



AGENDA – WELCOMING CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 07, 2025, 5:00 P.M.

ESQUIMALT NATION ROOM, CITY HALL, 1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE

The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees Nation and Xwsepsum Nation

Meeting conducted electronically via Teams and in-person

- A. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement – Sarah Hough 5:00 p.m. – 5:05 p.m.**
- B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA 5:05 p.m. – 5:10 p.m.**
- C. READING OF MINUTES**
 - C.1 Minutes from the meeting held on**
- D. NEW BUSINESS 5:10 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**
 - D.1 Community Infrastructure Strategy engagement – Tanyss Knowles**
 - D.2 Complete Communities initiative – Renee Proulx, Licker GeoSpatial (tentative)**
- E. Committee Roundtable 6:00 p.m. – 6:25 p.m.**
- F. Next Meeting Agenda & Date**
- G. ADJOURNMENT 6:25 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

Attachments:

Attachment A: 2024_09_03_Welcoming City Minutes_Draft



**AGENDA – WELCOMING CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
September 3, 2024, 5:00 P.M.**

ESQUIMALT NATION ROOM, CITY HALL, 1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE

**The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Xwsepsum Nations
Meeting conducted electronically via Teams and in-person**

PRESENT: Sandra Hough in the Chair, Nora Butz, Maureen Sawa, Jibril Mohamed
PRESENT

ELECTRONICALLY: Daniela dos Santos Pinto, Isidoro Emmanuel, Luis Gutiérrez Aguirre

ABSENT: Fiona Bramble, Florentien Verhage

STAFF PRESENT: A. Galiev – Equity Diversity & Inclusion Lead, S. Mangué Alene – Equity and Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator, A. Heimburger – Legislative Coordinator

A. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. and acknowledged that the City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees First Nation and Xwsepsum First Nation communities.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By D. Dos Santos Pinto
Seconded By M. Sawa

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. READING OF MINUTES

C.1 Minutes from the meeting held on July 2, 2024

Moved By N. Butz
Seconded By M. Sawa

That the minutes from the Welcoming City Advisory Committee held July 2, 2024 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. NEW BUSINESS

D.1 Community Conversation #1: Post Event Feedback

The Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator provided a recap of the *Community Conversations: Building Belonging in Schools* event held on July 10, 2024, noting that the event was well attended and that participants expressed interest in attending similar future events.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Lack of capacity for City to organize and facilitate additional sessions for participants expressing interest in continuing discussions*
- *Potential for the City to accommodate interested participants' continuation of these conversations and networking opportunities*
- *City facilitation of a distribution list to connect interested participants*
- *Welcoming City Implementation Strategy*

D.2 Community Conversation #2: Belonging in Recreation (September 12, 2024)

The Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator provided an overview of the upcoming *Community Conversations: Belonging Recreation and Sports* event scheduled for September 12, 2024 at the Philippine Bayanihan Community Centre.

E. Committee Roundtable

Committee discussed the following:

- *Ongoing and upcoming Chinese community events hosted by the Chinese Community Centre:*
 - *Subsidized senior's luncheon to celebrate the Autumn Festival*
 - *Elections BC registration and awareness campaign*
- *Community concerns regarding racial profiling of families at recreation centres and by landlords and sheltering providers*
 - *The City of Victoria's accessibility reporting mechanism as a tool for reporting and investigating experiences of racism within the City*
 - *BC Government's Racism Incident Helpline (1-833-457-5463)*
 - *Desire to invite community leaders to share their communities' experiences*
- *Purpose-Built Rental Buildings*
 - *City of Victoria, through the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion office, working with property managers and owners of purpose-built rental buildings to provide support to ensure an equitable tenancy selection process*
 - *Challenges of ensuring an equitable process if landlord is an individual versus a corporation*
- *Overview of ongoing and upcoming events hosted by the Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society (VIRCS)*
 - *Annual general meeting to be held September 18th*
 - *Upcoming open house at VIRCS to spread awareness of programming*
- *Overview of ongoing and upcoming events hosted by the Philippine Bayanihan Community Centre*
 - *Support and welcoming event for students coming from Philippines to attend the University of Victoria*
 - *Future of Bayanihan community centre and upcoming discussions with Victoria MLA and City of Victoria Mayor*

- *Overview of ongoing and upcoming events hosted by the Vancouver Island Brazilian Cultural Association*
 - *Summer series of dancing classes at George Jay Park*
 - *Coordination of a blood drive*
- *Overview of ongoing and upcoming events hosted by the Greater Victoria Public Library (GVPL)*
 - *Addition of two new permanent staff positions geared toward community development, safety and inclusion:*
 - *Community Navigator*
 - *Safety and Security Coordinator*
 - *Addressing the challenge of balancing the need for security with friendliness and while promoting inclusion*
- *Overview of City of Victoria projects in progress:*
 - *Mapping out equities & inequities project*
 - *Resource allows users to view neighbourhoods to understand where gaps are with access to recreation, support services, etc.*
 - *Considering intersectionality of different groups*
 - *BlindSquare application*
 - *Assists those with visual impairment to navigate spaces*
 - *Intention to offer in languages in addition to English*
 - *“Complete Communities” Grant funding from the Union of BC Municipalities*
 - *Research and analysis on the livability, accessibility and welcoming nature of communities within the City*
 - *Welcoming City Advisory Committee to be engaged*
- *Challenges faced by newcomers in navigating recreation programming and education system*
 - *Language barriers and lack of translating services*
- *Need for additional, subsidized supports for children and families to learn English*

F. Next Meeting Agenda & Date – November 5, 2024

There was no discussion on this topic.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Committee, by unanimous consent, adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY