



**City of
Saskatoon**
City Clerk's Office

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee
Co-Sponsorship Request Application

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee was established by City Council to monitor and provide advice to City Council on the Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Policy. The Committee also has a mandate to provide education and awareness programs on diversity, equity and inclusion of all citizens in the City of Saskatoon.

The Committee provides education and awareness by undertaking some of its own initiatives and by supporting organizations in the community on initiatives that support one or more of the following four community outcomes of the Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Policy:

- The workforce will be representative of the population of Saskatoon;
- There will be zero tolerance for racism and discrimination in Saskatoon;
- Community decision-making bodies will be representative of the whole community of Saskatoon; and
- There will be awareness and understanding in the community regarding the issues, and acceptance of the various cultures that make up Saskatoon.

Please indicate which of the above community outcome(s) your project is addressing.

Note: The Committee's intent is to provide education throughout the year, not just in the month of March. This will be part of the Committee's consideration of your co-sponsorship request. The event or project must take place in Saskatoon and all eligible expenditures must be directly related to the event being sponsored.
Ineligible expenses include: cash prizes, administrative/overhead expenses, third party funding, fundraising and alcohol.

Events to be considered for co-sponsorship will be open and available to the public for anyone who may be interested in attending or participating.

Application Deadlines:	March 15 (for projects taking place from July to December) September 30 (for projects taking place from January to June)
Organization Name	The Stand Community Organizing Centre
Address: c/o CNYC, 905 20th St W, Saskatoon SK	
Postal Code: S7M 0Y5	Email Address: [REDACTED]
Contact Name: Zain Abidin, Pres. The Stand; Susan Gingell	
Phone Number: [REDACTED]	Fax Number:
Web Address: www.thestandcentre.ca (needs updating since move)	



Project Name: Mindfully Unwinding Whiteness

Project Date and Location: M evenings, bi-monthly except 3X in March, Winter 2025; Round Prairie Library

Project Description (maximum 250 words)

The community-learning opportunity Mindfully Unwinding Whiteness (MUW) uses mindfulness to explore whiteness, racism, and antiracism in 8 sessions: Introductions; Race and the Invention of Whiteness; White Privilege/Unearned Advantage and Intersectionality; Settler Colonialism and Indigeneity in Canada; Metis-Specific Oppressions and Resistances, Colonial Violence against Indigenous Women, and the Sixties Scoop; Treaty-Making and Breaking in Canada and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; Anti-Black, Anti-Asian, and Other Racisms; and Ongoing Truth-Telling and Reconciliation, and Other Antiracist Work.

For reasons explained in the Target Audience section, MUW is intended for "White"/Euro-Canadian participants. Framing the unwinding of whiteness within mindfulness practice (taught and practiced each session) invites a kind, non-shaming approach to conversations about difficult truths concerning "race" and racism while unblinkingly facing and educating about these truths. Mindfulness encourages a gentle but intentional focussing on the present moment while with steadiness observing our thoughts and feelings.

Learning resources include three books, Ruth King's MINDFUL OF RACE: Transforming Racism from the Inside Out, Ajay Parasram and Alex Khasnabish's FREQUENTLY ASKED WHITE QUESTIONS, and Michelle Good's TRUTH TELLING: Seven Conversations about Indigenous Life in Canada; online readings and videos; and guest speakers/session co-leaders. Group discussions will pay particular attention to systemic and interpersonal anti-Indigenous racism, and we'll prompt notice of, and check-in about, any racism participants notice between sessions. To help equip participants to respond wisely to instances of interpersonal and systemic racism, session leaders will invite MUW participants to suggest and dramatize scenarios of such racism, and to discuss responses.

What opportunities are there for a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Member(s) to be on the organizing committee (if you have one) for the event and what other participation opportunities are there for the Committee?

The MUW facilitators, Jeanne Corrigan and Susan Gingell, would be happy to provide DEI Advisory Committee members with a detailed session plan, and would invite members' responses, including comments and suggestions.

What community impact are you hoping to achieve through this event?

MUW aims to diminish racism in Saskatoon by equipping MUW participants to press for, and help create substantive change on the fronts of systemic and interpersonal racism. We will help prepare participants for wise and courageous antiracist conversations with friends, families, neighbours, co-workers, and fellow community members. We are inspired by Anishinaabe writer Richard Wagamese's words: "This is how you change the world, the smallest circles first. . . That humble energy, the kind that says, 'I will do what I can do right now in my own small way,' creates a ripple effect in the world" (ONE DRUM: STORIES AND CEREMONIES FOR A PLANET).

Who is your target audience?

White/Euro-Canadians are our target audience for reasons explained in "Other Comments."

What are the themes and focuses for the event?

While addressing anti-Black, anti-Asian, anti-Muslim, and anti-Semitic racism, MUW will emphasize the countering of anti-Indigenous racism. Please see "Project Description" for list of session themes and focuses.

How many people do you anticipate will participate in your event?

To maximize engagement, 20 participants apart from facilitators

How are you promoting the event to the broader community?

The Saskatoon Public Library will promote the event through its website and on bulletin boards, and The Stand will talk MUW up in contacts and send digital information to our members. Jeanne and Susan will send information to the Treaty Commissioner's Office, Reconciliation Saskatoon, and spiritual communities, and will use their personal and professional networks to publicize MUW.

Budget Information:

Total Cost of the Project	\$7,018.22
Co-Sponsorship Request	\$3,500.00
How will Co-Sponsorship be used?	The Saskatoon Public Library requires there be no charge to participants, so we will use grant funds for purchasing books for participants; providing a stipend to Jeanne Corrigan, whose income is very modest; and honoraria to guest speakers/co-session leaders. Susan will not benefit financially.
Other Potential Sources of Revenue	Susan and Jeanne have applied for funding from the Gord Downie and Charie Wenjack Blanket Fund and from the Saskatoon Community Foundation.

What other groups or partners will your project involve and how will they be involved?
The Saskatoon Public Library will provide publicity about the offering and a registration portal, access to print resources and the internet, and meeting-room space.

How will you acknowledge the City of Saskatoon Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee as a co-sponsor of your event?

We would use an official logo on all publicity and reports and verbally inform participants and others to whom we speak about MUW.

Other comments

1. Target Audience: As Parasram and Khasnabish explain, it would be "unfair to non-white participants in public or educational settings to have to offer both training and emotional support to the white people around them" but also "unfair to expect white people to understand the politics of race when the very operation of racial politics in Canada has encouraged them not to think or talk about race lest they appear to be racist" (xviii).
2. Co-facilitators: Jeanne Corrigan (Metis) has worked as a public educator in reconciliation for 40 years through film, storytelling, and two previous Unwinding Whiteness courses. She is a certified Insight Meditation Teacher and a certified Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction Teacher, who has taught mindfulness for 15 years. Susan Gingell (Euro-Canadian Immigrant) taught Decolonizing and Transnational Literatures and Women's and Gender Studies at the U of S and won the U of S Master Teacher Award. She participates in the peer-led Post-Unwinding Project, and completed the Saskatoon Antiracism Network's trauma-infused antiracism training. She is a 14-year member of Iskewewik E-wichiwitochik /Women Walking Together, a volunteer group that works on the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2-Spirits*.



Signature of Applicant

Sep 25 2024

Date

Zain Abidin

Name (Printed)

President

Position

Please submit this form to: e-mail City.Clerks@saskatoon.ca

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee
c/o City Clerk's Office, City Hall
222 3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5**

If you have any questions, please contact Heather Janzen, Committee Assistant at 306-975-3240.

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SEP 26 2024

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