

IDEAS COMMITTEE MEETING

July 2, 2026

4:15 p.m.

Location: Virtual

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Opening Acknowledgement
3. Items Added
4. Approval of agenda
5. Review of Minutes:
 - a. May 7, 2026
6. Access Awareness Week Debrief
 - a. Feedback
 - b. Pros and Cons
 - c. Future Ideas
7. Resource Sharing Discussion
8. Tara Paon re: Funding for Community Event
9. Community Acknowledgements (Standing Item)
10. Membership Recruitment (Standing Item)
11. Action Item Tracker
12. Items Added
13. Next Meeting
14. Adjournment

IDEA COMMITTEE MEETING

May 07, 2026

Location: Virtual

Present: Deputy Warden Amanda Mombourquette, Commissioner Esther McDonnell, Liz Campbell, Tara Paon, Trina Hall, Allison Martell, Meghan Hayter, Danielle Martell, Shannon Mury, Warden Lois Landry - Ex-Officio

Call to order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Opening Acknowledgement

The Chair made an opening acknowledgement.

Items Added

No items added

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Liz Campbell, seconded by Tara Paon that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes Re: March 5, 2026

Moved by Tara Paon, seconded by Liz Campbell that the minutes of March 5, 2026, be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes Re: April 02, 2026

Moved by Tara Paon, seconded by Liz Campbell, that the minutes of April 02, 2026, be approved as amended. Motion carried.

Access Awareness Week

A discussion ensued.

Moved by Esther McDonnell, seconded by Tara Paon that the Committee recommend to Council that a letter be sent to the Province of Nova Scotia advocating for all public awareness posters to be translated and printed in Mi'kmaq. Motion carried.

Community Acknowledgements

The committee discussed community acknowledgements. A discussion ensued.

Membership Recruitment

A discussion ensued.

Action Item Track Update

A discussion ensued.

Items Added

No items added

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

Community Development
Coordinator

Community Celebration: Inclusion, Learning & Connection

Seeking Volunteers, Partners, Service Providers & Community Input

The Richmond Rainbow Alliance is exploring a community event with partners in the Strait-Richmond region focused on inclusion, connection, learning, and wellbeing.

The project has received \$3,000 in funding to support event costs such as transportation support, venue rental, childcare supports, food and refreshments, honorariums, accessibility needs, and other participation-related expenses. While funding allows up to one year to complete the project, there has been interest in holding the event in fall 2026.

The proposed event includes two components:

Daytime Community Gathering (All Ages)

- Community organizations and service providers sharing resources and information
- Interactive activities, games, arts and crafts
- Opportunities for intergenerational connection
- Story time and community conversations
- A welcoming space for community members to connect and learn about local supports

Evening Community Activity (Adult)

- Potentially a Drag Trivia Night or another community-building activity
- Opportunities to learn about topics such as inclusion, diversity, community wellbeing, and marginalize community history
- Community-building through entertainment, learning, and social connection

The event is being designed using an inclusive, trauma-informed approach that focuses on reducing barriers and creating a welcoming environment for people of all backgrounds and experiences. The primary goal is to create opportunities for belonging, reduce social isolation, increase awareness of local services and supports, and strengthen community connections.

While some *initial ideas have been identified, there is some flexibility in what the event ultimately looks like.* Depending on feedback from volunteers, partners, service providers, and community members, the event could look different in a variety of ways. For example, it could take place over one day or multiple days, in one location or several locations, and include a variation of activities.

We are currently looking for:

- Community members interested in helping shape the event
- Volunteers interested in supporting planning and day-of activities
- Organizations and service providers interested in hosting an information table
- Community partners interested in supporting the initiative
- Individuals interested in attending and sharing feedback

Potential topics and areas of focus include community wellbeing, grief and loss, mental health, newcomer supports, youth and senior engagement, accessibility, diversity, inclusion, and community connection.

At this stage, we are seeking input, ideas, and expressions of interest to help strengthen the event's design and ensure it reflects the *interests and needs of the broader community.*

If you would like to be involved in planning, supporting, participating, or attending, we would love to hear from you.

Sincerely, Tara Paon 