



MINUTES - WELCOMING CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

November 4, 2025, 5:03 P.M.

XWSEPSUM NATION ROOM, CITY HALL, 1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE

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

Meeting conducted electronically via Teams and in-person

PRESENT: Sandra Hough in the Chair

PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY: Maureen Sawa, Florentien Verhage, Jibril Mohamed, Tita Dominga, Nora Butz

ABSENT: Nasim Hamed, Daniela dos Santos Pinto

STAFF PRESENT: A. Galiev – Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Lead, M. Moore – Lived Experience Consultant, S. Mackenzie - Equity Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator, M. Haden – Legislative Coordinator

GUESTS: Zara Chaudhry - Coastal Research, Education, and Advocacy Network, Natalie Justin - Coastal Research, Education, and Advocacy Network

A. Welcoming and Land Acknowledgement - Sandra Hough

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and acknowledged that the City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees First Nation and Xwsepsum First Nation communities, where the Committee lives and learns.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved and Seconded:

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Moved and Seconded:

That the minutes from the Welcoming City Advisory Committee held September 2, 2025 be approved.

Carried by unanimous consent

D. NEW BUSINESS

D.1 Zara Chaudhry (CREAN) – PlanH Grant & Community Conversations update

Committee received a presentation from CREAN on their mission and programming, including an upcoming event.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Language accessibility*
- *Diverse communication options*
- *Goals for the event*
- *Acknowledging the current climate hosting this type of event*
- *A new grant allowing for a project to help make Victoria age-friendly and welcoming to all, including newcomers and immigrants*
- *Needs and challenges for seniors in Victoria*

E. Community Round Table

No community round table items were discussed.

F. Next Meeting Agenda & Date – January 6, 2026

This item was not discussed.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Committee, by unanimous consent, adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.