON CALLS AND INQUIRIES:

PENDING COMPLAINTS:

OTHER/ADJOURNMENT:

## CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

**CALL TO ORDER:** Pursuant to due notice and call thereof a regular meeting of the Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission was held in the Grand Rapids Fire Hall, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

**CALL OF ROLL:** On a Call of Roll, the following members were present: Commissioners Jackie Dowell, Becky LaPlant, Frieda Hall, Melissa Weidendorf, John Schirber, Karen Noyce, Mary Jo Wimmer, Alice Moren and Doug Learmont

**Absent** None

**Visitor:** None

**Staff:** Michele Palkki, Administrative Assistant

**CALL TO ORDER** Commissioner Weidendorf called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

**SETTING AGENDA** Nothing to add

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** August 31 Meeting

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DOWELL, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SCHIRBER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF August 31, 2016 as presented. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**FINANCIALS** There was nothing to report

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was a discussion to include events for Indigenous People's Day in the Community Connect for 2017. It was too late to get it in for this year.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** No one in attendance

**CIRCLE OF HEALING** Commissioner LaPlant reported the following

- The Doctrine of Discovery – Unmasking the Domination Code. This is a free event held in the Chucker Auditorium at ICC on Thursday, September 29, 2016 beginning at 6:00 pm.
- The Circle of healing sponsored a pilot “healing roots”; 25 members of the community were present. This may be hosted again in the future
- Circle of Healing has proposed changing the time; they meet in Ball Club to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Notification will be sent once a time/day is set.

- There are 2 openings in the Anishinaabe training held on October 13, 14, 20 and 21. There will be another session offered in 2017. Dates yet to be determined.

**ITASCA DIVERSITY ALLIANCE** Commissioner Noyce reported the following

- The regular meetings will be held the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month, will rotate times and will meet at the Blandin Foundation. The October 3 meeting will be held from 12 – 1:30 pm, The November 7 meeting will be held from 6:00 – 7:30 pm.
- A potluck and social event was held recently and was well received. They will try to meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at 5:00 pm, locations to be announced.
- There will be a series “community conversations” held the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday at the Presbyterian Church in the fellowship hall at the conclusion of the service. They will show “short clips” to get the conversations going.

**BIG VIEW** Commissioner Moren reported the following

- The community films encourage voting and helping those in need to register.
- Two films; “Electoral Dysfunction” and “Selma Film” will be the highlight.
- Poverty in Itasca County. Commissioner Wimmer will email the Administration Department the report and the link to watch it on ICTV.
- October 16 from 1:00 – 4:00 at the Grand Rapids Adventist Church, will collecting non-food items for the Food Shelf. Anyone can drop off items at the church and someone will make sure it gets to the Food Shelf.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLE’S DAY** Commissioner LaPlant reported the following

- A schedule was given highlighting the events. It was noted that Commission Weidendorf, on behalf of the Commission, would welcome those in attendance to start the events. Mayor Dale Adams will read the resolution and City Administrator Tom Pagel will speak about the Ojibwe Language Signage in the City of Grand Rapids. Refreshments will be served on behalf of Friends of the Library.
- Grand Rapids Arts purchased a Mural, by Lea Yellowbird. Grand Rapids Arts would like to donate the mural to the Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission in hopes of then donating it to the Grand Rapids Library on First Friday in October. The mural tells a story through art. There are no words on the mural but a card/program will go along with the mural that explains the story.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WIMMER, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER NOYCE TO ACCEPT A MURAL FROM THE GRAND RAPIDS ARTS ORGANIZATION.**

**Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**MEETING CANCELLATIONS** A short discussion was held and noted that the Commission will do its best not to cancel any meetings unless there is not a quorum.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**HUMAN RIGHTS PLACECARDS**

Commissioner Dowell reported that it would be a good idea to have these cards updated and printed for distribution. Staff will check into the last order & report back costs/etc.

**VISIT OTHER COMMISSIONS**

Commissioner LaPlant and Noyce reported that it would be a good idea for the Human Rights Commission to attend other meetings held on behalf of the City. This would be to let those commissions know what the Human Rights Commission has to offer and for the Human Rights Commission to be updated on other events happening in the City. A contact and calendar will be sent out to Commissioners' LaPlant and Noyce to put together a schedule for the Commissioner's for discussion later.

**WELCOME SIGNS**

A subcommittee of Wimmer, Dowell and Weidendorf spoke briefly about signs that Welcome Everyone to our Community. Commissioner Wimmer reported that she received a few quotes on the yard signs; they would run about \$15.00 each. Commissioner LaPlant reported that she received a quote for window clings that would be about \$3.00 each.

A question was raised about the City's policy on signs whether they can be placed for an indefinite amount of time. Staff will check with Rob Mattei, Community Development Director to find out what the ordinance says.

The Commission wants our community to welcome everyone and that this was something that they are passionate about. The window clings are about 5"x 6" and would include both the Human Rights and City of Grand Rapids Logos. Staff will email Commissioner Wimmer both logo's in color.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER NOYCE TO ALLOW UP TO \$600.00 BE SPENT FOR SIGNS/WINDOW CLINGS. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Commissioner Dowel reported that even though the Commission tries to convey that everyone is welcome here, there are groups out there that say the opposite. The Commission was reminded that there would be another meeting regarding "Act for America" on Monday, October 10 at the Sawmill.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 at 4:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm

Respectfully submitted, Michele Palkki, Administrative Assistant

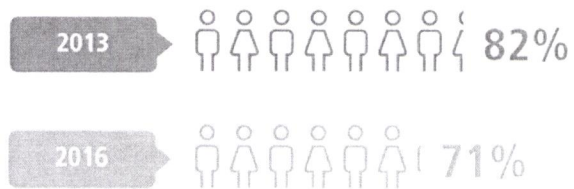
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# Rural Pulse 2016

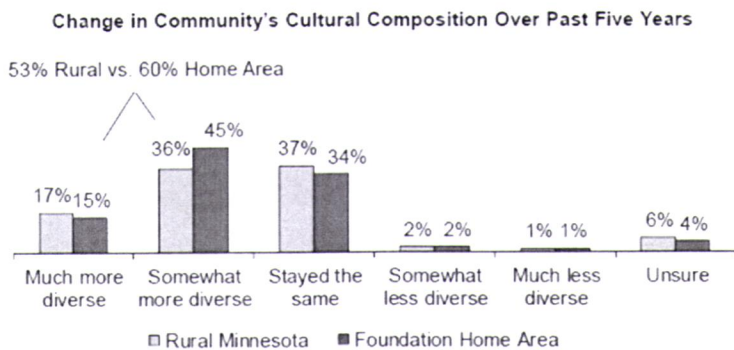
AND THE GRAND RAPIDS HRC

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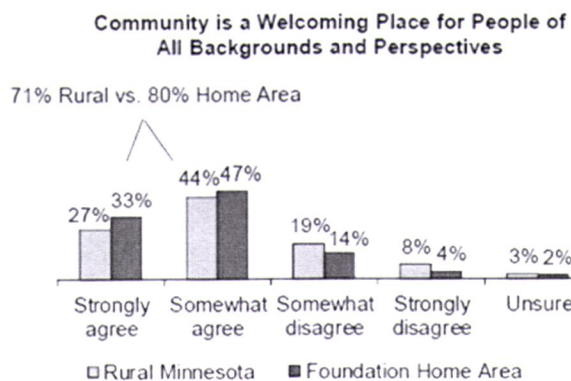
Rural Minnesotans:  
Community is a welcoming place for people of all backgrounds



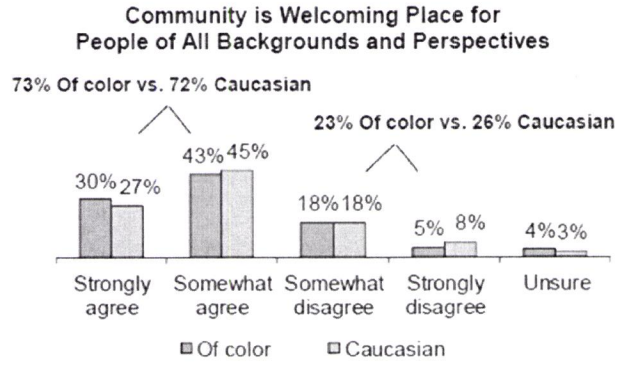
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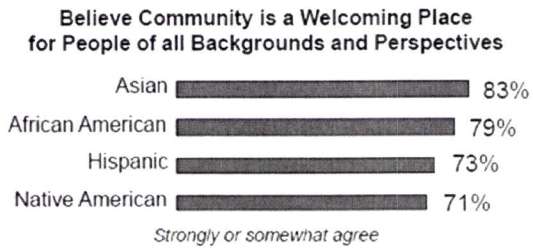
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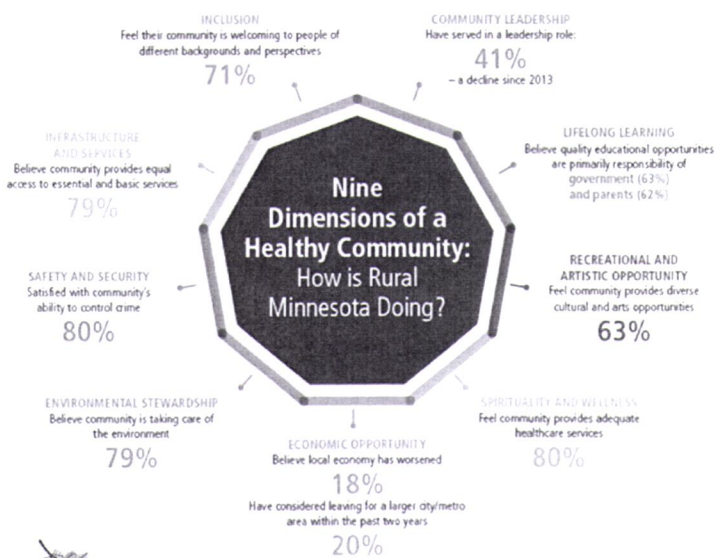


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Statewide Rural

# Ways RP data may be useful...





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Most Critical to Your Community

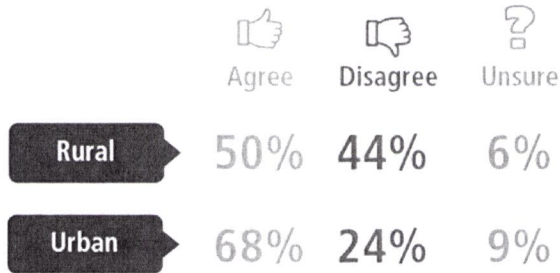
	Native American	Hispanic	Asian	African American
Controlling crime	18%	13%	10%	19%
Attracting new businesses	14%	14%	24%	7%
Maintaining and growing existing job opportunities	13%	10%	10%	19%
Sufficient housing	11%	8%	10%	14%
Educational opportunities	6%	9%	10%	3%

Highest importance within community of color

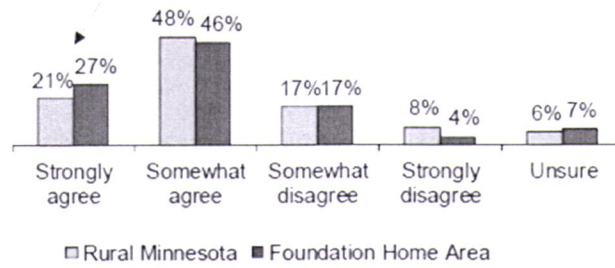
Note: Issue options provided in 2016 varied from previous years

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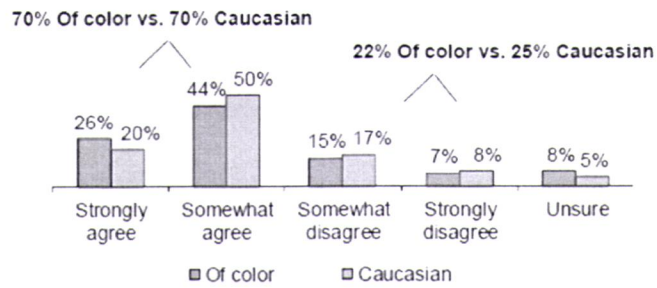
People from diverse backgrounds fill leadership roles within the community



**Community Embraces Differences**  
 (e.g., Ethnicity, Sexual Orientation, Religion, Nationality)

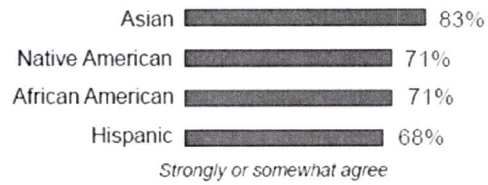


**Community Accepts and Embraces Differences**  
 (e.g., Ethnicity, Sexual Orientation, Religion or Nationality)



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**Believe Community Embraces Differences**



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[www.ruralpulse.org](http://www.ruralpulse.org)

ALLISON AHCAN

([arahcan@blandinfoundation.org](mailto:arahcan@blandinfoundation.org) or 218-327-8717)