HRC/MIN/2022/05

MINUTES 5 th MEETING OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION 18 MAY 2022 VIA ZOOM		
PRESENT:	Dale Crowley	Chairman
	Joni Kirkconnell	Member
	Nick Quin	Member
	Cathy Gomez	Member
APOLOGIES:	Deborah Barker Roye	Member
SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:		
	Shari Welcome	PR & Education Coordinator
	Sheila Watler	Administrative Officer (In part)
	Derricka Neysmith	Administrative Officer
	Jackelin Connolly	Administrative Officer
	Megan Ramnarine	Administrative Officer
APOLOGIES:	Marilyn Conolly	Manager

1. Meeting called to order

The meeting was called to order at 2:06 pm.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Minutes from the meeting held on 8 March 2022 were approved. Minutes from the meeting held on 5 May 2022 were approved with minor changes.

3. Outstanding Business

a. Migrants

i. Migrants Policy (the "Policy")

Members noted the correspondence of 13 May 2022 to the Director of Customs and Border Control ("CBC"), regarding the Policy. The Secretariat will follow up with the Director of CBC for a substantive response.

ii. Legislative Amendment

Members noted the correspondence of 13 April 2022 to the Chief Officer of the Ministry of Border Control and Labour (the "MoBC&L"), regarding proposed amendment to the immigration legislation. The Secretariat will follow up with the MoBC&L Chief Officer for a substantive response.

b. Legal Advice

Members were satisfied with the legal advice provided on 28 April 2022. The Secretariat was asked to compose a summary paper that contains the questions which initiated the need for such legal advice. Once this is completed, the Secretariat will issue a press release on the matter.

c. HRC Annual Report

The Chairman reviewed the draft Annual Report ending in December 2021. The Report will be circulated to members for further review and approval.

d. Homophobic Attack

The Chairman asked the Secretariat to draft a letter and share the research with the relevant public authority in order to receive their feedback on the next course of action.

e. Luncheon with the Governor

The brief of the luncheon was provided by Member Nick Quin via email and shared with Members. This item is now closed.

4. New Business

a. Compass Request for Comment ("Influx of Migrants")

On 12 May 2022, a representative from Cayman Compass Media sent the Commission questions for comment regarding the recent influx of Cuban migrants. The Commission's response of 13 May contained a statement outlining that the HRC is working with CBC to finalize migrant protocols. This item is now closed.

5. Human Rights Complaints & Enquiries

a. Update on Human Rights Complaint 021/2021

Members were updated that a closure letter was sent to the complainant on 13 May 2022. The file remains closed.

b. Update on Human Rights Complaint 026/2021

Members were satisfied with the legal advice provided in the report from the legal advisor. The Secretariat was asked to draft a closure letter to the complainant.

c. Update on Human Rights Complaint 030/2021

The Secretariat contacted the relevant public authority and were informed that a different entity is dealing with the concerns that the HRC raised. There is no further action required from the HRC. The Secretariat was asked to add a file note to close the file.

d. Update on Human Rights Complaint 001/2022

The Secretariat noted that new information was received and was asked to share with the Commission Members via email. Members were asked to review the content and advise the

Secretariat on the next steps.

e. Update on Human Rights Complaint 002/2022

The Secretariat noted that new information was received and was asked to share it with the Commission Members via email. Members were asked to review the content and advise the Secretariat on the next steps.

f. Update on Human Rights Complaint 006/2022

Members were updated on this complaint. The Secretariat was asked to draft a letter to the complainant to advise of the next steps they can take. Member Cathy Gomez excused herself from this discussion.

g. Update on Human Rights Complaint 008/2022

Members noted this complaint which was received on 25 February 2022. The Commission considered the matter and agreed it required further exploration by the Commission. The Secretariat was asked to circulate all correspondence received to Members. Members were asked to review the contents and advise the Secretariat on the next steps.

h. Human Rights Complaint 009/2022

Members considered this complaint which was received on 22 March 2022. The Secretariat was asked to obtain additional information by writing to the relevant public authority. Member Cathy Gomez excused herself from this discussion.

i. Human Rights Complaint 010/2022

Members considered this complaint which was received on 23 March 2022. It was agreed that another appropriate avenue for recourse exists based on the submission. The file will be closed and the complainant will be advised accordingly.

j. Human Rights Complaint 011/2022

Members acknowledged this complaint which was received on 24 March 2022. It was agreed that other avenues for recourse exist based on the submission. The file will be closed and the complainant will be advised accordingly.

k. Human Rights Complaint 012/2022

Members acknowledged this complaint which was received on 6 April 2022. It was agreed that other avenues for recourse exist based on the submission. The file will be closed and the complainant will be advised accordingly.

I. Human Rights Complaint 013/2022

Members acknowledged this complaint which was received on 5 May 2022. It was agreed that other avenues for recourse exist based on the submission. The file will be closed and the

complainant will be advised accordingly.

m. Human Rights Enquiry 001/2022

Members noted this enquiry which was received on 2 March 2022. This file was closed as the matter was outside of the Commission's remit.

n. Human Rights Enquiry 002/2022

Members noted this enquiry which was received on 3 March 2022. This file was closed as the matter was outside of the Commission's remit.

o. Human Rights Enquiry 003/2022

The Secretariat provided the Members with a summary of the enquiry. The enquiry was closed.

p. Update on Human Rights Enquiry 004/2022

The Members discussed this item further and asked the Secretariat to close this enquiry.

q. Update on Human Rights Enquiry 005/2022

The Members discussed this item further and asked the Secretariat to close this enquiry.

6. Any Other Business

Member Cathy Gomez expressed concerns over a Human Rights Facebook page which shared commentary that could be construed as representing the Commission. The information was shared with the PR & Education Coordinator for further investigation.

7. Action Items

Members were asked to:

- **a.** Review the draft Annual Report and provide feedback/approval as detailed in item 3.c. above;
- **b.** Review the correspondence received and advise the Secretariat on the next steps as detailed in item 5.d. above;
- c. Review the correspondence received and advise the Secretariat on the next steps as detailed in item 5.e. above; and
- **d.** Review all correspondence received and advise the Secretariat on the next steps as detailed in item 5.g. above.

The Secretariat was asked to:

- **a.** Follow-up with the relevant public authority as detailed in item 3.a.i. above;
- **b.** Follow-up with the relevant public authority as detailed in item 3.a.ii. above;
- c. Compose a summary paper and issue a subsequent press release as detailed in item 3.b. above;
- d. Circulate the draft Annual Report to members as detailed in item 3.c. above;
- e. Draft a letter to the relevant public authority as detailed in item 3.d. above; and
- f. Draft correspondence on all human rights complaints and enquiries as detailed above.

8. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. Migrants Policy
- **b.** Legislative Amendment
- c. Legal Advice
- d. HRC Annual Report
- e. Homophobic Attack
- f. HRC Complaints and Enquiries

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting date will be agreed via round robin email.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 pm.

Dale Crowley CHAIRMAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION