



CLOSED MEETING

Governance and Priorities Committee Report
For the Meeting of March 26, 2015

To: Governance and Priorities Committee **Date:** March 11, 2015
From: Robert Woodland, Director, Legislative and Regulatory Services
Subject: Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee Appointment

Closed Meeting Rationale

This report is recommended for consideration in a meeting closed to the public pursuant to Section 12(3)(a) of the Council Bylaw because it deals with personal information about an identifiable individual who is being considered for a position appointed by the City of Victoria.

Executive Summary

The mandate of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee (VFCYJC) is to be aware of the circumstances of youth and families who may come in contact with the justice system. The authority and duties of the Committee are set out in Provincial and Federal Legislation.

Council appoints one Councillor and one citizen member to the VFCYJC. Each serves a term of one year, commencing January 1st. The citizen member position is currently vacant. One application to fill this position has been received.

Recommendation

That Council appoint Helen Hughes to the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee for a term ending December 31, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Woodland".

Robert Woodland, Director
Legislative and Regulatory Services

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager: _____

Date: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by the date "Mar. 17 | 15" written in black ink.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an application received for appointment as the City's citizen member on the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee.

Background

The mandate of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee (VFCYJC) is to be aware of the circumstances of youth and families who may come in contact with the justice system by:

- liaising with frontline service providers at monthly meetings,
- educating the public and elected officials,
- obtaining youth and family input,
- reviewing family and youth legislation,
- monitoring court hearings and custody facilities, and
- making recommendations to appropriate legislative bodies.

The authority and duties of the VFCYJC are set out in Provincial and Federal Legislation. Section 5 of the *Provincial Court Act* establishes the Family Court Committee. The Youth Justice Committee is appointed pursuant to Section 18 of the *Federal Youth Criminal Justice Act*.

The VFCYJC is composed of representatives from each of the 13 Greater Victoria municipalities. Each School District in the CRD may each appoint a member and the CRD Board may appoint up to 7 members. Other community organizations attend and contribute knowledge to the VFCYJC, including municipal police and RCMP, the Native Friendship Centre, the Foster Parent Association and the Single Parent Resource Centre.

Issues & Analysis

Council appoints one Councillor and one citizen member to the VFCYJC. Each serves a term of one year, commencing January 1st. The citizen member position is currently vacant. One application to fill this position has been received.

Options & Impacts

Council may wish to:

- appoint the sole applicant to the position for the remainder of the term, or
- direct staff to advertise for applications.

Recommendation

That Council appoint Helen Hughes to the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee for a term ending December 31, 2015.

Attachments:

Appendix A – Application for Appointment to the VFCYJC from Helen Hughes