



THUNDER BAY ANTI-RACISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

3RD ANNUAL SUMMARY OF HIGHLIGHTS
MARCH 21, 2014

The Anti-Racism Advisory Committee and its four working groups – Public Education, Equity in the Workforce, Development of Advocacy Role and Education & Youth – worked hard in 2013 with notable successes:

OVERCOMING RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION

- Continued the partnership with Thunder Bay Crime Prevention Council to raise awareness in the community that **respect.** is a human right.
- Promoted the **respect.** initiative with a focus on the education sector. Our **respect.** intern reached out to the Lakehead Public School Board to offer educational presentations on such topics as diversity, discrimination, and bullying. Grades four to six were identified as the target audience and from October to December 2013 the **respect.** initiative was presented to 12 classrooms in seven schools. A variety of **respect.** materials (about 400 items) were distributed to the students and faculty at these elementary schools.

- Presented the inaugural **respect.** Award, sponsored by Diversity Thunder Bay, to Thomas Russell, Administrator Wellness and Diversity – Student Union of Confederation College Inc. Thomas assisted the City in expanding the positive **respect.** initiative to the community.
- Facilitated the delivery of Ontario Human Rights Commission training sessions in the community on September 23 and 24.
- Facilitated the first annual joint meeting with Diversity Thunder Bay on October 28 to exchange information and examine further opportunities for partnerships between the two organizations.
- Provided, in partnership with The Chronicle-Journal, a forum to address various issues of racism through the monthly “One City, Many Voices” column, which first began in February 2012. The 12 columns published in 2013 are available on the Diversity Thunder Bay website at www.diversitythunderbay.ca.
- Recognized The Chronicle-Journal for its commitment to the “One City, Many Voices” column and, while recognizing that conversations still need to occur, endorsed the positive changes on the Editorial Page. A letter of appreciation was sent by the Committee in June of 2013.
- Partnered with the Journalists for Human Rights Organization to develop future training workshops for members of the media and journalism community.
- Established a Speaker’s Bureau Task Force to select material for video presentations to be used by speakers who will address community organizations and business groups on the subject of racism.
- Held a video viewing evening with members of Diversity Thunder Bay, followed by a discussion on various aspects of racism that were raised in the videos.
- Met with the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce to discuss the re-introduction of “status cards welcome” signs for retail businesses and the development of an educational program. Media launch was held on October 15.
- Developed a plan to coordinate a meeting between youth groups in Thunder Bay to promote their accomplishments and encourage and involve youth in activities that promote anti-racism and inclusion.
- Redefined the youth working group role in order to work as a liaison between the youth groups and the City.

The **respect.** Initiative Intern
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Anti-Racism
Advisory Committee

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respect. it begins with
you & me.