



MINUTES OF ECSIP ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES 90

Date May 14th, 2026

Time: 1:00pm to 2:30pm

Attendees	Andrew Sedley, Lisa Washington, Chelsey Exner, Edith Montesclaros, and Nicole Haas
Regrets	Lisa Cadiuex de Larios, Lisa Wotherspoon, Trevor Baker, SherJan Maybanting, Jamie Wlock, and Kurt Fuchs.
Recording	Jummai Umar (ECSIP Coordinator).
Call to Order	Lisa Washington @1:11 pm.

Agenda Topics

1. Land acknowledgement	By Lisa Washington - "We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional home of the Saulteaux, Nakoda, Dakota and Lakota, and homeland of the Metis Nation".
2. Introductions & Approval of Agenda	- Round Table introductions was added to item 2. - New members include: Nicole Haas, SHA Workforce Planning & Employment Strategies, Rural (Yorkton Area), Jamie Wlock, SHA Workforce Planning & Employment Strategies, Rural (Melville, Esterhazy, Preeceville, etc)
3. Review of last meeting minutes	- Motion by Andrew Sedley. Seconded by Chelsey Exner. - Carried.
4. ZIP Coordinator's report	ECSIP has received approval for the Mitacs intern and will proceed with the small-scale research project in partnership with Suncrest College's Applied Research Department, following the submission of a Business Strategy Initiative application focused on the "Impact of Community Programs on Immigrant Settlement and Adjustment in East Central Saskatchewan. - ECSIP's research intern resumed work at the ECNWC office on April 27th and has begun the research activities. - The research findings will be grounded in the realities of Yorkton and area, ensuring they accurately reflect local experiences and conditions.



	• ECSIP Pull-Up Poster, As an educational opportunity for our community, we will commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination each year by displaying an ECSIP pull-up poster in key community locations including schools, the library, and the Gallagher Centre. • We require consent from schools, ECSIP Coordinator will reach out to the School divisions representatives on consent to display poster yearly. • Melville Youth Council: Now in its third year, the City of Melville's Youth Council is made up of youth ages 15 - 18 who are passionate about community involvement, having a voice in local governance, and making a meaningful difference. • The Youth Mayor attends regular City Council meetings to present ideas, concerns, and opportunities identified by the Youth Council, ensuring young people have a genuine seat at the table. • The initiative provides young residents with a structured opportunity to build leadership skills, engage in civic discussions, and contribute ideas that support recreation, wellness, and community development. • This model shows strong potential to be adapted in other communities to encourage early youth engagement and leadership development.
5. Items for discussion: 5.1 Review of ECSIP's ask to City of Yorkton Council	• ECSIP will request to present to City Council - targeting the upcoming June 1 or July 13 general meeting as a follow-up to our previous request highlighting new recommendations. • The presentation will focus on the second and third asks, which is the creation of welcoming neighbour policy and yearly celebration of welcoming week, ensuring clarity and alignment with community priorities - specifically, refining strategies for immigrant attraction and retention in Yorkton and area. • Rather than pursuing a new immigration strategy committee, the group will emphasize practical retention efforts, particularly for healthcare workers and manufacturing professionals, which aligns with the request for the consideration of a "welcoming-neighbour policy".

5.2 Early planning for Welcoming Week: Sept. 10 – 19, 2026

- ECSIP will develop recommendations for the City on adopting a welcoming-neighbour policy and supporting an annual Welcoming Week celebration, building on past experience and existing municipal engagement.
- ECSIP will continue the annual “**Dress Your Culture – Global Threads**” event, which will take place this year on September 18.
- The Global Threads poster will be updated to reflect this year’s theme and dates, and it will also be uploaded to the Culture Days website, as Sept. 18 marks the start of Culture Days.
- We could also explore setting a specific time on Sept 18 for participants meetup at the City Park for group photos
- ‘Global Threads’ requires early and increased community promotion, including exploring opportunities for cross-promotion on social media through other ECSIP partners, as well as across all school divisions.
- ECSIP will propose a second Welcoming Week activity to the Mayor - An Open House at City Hall on September 21.

5.3 Reports from IAT meeting

- **For the continuation of INVOLVE**, IAT thinks only the training component of the training will be required going forward.
- The IAT agreed that while the training component of the INVOLVE model is highly effective, the mentoring element - informal board placements - This approach is not very feasible, as it limits meaningful participation. The program should instead prioritize education and empower participants to pursue board opportunities independently.
- The group explored the idea of creating a repository of trained individuals for boards seeking new members, noting that the training component has proven more valuable than the mentorship model.



	• ECSIP Research – The IAT Suggests that ECSIP Coordinator should be part of the intern interview/selection panel to ensure alignment with expectations. • IAT also suggest the need to clearly define what qualifies as an “community organization” was emphasized to ensure accountability within the research.
6. Any other business	• ECSIP Coordinator to update meeting time to 1:30 pm and re-share calendar invites. • ECSIP Coordinator will provide partner email contacts to the research intern to distribute the survey link for the ECSIP research. • The Rural Engagement Group of the Anti-Racism Network of Saskatchewan is updating the Community Connections resource sheet and is requesting names and contact information for organizations or trainers in Yorkton and surrounding areas that provide anti-racism awareness or training, including workplace or staff onboarding sessions or related events and activities. • The RCMP has promised to attend ECSIP meeting when able to establish connection and get to know what we are doing in the region.
7. Next Meeting	• Next meeting, June 25th 2026.
8. Adjournment	• Motion by Chelsey Exner, Seconded by Edith Montesclaros @2:05 pm. • Carried.

ECSIP Chair

ECSIP Co-Chair

Recorder