

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM 2B, 420 N. POKEGAMA AVE.
DATE: WEDNESDAY, June 24, 2015
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, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Doug Learmont	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Barb Sanderson, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Karen Noyce	<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.

PRESENTATION:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 27, 2015 Regular Meeting

FINANCIALS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CIRCLE OF HEALING UPDATE:

OLD BUSINESS: Indigenous People's Day
Tracks in the Snow
Bukata Hayes
Human Rights Office in Duluth – Letter of Support
Accessibility Meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

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 Conference Room 2B of City Hall, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, on Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

CALL OF ROLL: On a Call of Roll, the following members were present:
Commissioners: Barb Sanderson, Jackie Dowell, Doug Learmont, Alice Moren, John Schirber, Karen Noyce

Absent Commissioners: Mary Jo Wimmer, Frieda Hall and Becky LaPlant

Staff: Michele Palkki, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order 4:00 pm by vice-chair Sanderson.

SETTING AGENDA Nothing to add

APPROVAL OF MINUTES April 29, 2015 Regular Meeting

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DOWELL, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MOREN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 29, 2015 with the following corrections:

At the bottom of page 1 where City Administrator Pagel spoke of the City of Grand Rapids introducing a new ADA Sub Committee; Commissioner's Sanderson, Schirber and Moren would like to be part of the ADA sub-committee once it becomes established. **Motion passed by unanimous vote**

For the benefit of the new members, Commissioner Sanderson explained the role of the Commission. When there are problems/complaints that should arise these should be directed to the Minnesota Department of Human Rights.

FINANCIALS Financial Statements were distributed to the Commission. Commissioner Sanderson reported that Human Rights Commission is a line item in the City Administration Budget.

CIRLCE OF HEALING UPDATE

Commissioner's Sanderson and Noyce reported that they are moving forward on projects.

OLD BUSINESS

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

Commissioner Sanderson reported that the committee is putting together the activities surrounding indigenous people's day on October 12. There will be music, dance, refreshments, and an educational component. The next meeting will be held on June 15 at 4:00 pm. Anyone is invited to attend. A notice of quorum will be posted.

TRACKS IN THE SNOW

Commissioner Learmont reported that the exhibit is traveling to outstate Minnesota as well as being displayed in the Twin Cities. The preferred location suggested earlier by the Commission is at the Grand Rapids Public Library. There are 25 panels each with a picture and description plus some large banners. Co-sponsors need to be identified for this project and possible other activities or events to be associated with the exhibit. The library program committee will be meeting soon to look at their schedule and display space issues and there will be a report to the Commission as details are clarified."

BUKATA HAYES

Commissioner Sanderson reported that Bukata Hayes is scheduled to come to the Timber Lake on September 17 with a breakfast at no cost. The Blandin Foundation has agreed to sponsor part of this event and the program committee will be working with the Chamber for other possible sponsors. There is some flexibility to possibly have him speak at the College depending upon availability. Commissioner Noyce will work with ICC to see if there is something that can be worked for the college students.

NEW BUSINESS

HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE – DULUTH

Commissioner Sanderson reported briefly regarding the need to have a Human Rights Office in Northern Minnesota. There is a request for the Minnesota Department of Human Rights open an office in Duluth. Duluth Human Rights Commission is seeking support to make this request happen. If the Human Rights Commission would favor this they would like a letter of support.

HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE – DULUTH

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER NOYCE, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SCHIRBER TO WRITE A LETTER OF SUPPORT ON BEHALF OF THE GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION TO OPEN A REGIONAL OFFICE IN DULUTH. Motion passed by unanimous vote

The letter will be available at the next meeting on June 24, 2015.

OTHER

Commissioner Dowell reported that there has not been any activity on the state web site regarding human rights issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2015.

Respectfully submitted, Michele Palkki, Administrative Assistant

Why Treaties Matter: Self

Government of the Dakota and

Ojibwe Nations – IASC Update

June 16, 2015



In the Classroom -

IASC Schools

2,750 Students and 155 Staff interacted with the exhibition (Approx. #s)

New and existing lesson plans used in Math, English, Social Studies, Art, Phy Ed, Music and Ojibwe classes.

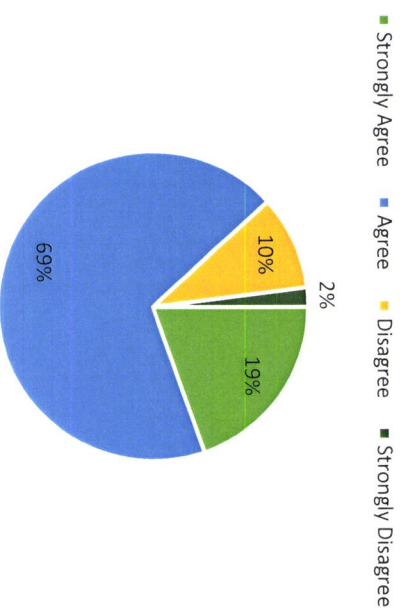
Because of Why Treaties

Matter, MDE Director of American Indian Education Dennis Olson brought the message of the past, present and future of Indian Education to 500 + educators at the 2015 Multi-District Day.

Selected Student Comments

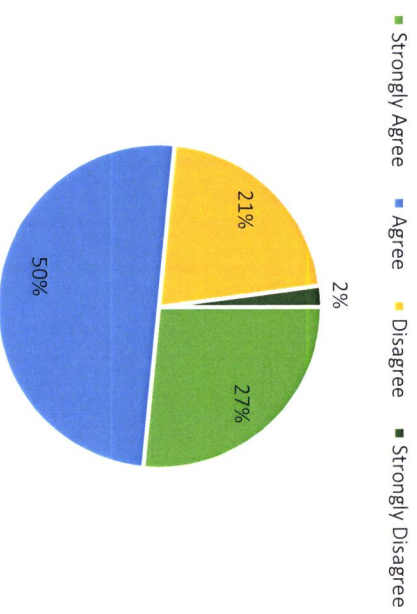
- "I never knew any of this! Thank you!"
- "I feel the information was a little confusing."
- "The exhibit is helpful to familiarize students with treaties."
- "It's boring."
- "Cool."
- "Thank you for sharing an important piece of history with students."
- "I would have enjoyed it more if someone explained it to me."
- "I felt that it really helped when we had to present as the teacher."

After exposure to "Why Treaties Matter" and related programming, I feel my familiarity with treaties has increased (346 Student respondents - ICC & ISD 318)



After exposure to "Why Treaties Matter" and related programming, I am more inclined to include the topic of treaties in classroom lesson plans in the future

(43 Staff Respondents - ICC & ISD 318 MS & HS)



Selected Staff Comments

"I brought my seventh grade American History class to view the panels after completing a lesson that was provided. It sparked a lot of good discussion."

"I had no idea how much is owed to the Native Americans."

"A beautiful, well-done display. I liked the panel approach and layout."

"I think a lot of students learned things by viewing it."

"I wasn't aware of the land agreement etc. It is important to keep history going in the classroom and inform all about this significant time period."

"During our community event, we had members of the Local Indian Education Council who attended and they were very impressed with the panels."

"My students in grades 7, 9, 11, 12 are more informed about the history of the Ojibwe and Dakota people!"

Community Events and Exposure – Opening Ceremonies, musical performance, movies and personal tours. Open to the public and available during choir concerts, award programs, and other activities. Covered by area newspapers, radio stations and through social media.

Lessons Learned (so far)

- Indian Ed staff stepped up in a huge way to prepare for and make use of the exhibition while it was at their schools.
- There is a willingness to include the topic of Native treaties into lesson plans if resources are made available to district faculty.
- Programming supporting the exhibit reinforces the importance of the topic area.
- Consistency in collecting data is both a challenge and opportunity.

2014 – 2015 Host Sites

August 1 – 26: Grand Rapids Library

September 3 – 26: Itasca Community College

October 6 – 29: Deer River School

November 2 – 23: Mesabi Range Community College

December 3 – 19: Bug O Nay Ge Shig School

January 5 – 16: Grand Rapids Middle School

January 26 – Feb 20: Grand Rapids High School

March 2 – 27: Bigfork High School

April 6 – 24: Rainy River Community College

May 4 – 13: Greenway High School

May 18 – 22: Nashwauk High School

June 8 - August 28: Northern Lights Casino

2015 – 2016 Host Sites

September 7 – 25: Northland Community School

October 5 - 21: Hibbing Community College

November 2 - 17: MacRostie Art Center

November 23 – December 18: Central Lakes Community College

January 4 - 20: Northern Lights Community School

January 28 – February 12: Cloquet High School

February 22 – March 9: Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College

March 19 – April 1: Floodwood School

April 11 - 27: Vermilion Community College

May 5 - 20: Hill City School

Your Continued Support Looks Like...

Encouraging staff to use / continue using the online curriculum and resources at www.treatiesmatter.org

Encouraging staff to attend the training for 2015-2016

Host Sites – even folks from year one

Miigwech! Thank You!