

NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Florence Christophers, B.A., M.Phil, RHC

Councillor Tanya Thorn, B.A., Director Towns South, AUMA

July 13, 2020

WHEREAS the death of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter movement has sparked an urgent global conversation about what individuals, communities and corporations can do to openly discuss, better understand and address the realities of racism

AND WHEREAS there is an important watershed moment for the Town of Okotoks and Town Council to take leadership on the topic of racism, diversity and inclusion in our community and take meaningful steps to actively facilitate the creation of a safer, more inclusive and respectful community for all residents regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, age, 'abilities', etc.

AND WHEREAS better understanding and addressing racism and discrimination in our community will require significant community dialogue that can generate insights into gaps and blindspots in our policies, procedures and processes that work against the creation of a safe and inclusive community or if changed could contribute to a safer and more inclusive community

AND WHEREAS the gathering of insights and perspectives, the conducting of research and the compilation of concrete ideas to address racism and discrimination in our community would best be accomplished by a diverse, passionate and committed committee of individuals with the right skills and even expertise to complete this task

AND NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration to create a Racism and Diversity Task Force no later than October 31, 2020 that will review our current municipal processes and activities and bring back to council concrete suggestions to address racism and discrimination in Okotoks and make recommendations to help create a safer and more inclusive community where individuals of all races, religions, gender, sexual orientation and abilities feel valued and respected.