



President's Action Committee on Anti-Racism (PACAR)
Religious Inclusion Working Group
March 15, 2024
10:00-11:00 am Via Teams

MINUTES

Teams: J. Levin, S. Parks, D. Trembinksi, E. Yeo

Regrets: C. Tohidian, I. Ahmed, N. Mohamed, J. Sylvester (Recording)

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am
- 2) All members were welcomed, and Elizabeth offered a Land Acknowledgement
- 3) Approval of the draft minutes of February 16th will be deferred until the next meeting with quorum.
- 4) Ongoing discussions:

E. Yeo noted that students who wish to request religious accommodation may do so through Cathy MacDonald.

The committee members present agreed that the draft document *Guidelines for Accommodating Students During Religious Holidays* is at a stage where it can be shared as a living document for broader community input and consultation.

E. Yeo noted that PACAR is planning for the AGM at the end of May, and this will provide time for community discussion and input into the Working Group documents.

The *Inclusive Holiday Guide* will be recirculated to the working group for discussion at the next meeting. Our goal is to create a welcoming and inclusive environment where community members feel empowered to suggest honoured religious traditions to be included/recognized.



The Committee discussed the opportunity to broaden the range of religious topics covered in public lectures. This topic will be added to a future agenda. **Action:** Elizabeth will investigate options for achieving this goal.

The committee noted the strong attendance at educational session on Islam and Islamophobia that happened in conjunction with Ramadan and celebration of International Student Month. The committee recommended that we pursue recognition of the Jewish celebration of Passover and identify an expert to provide education concerning Antisemitism. **Action:** Elizabeth, Jaime.

- 8) The next meeting of PACAR will be April 26, 2024, 9:00-10:00 am via Teams
- 9) The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am